

June 22, 1979

*Bishop*
*Specimen to Lillooet  
Bridge River News*

Prefacing his ~~remarks with~~ talk with the remark that Lillooet deserves congratulations for having more university transfer courses than any part of the College region except Kamloops, Acting Principal Leo Perra of Cariboo College described to the District 29 Board of Trustees last Thursday the process whereby the institution is preparing a comprehensive five-year educational plan.

The first multi-phased step in the process, he explained, is a region-wide survey of the community's educational interests and needs. The first phase of the survey, a questionnaire for Grade 11 and 12 students, has been carried out and is now being tabulated.

In response to a question from Board Chairman Helen Keir, ~~statistical~~ Perra said that specific data from the Lillooet Ssecondary School responses would be available for the use of school officials.

~~Some time in July,~~ ~~In July and August,~~ he ~~was said~~ reported, members of a four-student team will be in the Lillooet area to leave questionnaires at randomly selected houses. The students will return as interviewers, to get additional data on the residents' views of what the College should be offering.

Meanwhile, the College will be surveying its recent graduates and preparing to obtain the views of the students who will be registering in September. And in the fall, representative business and industrial firms will be contacted by College faculty, with particular focus on the employability of College-trained graduates.

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"Cariboo is probably unique among the 20 provincial colleges and institutes in basing its educational plan on such a comprehensive survey of the community's interests," Perra said. "We believe our tenth anniversary is an appropriate time to bring about this sort of dialogue with the different parts of our region, which covers more than 50,000 square miles and includes about 140,000 people."

~~The preparation~~ preparation of <sup>the</sup> a five-year plan was called for the the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. Perra explained that it will aid the Ministry in province-wide educational planning to avoid duplication of ~~courses~~ programs.

"When we have tabulated and analyzed the results of the needs assessment survey," he continued, ~~it will be up to~~ the College Board, of which Mrs. Keir is a member, ~~will~~ <sup>to</sup> decide on what goals should be pursued. Then the staff will come up with the draft of a plan to achieve those goals."

He emphasized the word "draft." The College will then submit the proposed plan to the various community groups, such as the District 29 Board, for reaction and input before putting the plan in final form for the Ministry.

Questioned by Board Member Jessie Collins, Perra also explained that courses beyond the second-year university level would be sponsored not by the colleges but by the newly-established Open Learning Institute, which was specifically geared to grant degrees on the basis of distance learning offerings.

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