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Scott McAlpine

February 2010

***2010/11 BUDGET UPDATE***

A budget newsletter was sent out on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> for College information. It has since been drawn to my attention that there was an error on the last page under “Responding to Demands and Emerging Trends” (7<sup>th</sup> bullet). The line should read, “Ed Tech Capital increase (**\$150,000** ongoing and \$150,000 OTO).

Budget forums are scheduled as follows:

Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-1:30 p.m., DLC Boardroom

Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:00 p.m., NWC Room 1630/40

***THE TRAINING GROUP SUCCESSFUL BID***

The Training Group has been named as one of seven successful proponents under the very widely competed Ministry of Advanced Education RFP for SkillsPlus Phase II Program. This program has been designed to fund projects Integrating Essential Skills into the Workplace.

The programming has been widely anticipated and aggressively competed throughout the training community and The Training Group is fortunate to have not only been selected as a successful proponent, but to be the recipients of 2 of the 8 contracts awarded province wide. The total value of these contracts is approximately \$700,000.

The Training Group projects will be delivered in collaboration with industry partners and are targeted at creating innovative training programs for delivery in and for the workplace. Our two industry partners in these projects are BC Housing and non-profit social housing providers, and the BC Security Industry. A full list of the successful proponents includes:

BC Construction Industry Skills Improvement Council (SkillPlan)

Douglas College

Opportunities Career Services Society

SUCCESS

UFCW Local 247 Training & Education Centre Society

Vancouver Island University

Victoria Read Society

Congratulations to Val Lockyer and the team involved in writing these successful proposals.

***INTERNATIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY AND STUDENTS***

Three funds are currently available to support international activity by faculty and students. The **International Education Support Fund** has \$17,000 available to support faculty who are engaged in the development of international education opportunities for Douglas College students. If you are interested in pursuing an international joint program, field school, or exchange, the deadline for submission is March 1, 2010. Domestic students can apply for an **International Studies Award** and can access a \$20,000 fund to help them to complete part of their Douglas College program activities abroad.

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The application deadline is March 5, 2010. International students in their second year of study can apply for **International Student Scholarships** of \$500 and \$1000. For further information on these opportunities contact: Betty Mitchell, in the Centre for International Education at (604) 527-5712, [mitchelle@douglas.bc.ca](mailto:mitchelle@douglas.bc.ca).

### ***STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE***

The focus groups of the seven themed discussion areas for strategic planning have drawn to a close. I wish to thank everyone who participated in and facilitated these discussions. A great deal of information was shared at each session and I am reading the comments and suggestions still as they are being posted on the blog (<http://www.douglaspresident.com/>). We also held community partners' breakfasts in New Westminster, Coquitlam, and Maple Ridge and the results of these sessions will be posted on the blog as well.

Student input, as well as additional community input, is currently being sought and the web surveys are open to whatever input people wish to have at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/75WYHH3>.

The energy, enthusiasm, and great interest that has been exhibited throughout the strategic planning process has been truly inspirational. Douglas College employees, students, and the communities we serve continue to demonstrate a clear commitment to the values and vision of Douglas College. Throughout the Olympic break, we are beginning to write a draft of a strategic planning document that should be ready to be vetted in mid-to late March. Again, I thank everyone for their time and thoughts throughout this process.

### ***VPE SELECTION***

The selection process for the Vice-President Education is proceeding well and is on track. Look forward to further information on this as the process unfolds more completely.

### ***ADMINISTRATION OFFICE RENOVATIONS***

The Administration Office (Room 4900) will be undergoing a facelift during the two week class cancellation period, mainly to relocate a couple of offices, improve flow and efficiencies, and create a meeting room for the Senior Management Team. The physical space will be off-limits during the renovations from February 12-28 and will re-open on March 1. Employees in the 4900 area will work at alternate work stations on either the New West or David Lam Campus and are best contacted by email during this time.