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Read Out

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Education Council News

Below is a brief update on items approved at Education Council in April and May. Please view the Items Approved or Minutes for details.

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Fall Re istration

Info Sessions: Science and Technology (Kelowna), Esthetics and Nail Technology (Virtual)
Last day to register for a distance course
Victoria Day - College closed
26 Specialty Nursing Certificates info session (Virtual)
Last day to submit a grade appeal

Spring continued to be a busy time for campus recruiters. Each campus hosted sessions for prospective students and applicants. Kelowna and Salmon Arm hosted a series of info sessions focusing on one portfolio at each session. Vernon and Penticton hosted their local high schools during Experience OC sessions, giving high school students a chance to sit in on an Okanagan College class and see how it feels to be a student here. Events continue, find details at okanagan.bc.ca/infosessions. Read next month's edition of Reach Out for a recap of all events.

The orientation team is expanding programming beyond the annual one-day welcome event and will encompass a medley of events and activities on all four campuses of OC through the spring and summer. The goal for this is threefold: to prevent the summer melt that often happens over summer break by converting applicants to students, introduce students to the supports and services offered by the College, and to help new students transition successfully into College.

Throughout the spring and summer, four newsletters will be sent to applicants and admitted students called Head Start Issues will focus on orientation event promotion, transition tips, and important dates and reminders. The first issue was sent out at the beginning of May. Find the newsletter at okanagan.bc.ca/orientation.

Students will be invited to attend in-person Jump Start events in May and June. Traditionally run as a stand alone event, Jump Start will now fall under the orientation umbrella. These registration and advising sessions will be expanded to include a services fair focusing on the various supports available at OC and a parents session, offering advice on how parents can support their child during their time as an OC student. The international department will offer a virtual session on June 24, and advisors will also offer a July 6 virtual session for domestic students unable to attend in person. See okanagan.bc.ca/jump-start for details.

Several Moodle courses are in development and will be mandatory for incoming students. These will include Academic Integrity, Consent and Sexual Violence, Indigenization, and Non-Academic Misconduct. Students will also have access to a Moodle course called OC Ready which will focus on services available to students.

In August, the Indigenous Services group will host Indigenous Orientation Gatherings at each campus. Students and their families will be invited to join in for a meal, traditional games, and a chance to meet the Indigenous Services team.

Each campus is planning a fun, pre-orientation event the week before classes begin. Salmon Arm, Kelowna, and Penticton will be hosting beach events, and the Vernon campus has a Community Block Party planned.

Librarians on each campus are planning an introduction to their libraries with the event Strong Start during the last week of August. This will be an opportunity for students to learn about the support they can find at the library.

Tuesday, Sept 6 is Kick Off, our annual one-day welcome event for students. This event will include program-specific sessions, games, music, lunch, and information about services and supports at the College and in the community. Reach out to the coordinator at your campus if you are available to volunteer.

Find all the orientation details at okanagan.bc.ca/orientation.

