

### CCDI PROVINCIAL MEETING

**February 4, 2009** 

Ontario Investment and Trade Centre 250 Yonge Street, 35th Floor Toronto, ON M5B 2L7

## **MINUTES**

- 1. Approval of Agenda
  - Approved by all
- **2. Approval of November 5, 2008 Minutes** Approved by Cindy Orofrio; Seconded by Brenda Bogardis.
- 3. Updates/Reports
  - i) Ministry Report Taras Myhal See Attached – Appendix "A"
  - ii) College Committee on Student Services (CCSS) Report Judy Harvey See Attached – Appendix "B"
  - iii) Treasurer's Report Jim Chalmers See Attached – Appendix "C"
  - iv) **PAFC Report –Karen Coffey** See Attached – Appendix "D"
  - v) Enabling Change Partnership Grant Karen Coffey See Attached- Appendix "E"
  - vi) AGM Conference Committee Update for 2009 AGM Louise Legault/Willona Blanche See Attached – Appendix "F"

AGM Provincial Meeting - May 12, 2009, at Deerhurst Conference Centre

#### **APPENDIX "A" – Ministry Report**

# Colleges Ontario College Committee on Disability Issues February 4, 2009 UPDATE

#### 1. Deborah Newman Appointed as Deputy Minister, MTCU

- Deborah Newman was appointed Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities in December, 2008.
- Most recently, Deborah served for three years as Deputy Minister with the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.
- Her previous positions in the Ontario Public Service include being Assistant Deputy Minister of Youth Justice Services and Assistant Deputy Minister of Community and Young Offender Services.
- She also served as Director of Human Resources and Social Development Canada in an Interchange Canada assignment; and she also held senior management roles in correctional services in Alberta.
- In 2006, Deborah was the recipient of the Amethyst Award, Ontario's premier achievement honour as a result of leading a major transformation in the OPS.
- In 2008, she was recognized by the Women's Executive Network as one of Canada's Top 100 most powerful women in the "public sector leaders" category.
- Deborah holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's Degree in Criminology from the University of Ottawa and is a graduate of the Queen's University Public Executive Program.

#### 2. Ontario's Response to Federal Budget Initiatives affecting the MTCU mandate

- Regarding support for workers, Ontario will review the federal skills training initiatives, for support of workers as well as for youth, aboriginals, apprentices and other groups, in detail to ensure that the funding is adequate and fair.
- Regarding employment insurance, while the federal government has moved to help laid off
  workers, the province will continue to press for reform on Employment Insurance (EI) as the
  average unemployed Ontarian still receives \$4,600 less in EI benefits than unemployed Canadians
  in other provinces. Ontario is pleased the federal government will be providing increased funding
  for training through the Labour Market Development Agreements (EI Part II,) based on Ontario's
  share of the unemployed population.

#### 3. Capital Planning

- The province is working closely with the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MEI) to ensure that PSE needs are reflected in the \$60B 10 year infrastructure plan
- PSE institutions were invited to submit their capital priorities to the Ministry by early September 2008.
- The Ministry completed a high-level engagement with college and university Presidents and Executive Heads, facilitated by the Courtyard Group over Fall-Winter 2008.
- MTCU, MEI and the Courtyard Group are in the process of completing an assessment of the current and state of the long-term capital planning process toward a long-term capital plan.
- Courtyard Group will be presenting the final recommendations and a complete report to the Ministry in March, 2009.

On Postsecondary Infrastructure spending, the Budget has announced \$2B in funding to support
deferred maintenance and major repair projects at PSE institutions. The province will work
closely with the federal government in the coming weeks to determine how projects will be
selected for funding. The Ontario government has made significant investments in facilities
renewal for colleges and universities in recent years, including \$200M announced in the 2008
Ontario Budget.

#### 4. Accessibility Fund for Students with Disabilities

- On October 23, the Ministry allocated over \$15 million in the AFSD funding envelope to colleges. Of this \$15 million, new funding for the Support for Apprentices with Disabilities was allocated to the colleges based upon each college's relative share of apprenticeship activity. The new funding will assist students with accommodation, assessment and modifications to equipment for apprenticeship training. The additional support will include assistance to self-identified individuals enrolled in apprenticeship programs, in pre-apprenticeship programs and in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.
- The next deadline for the colleges will be to send the 2008-09 activity and financial report to the Colleges Unit by June 30, 2009. Also, according to the new Support for Apprentices with Disabilities funding, colleges will have to send a detailed financial report to Ron Grisbrook, Services Delivery Branch, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities for the same deadline of June 30, 2009. (33 Bloor St. E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 200, M7A 2S3)

#### 5. Interdivisional Working Group on Persons with Disabilities

- Update on PACDI:
  - We are still waiting for possible dates for the meeting in late winter 09 or spring 09.
- A Ministry staff representative sits on the Information and Communications Standard
  Development Committee of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), along
  with representatives from colleges and from universities. A draft standard was posted on
  November 17<sup>th</sup> for a 60 day public review on the MCSS website. The deadline for comments is
  February 6, 2009. The next meeting of the Standard Development Committee will take place at the
  end of February to consider stakeholder comments.

#### 6. Transition Initiatives

- A web presence to assist individuals with disabilities to make a smooth transition to postsecondary
  education is almost completed and will be launched shortly. The ministry is grateful for the
  feedback received from several members of the Transitions Sub-committee of PACDI.
- Work is underway on a companion piece to the Transition web pages an on-line guide for students/graduates with disabilities to help ease the transition to employment.

#### 7. Summer Transition Program

- Last November, your college received from the Ministry a transfer payment to support summer
  transition projects in 2008-09. Summer transition projects are intended to assist students with
  learning disabilities to make a successful transition from secondary school to college or university.
  Funding for these programs is part of the Government's strategy to ensure that more Ontarians
  have the opportunity to pursue accessible and high-quality postsecondary education.
- We are currently working on consolidating and analyzing all 2009-10 proposals submitted by colleges. To complete this step, Colleges Unit will need to consolidate and analyze all 2008-09

activity and financial reports. We are expecting to have a 2009-10 Summer Transition program announcement by the end of March, 2009.

#### 8. Interpreter Fund

- The Interpreter Fund is intended to assist in reimbursing the actual costs of interpreter and related services for students who are deaf, deafened and hard of hearing. The Interpreter Fund may not cover the full costs of these services. The fund is for colleges outside the Metropolitan Toronto area.
- The additional funding provided in 2007-08 (\$889,619) is available in 2008-09 to assist with the cost of interpreters.
- For this Fund, we expect to receive your reports for eligible expenditures in 2008-09 by February 20, 2009. The 2008-09 Interpreter Fund announcements will be ready by the end of March, 2009.

#### 9. Support Services for the Hearing Impaired Program (administered by GBC)

- This program is administered by George Brown College on behalf of the Ministry and provides to the five publicly funded GTA colleges services to students who are deaf, deafened and hard of hearing.
- Following an analysis of the 2007-08 report submitted by George Brown College, we allocated to the 5 GTA colleges a basic allocation of \$1,030,031 at the end of January, 2009.
- The additional funding provided in 2007-08 (\$1,053,000) available in 2008-09 to assist with the cost of interpreters will be announced by the end of March, 2009.

#### APPENDIX "B" - CCSAS Report

# Coordinating Committee on Student Access and Success (CCSAS) Report of February 4, 2009

CCSS is now using the acronym CCSAS – Coordinating Committee on Student Access and Success as it reinvents itself largely at the request of Colleges Ontario as part of the reorganization of the Committee Structure

- CCSAS had an Executive teleconference on January 23 and an Executive meeting was scheduled for February 6. The next meeting of CCSAS members will be on February 24 at the end of the Colleges Ontario conference. CCSAS plans to invite Operating Group Chairs and Liaison representatives to a meeting with the CCSAS Executive sometime after the CCSAS meeting on February 24, 2009.
- CCSAS is still reviewing its new committee reporting structure and making some last minute changes/revisions e.g. A new reporting committee, Heads of Student Services (HSS) will be added.
- CCSAS will develop new terms of reference for its liaison representatives to the operating groups.
- CCSAS is involved in identifying members to an Advisory Committee that will have broad
  cross-section representation from the college system to provide guidance on the
  development and distribution of the Enabling Change product. CCDI will have a
  representative on this Advisory Committee and the CCDI Executive has sent the names
  of three possible candidates to CCSAS.
- An announcement was shared regarding the closing of The Bibliocentre and its replacement by a new organization to be known as Ontario College Library Services (OCLS). An email regarding this change and its implications has been distributed by Susan Alcorn MacKay to the CCDI listserv since the provincial meeting on February 4, 2009.
- CCSAS plans to honour Betty Freelandt at the Cambrian Rendez-vous on Thursday August 27 in Sudbury.

APPENDIX "C" - Treasurer's Report

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#### APPENDIX "D" - PAFC Report



COLLEGE COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES

COMITÉ COLLÉGIAL EN BESOINS PARTICULIERS



# Postsecondary Alternate Format Committee (PAFC) UPDATE FEBRUARY, 2009

The pilot project between 8 Ontario colleges and universities, the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities and the Canadian Publisher Council is moving forward.

The Memorandum of Agreement, which will form the legal basis upon which this pilot will function, is now in the hands of the legal departments of the parties involved.

The agreement is intended to permit the parties to conduct a pilot project for a period of twenty-four months to test the feasibility of centralized electronic requisitioning and storage of electronic versions of literary works produced in formats specially designed for students with perceptual disabilities.

Versions of the works that have already been produced by the institutions or shall be produced during the project would be combined with those already produced or to be produced by RSL. All electronic versions would be secured in the electronic repository operated by the RSL. These versions and the electronic versions RSL receives from the publishers during the project would be made available to the institutions for use by students with perceptual disabilities.

At the conclusion of this project, it is intended that this agreement be replaced by a new agreement enabling the expansion to all publicly funded community colleges and universities in Ontario and increasing the number of publishers participating in the process.

The pilot project will have periodic interim reviews. All parties to the agreement shall participate in an evaluation of the project at the end of the fifteenth month after the date this agreement comes into force. The reviews and the evaluation will be used to improve the project and to plan for the expanded implementation of the process.

Once the parties have signed the agreement, the parties to the agreement shall define the final milestones and set dates for completion of each.

#### APPENDIX "E" - Enabling Change Project



The EnAbling Change project, an interactive training resource to help colleges meet the new customer service standards for people with disabilities was launched in January.

This project, which is funded by the Accessibility Directorate of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, will provide colleges with a fully accessible e-learning training module at no cost to colleges.

It will be completed by the end of May 09 and made available to any college that wishes to use it. This time frame will allow colleges to meet the Jan. 1, 2010 compliance deadline for the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service.

College Presidents should be receiving an official announcement from Colleges Ontario shortly. I would encourage those colleges who wish to use implement this tool to begin thinking about which department within their institutions should take on the responsibility of implementing the training.

The Enabling Change project will also help colleges to raise awareness within each institution of the province's standards and compliance requirements. An advisory committee that will have broad cross-section representation from throughout the colleges will provide guidance on the development and distribution of the product.

#### APPENDIX "F" - AGM Update



The AGM Conference 2009 will be held at Deerhurst Conference Centre, May 11 - 14, 2009. We have received over 10 proposals and three keynote speakers have been secured. On Monday, May 11, 2009, the executive committee will hold their meeting at 2:00pm. They have asked that all CCDI regional representatives be prepared to attend later that day as the new executive team will be voted on at this time.

Our keynote on Tuesday morning is Gael Schwartz. She is an artist living in Montreal. Her performance project, *Crazy: One Woman's Search for Sanity*, was a selection of the juried New York International Fringe Festival; this spring, she will be presenting at the Maryland Institute College of Art's Community Arts Convening in California, at the Clifford Beers Foundation conference in Toronto, for the Canadian Mental Health Association of Ontario, and for the Anxiety Disorders Association of Canada in Montreal. Last year Gail collaborated with VSA Arts of Vermont on a stigma-busting tour of *Crazy* to colleges, universities and graduate programs. She founded her production company, Third Story Window, in 2004 after receiving her MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts/multimedia performance from Goddard College. Gail strongly believes that authentic, open-hearted and creative connections can work the magic necessary for individual and social transformation to occur.

Our Wednesday morning keynote is Dan Carter. He is an author, international speaker, television producer and host. Audiences have been inspired not only by Dan's tragic life but his ability to overcome such adversity. He has motivated people to take control of their own lives. When you hear Dan Carter speak, you truly understand that life is a journey that can take many paths.

On Thursday morning we are hoping to secure Ron Grisbrook to do a Q &A on apprenticeship issues.

Other proposals include Karen Coffey, from Algonquin College who will be presenting on an interactive training resource to help colleges meet the new customer service standards for people with disabilities to allow colleges to meet the January 2010, compliance deadline for the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service. James McEwen will present on automated technology; Laurie Clune will present on; Eleanor Condra will present on Universal Instructional Design just to name a few. The schedule of events will be posted to our website by the end of February. We will also have registration open in March. Watch for our Early Bird Registration for a draw for a refund of \$500.00 to your college.