

NEWS RELEASE

I have just returned from Vancouver and Victoria where I attended a series of meetings in connection with the establishment, in September 1970, of programs for the Cariboo Regional College.

I now feel that I can inform the various communities that a considerable amount of preparatory work on the College has been completed, and the hiring of staff is proceeding very satisfactorily. To date the College has received about three hundred applications for positions in the various faculties. I would like to emphasize that all academic faculty members will be highly qualified, and I have contacted the Academic Board to secure their assistance in the process of selection. The Academic Board is made up of representatives of the B.C. universities.

I would also point out that the standards in the wide range of courses to be offered at the Cariboo College will be equivalent to those pertaining at the universities. This College is not a super high school, nor is it similar to the present senior matriculation system. In the academic transfer fields it is to all intents and purposes - a university, and that is a very different concept from anything that has been seen in our area before.

There is a great deal of uninformed discussion prevailing in certain quarters about the academic performance of college students. Let me assure parents and students that surveys conducted by the universities themselves show that the college transfer student does as well, or better, than the student who transfers directly from a high school to a university. If anyone tells you differently they are very badly misinformed.

Another misunderstanding that should be cleared up once and for all is the old cry about college courses not being accepted by the universities. This was once partially true, but a great deal of progress has been made since those early days. The universities and colleges work together in complete co-operation. The Academic Board has made a great contribution to the development of the college system in British Columbia, and I must say that the universities have been very generous in their treatment of the colleges. I feel sure that any student, or adult, who enrolls in the Cariboo College need not have any fear of being denied transfer privileges provided his College work is at the required level.

The fee for entry into the Cariboo College will not be excessive, and the courses offered have been carefully selected to provide first year training for

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virtually all the faculties at the various universities.

Without going into too great detail at this time, some of the university transfer courses being offered in our College, in September 1970, are: English, Mathematics, Zoology, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography, Geology, Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, French, German and Spanish.

There are a few courses which are requirements at a particular university not appearing in the above list, but students will find that one of the College courses mentioned is acceptable as an equivalent.

High School students and adults will be given more complete details of the College program in the very near future.

Entrance requirements to the Cariboo College are, as in all other Colleges, less stringent than those required by a university, but the College student must perform at an acceptable level before being permitted to proceed from the College to a university. This necessary final transfer standing is usually attained by the fact that College classes are generally small in numbers, and the faculty instructor is primarily a very good teacher.

The College will have its own library and science laboratories, as high school facilities are inadequate for first and second year university equivalency programs.

Incidentally, adults will be pleased to know that mature student classes will enable them to receive special consideration for entry into the Cariboo College. This consideration has been well-earned - as throughout the province this group has performed very well indeed on transfer to a university.

The next phase in preparatory planning will concentrate on the technologies and student transfer to the B.C. Institute of Technology. I am hopeful of obtaining an agreement with that Institute in the near future.

As new developments occur I shall keep the communities fully informed. This College belongs to the communities of the six school districts and we will welcome inquiries or advice at all times.

The feasibility of operating a satellite campus in the Williams Lake School District is under investigation and as soon as the College courses are finalized a survey of students' intentions will be carried out.