A Plan for the BCIT Campus

BCIT aims to provide a 21st century polytechnic educational experience, but is operating on a 20th century campus. Our campus could do more to foster innovation and collaboration and to demonstrate leading edge of sustainability. BCIT can be a better environment for learning.

What kind of Plan?
The Campus Plan will provide a framework of planning and design principles to govern physical changes, guide the future location of buildings, define the appropriate character of places and spaces, and gradually create a more urban, vibrant campus community.

This Open House: Exploring Opportunities and Challenges

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...

What works? What doesn’t? What do you want to see in the campus of the future?

Please read these panels, use the post-its to add your comments and ideas. We will use your input to produce a draft set of planning principles and directions.

Also, please go to the website: bcit.ca/facilities/campusdev/campusplan

Please take the online surveys
Creating more opportunities for collaboration and innovation will benefit students, faculty, and BCIT. The campus plan is exploring how the design of facilities and public spaces can support collaboration and innovation within and between departments.

**Trends in Polytechnic Education**

Our research notes some trends that affect BCIT:

- **More use of technology in program delivery.**
- **More collaboration, innovation, flexibility.**
  Polytechnic education is becoming more cross-disciplinary, more responsive to changing technology, more open to experimentation and discovery. This affects program design, but it also affects the kinds of spaces that are needed.
- **More links with industry.**
  Career-focused, experiential learning is most effective when it involves contact with the real thing in authentic settings. There is an increasing trend to finding ways to incorporate industry partners into the fabric of the polytechnic campus.

**How does this affect planning for the campus?**

1. What kinds of spaces and resources would make it easier to collaborate with others on projects?
2. What are the best ways to support collaboration across departments and programs?
3. Should the campus plan allocate land to accommodate industry partners (along with a strategy to recruit them)?
4. Does the campus need better digital infrastructure? What?

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**This area for your ideas on post-its**
On-campus housing can reduce transportation demand, make the campus livelier, and provide a convenient option for students and faculty. Amenities can enrich the campus experience and create more opportunities for social and educational interactions.

A Place to Live – Existing Situation On-Campus

- BCIT’s existing Maquinna Residence provides accommodation for 336 students.
- At present, there is no on-campus housing for faculty, staff, or students with spouses or families.

Housing Opportunities

- There is demand for additional student residence beds on campus.
- There could be potential to incorporate rental housing in the upper floors of mixed use projects in appropriate locations without taking up land BCIT needs for its own growth.

Questions about Housing

1. Should BCIT increase its supply of on-campus housing for students?
2. Do you think some faculty, staff, or students would be interested in the opportunity to live in on-campus market rental housing that operated as a regular apartment building (i.e. not as a student residence)?

Questions about Amenities

1. Which existing amenities and services at BCIT’s Burnaby campus do you use most?
2. What additional on-campus amenities and services would improve your campus experience?
In 2007, BCIT committed to transforming its campuses into living laboratories of sustainability, to further the evolution of environmental stewardship and sustainable development practices.

The Burnaby Campus has undertaken or committed to these initiatives:
- Guichon Creek restoration project
- Increased use of solar energy
- Natural daylighting of campus buildings

BCIT’s green technology programs and sustainability initiatives will continue to evolve over time. As an institution, BCIT presently aspires to these sustainability goals:
- Become water balanced
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Explore the potential for a district energy system

QUESTIONS ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

1. How can BCIT be a leader and a demonstration ground for green buildings, emissions reduction, reduced energy use, renewables, and recycling?

2. How can BCIT’s future building and infrastructure projects make the campus more sustainable and provide living lab demonstrations of innovative technologies and systems?
Unlike BCIT’s other satellite campuses, which are specialized facilities for specific programs, the Downtown campus does not have a defined single role.

Downtown is currently used for courses in business, Computer Information Technology (CIT), the International Student Entry Program (ISEP), the Professional English Language Development (PELD) program, and continuing education courses.

As a highly accessible facility in the heart of Downtown, this campus has the potential to accommodate other programs and courses that have a strong connection to the business, hospitality/tourism, or professional sectors, that benefit from direct access to the regional rapid transit network, or that would benefit from the profile that comes with a site in the region’s core.

Is there a role for Downtown campus that won’t detract from the ability of the main campus to foster the sort of cross-discipline connections increasingly important for innovation?

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE ROLES FOR DOWNTOWN.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Gateway for international students who are upgrading their language and other skills for BCIT program admission?
2. Headquarters for programs with connections to downtown, such as business and computer information technology?
3. Focus on continuing education, for outreach to business and professional community?
4. A chance for many programs to have some classes in downtown, for a change of pace and scenery?
5. A collaboration centre for cross discipline meetings involving programs at different satellite campuses or meetings with industry partners?

This area for your ideas on post-its
CAN IT BE A better place to teach and learn?

Do we just come to BCIT’s Downtown Campus to take a class, teach, work on a project, do our job and then go home? Or is it a place where we are excited to come and spend time? What changes or improvements would make the Downtown Campus facility more enjoyable and contribute to our learning, our research, our team work?

For example, would the Downtown Campus benefit from:

- More and better spaces to meet and collaborate?
- More and better places to read, relax, socialize?
- More access to technology resources?
- Improvements to building systems?

Please share your ideas for ways to improve the Downtown Campus facility