

Cariboo College's broad-gauged survey to pinpoint what the public would like to see the College offering in the future was described to some 40 members of the Chase Lions Club Monday evening at their final dinner meeting of the season.

Acting College Principal Leo Perra explained that the College Board and administration, instead of "developing an educational plan and laying it on you", is going ahead with an ambitious project involving several groups of students, the general public and the business community in the planning process.

The survey began at Chase Secondary School and other schools throughout the 50,000-square-mile college region early in June when Grade 11 and 12 students completed a questionnaire about the future plans and present interests.

Early in July the next phase, a random sampling of households throughout the region, will be under way. Selected families will receive questionnaires to fill out and hand to an interviewer who will call on them.

Perra pointed out that the College's upcoming tenth anniversary is a good time for this type of stock-taking and establishing of short-range and long-range goals. In addition, he noted, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has called on all 20 provincial colleges and institutes to come up with five-year plans, for better community dialogue and for province-wide coordination of programs.

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As far as is known, Cariboo College is the only institution that is undertaking a comprehensive survey of public needs and desires before putting the plan together. And when it is drafted, on the basis of goals and priorities determined by the College Board on the basis of the survey data, the College intends to submit it to the respective communities for their information and input before composing the final version and forwarding it to the Ministry.

In addition to the high school students and the community at large, Perra said, the survey will include job-experience questions directed to recent graduates of College programs and courses; another questionnaire for September 1979 registrants; and, some time this fall, interviews with representative business and industrial firms, to get more information on employers' needs for trained staff.

Questions directed to Perra ~~in~~ dealt with the College's athletics program~~x~~ (still no league hockey, but ~~still~~ working on it); out-of-region fees ~~(none throughout British Columbia)~~ (no extra fees for British Columbia residents); and liaison with Okanagan College in the matter of students from such nearby non-Cariboo College areas as Sorrento.

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