



8 May 1979

NEWS RELEASE

(For immediate release)

A new position of Regional Director of Community Education, responsible for supervising and expanding a wide range of study programs and courses in the College's 60,000-square-mile region has been established by the Cariboo College Board.

Advertising for qualified candidates for the post with the commencement date to be "as soon as possible," is already under way.

The new position is the first step in carrying out the Board's commitment to extending a wide variety of educational opportunities throughout the region, now that the College's primary objective of a comprehensive range of programs at the Kamloops campus has been largely attained, according to Board Chairman, Andrew M. Smith.

The announcement reflects a change in title from "Continuing Education" to "Community Education", reflecting the responsiveness of the College to community needs, Smith said. The Division is responsible for providing both credit and non-credit courses including career, vocational and general interest offerings as well as university transfer, which fall outside the domain of the College's regular programs. There will be renewed emphasis on credit offerings under the new structure.

Up to now the College has had two Directors of Continuing Education, one for the southern area of the region, including Kamloops, and one for the northern area, with headquarters in Williams Lake. These positions will be retained, but their occupants will become area directors reporting to the new regional director. He, in turn, will report to the Educational Vice-Principal, A.J. Wright.

The new emphasis on community education in a broad sense also reflects the current educational trend toward "distance learning," College officials point out. One of the major qualifications for the new administrative post call for "considerable background and experience in Distance Learning delivery systems."

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In taking this step, the College Board acted on the recommendation of a task force composed of various administrators and department chairpersons as well as Board members.

The task force also recommended the use of a variety of non-traditional modes of credit course delivery, ranging from formal classroom settings to various mixed media and "packaged" courses. It also suggested the long range goal of establishing College Access-Learning Resource Centres in Ashcroft, Lillooet, Merritt, 100 Mile House and Clearwater.

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