

NEWS RELEASE #1987/10.2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 1987

In response to overwhelming demands for more and varied computer training, Cariboo College President Jim Wright announces the opening of the College's Computer Access Centre, 261 Victoria Street.

The Centre, which has been under development for the past six months, received approval from the College Board in late September when record enrollments on campus taxed computer facilities to the maximum, preventing the initiation of future courses in response to community needs and demands.

Director of Business, Mathematics and Computing Division Richard Olesen, who will oversee the Centre's operation, believes that with its extended hours of opening and its flexibility to develop courses quickly to meet market demands, the training centre will soon be extremely popular.

"With our expanded facilities, and the latest in computer equipment, we will now be able to answer C.E.I.C. requests for additional computer-based training programs as well as to fill requests from private industry for very specialized training on a contractual basis", Olesen added.

The Centre will be operated on a fully cost-recovery basis and quality and service to the public will be two of the cornerstones upon which the facility will function.

( MORE )

Initial plans will see the Centre offering word processing, database management, electronic spreadsheets and accounting on the computer. In addition, such other popular programs as Microcomputers in Business (Certificate I) and Introduction to Microcomputer Environment, for which there have been wait lists, will be offered at the downtown location beginning October 14 and 17, respectively.

The general public will not be forgotten as Centre staff have been developing programs intended to de-mystify the world of computers. Groups targeted for special attention in the weeks ahead include: seniors, elementary and high school students and homemakers.

As a special feature, the Access Centre will also offer rental time on its IBM-compatible equipment on a first-come, first-served basis. A phone call to reserve a time is all that is required.

The public is invited to drop in and talk to the staff at the Centre who will be using the start-up period as a time to gauge interest and demand in determining possible course offerings in the near future.

For more information or to reserve time on the computer, please call Johanna at the Centre at 828-1916 or Barrie at the college at 828-5218 for more information about personalized computer training for industry.

- 30 -

For further information please contact:  
B. Campbell at 828-5218