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Cariboo College's first decade was marked by rapid and sometimes spectacular growth. Its second decade, just beginning, will be marked by a carefully charted progress based on recognized community needs.

When the fledgling College welcomed its first student body in two buildings and two portables on the Kamloops Indian Residential School grounds, its mandate and its goals were very general: to provide post-secondary education and training along the same lines as the several other community colleges which were springing up at that time throughout British Columbia.

In 1970-71 it offered first-year University Transfer courses and a few career programs to 562 full-time and part-time students. Full-time faculty numbered 29.

Dramatic expansion occurred in the fall of 1971: the move to the newly-built campus on McGill Road; the inauguration of major vocational programs in the skilled trades and clerical areas; the addition of second-year University Transfer courses; and the transfer of Continuing Education programs from the various school districts.

Growth since then has been continuous, especially in the vocational area (both pre-employment and upgrading) and in careers and technology. A few examples among many: Registered Nurse training, added in 1973; Corrections and Criminal Justice, 1977; Partsperson in 1978; Respiratory Technology, the only program of its kind in British Columbia, in 1979.

In the academic realm, Cariboo is distinguished among community colleges for its offerings in such fields as Archaeology, Astronomy, Computing, Fine Arts and the various physical and life sciences. Its Social Sciences Department includes a broad spectrum of academic and related career courses.

The physical plant consisted in 1971 of a two-story T-shaped main structure containing classrooms, offices and vocational shops, plus portables moved from the Kamloops Indian Residential School and enlarged. The Library and Gymnasium were

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opened in the fall of 1976 and the new Science Building in February of this year. The College also makes extensive instructional use of the former Department of National Defense houses along the Dalhousie Road extension.

Meanwhile, the College opened and has continued to expand its instructional and administrative centre at Williams Lake, where it offers a limited but growing list of programs and courses geared to the needs of the communities in the Cariboo-Chilcotin area.

With its foundations solidly laid---enrolment as of last fall was 2,579, exclusive of Continuing Education and part-time vocational students---the College launched a major planning project in mid-1979, beginning with a wide-ranging survey of community needs and desires throughout its 60,000-square-mile region.

This survey, along with economic and population data, is the basis for a comprehensive Educational Plan, currently in preparation. This plan, scheduled for adoption by the College Board this year, will help determine what programs and courses are offered over the next several years, and what services and facilities will best serve the needs and wishes of the people in the College region.

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