

# **AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION/REFINISHING/PREP**

## **2009 Articulation Meeting – November 23 & 24, 2009**

**Okanagan College**  
**1000 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC**

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### **ATTENDEES**

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|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Chris Burns    | Chair, Auto Collision Dept., OC                 |
| Randy Dewar    | Instructor, Auto Collision Dept., OC            |
| John Haller    | Dean of Trades & Apprenticeship, OC (SLP)       |
| Rory Morrison  | Department Head, Auto Collision Dept., VCC      |
| Nick Penner    | Instructor, Auto Collision Dept., UFV           |
| Randy Sandhu   | Instructor, Auto Collision Dept., BCIT          |
| Dennis Shorter | Instructor, Auto Collision Dept., VCC           |
| Lloyd Stamm    | CEO, Automotive Training Standards Organization |

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES**

- Committee chair Chris Burns welcomed everyone to the meeting. This was followed by self-introductions from the group. Chris welcomed first time attendees Rory Morrison and Nick Penner.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- The agenda was approved as distributed. Lloyd asked for the *Textbook Review*, *Test Bank Validation Follow-up*, and *Skills Canada Paint Competition* items to be moved forward in the agenda as he was only able to attend on Monday.

### **REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL REPS**

- **Apprenticeship program content weightings**
  - Lloyd would like the group to analyze the various blocks in the apprenticeship outlines and re-consider the weightings between the theory and practical marks.
  - Final results from apprenticeship classes should represent the overall true performance of the apprentice.
  - Assessments need to be more closely related to the IP marks.
  - Lloyd would like the group's recommendations on the theory/practical splits to be sent to him within two weeks.
  - Lloyd will send electronic copies of the assessment guidelines for Collision, Prep, and Paint to everyone to use as guidelines.

- **Auto Paint Prep C of Q exam**
  - Lloyd stated the test bank questions were being re-designed according to the various taxonomy levels.
  - We should end up with three separate copies of the C of Q which should be of similar difficulty levels after this process is completed.
  - The deadline for completing this is unknown at this time.
  
- **Test bank validation follow-up**
  - This topic is no longer required given the fact that the questions are all being revised.
  
- **Skills Canada Paint competition**
  - Lloyd told the group that Skills Canada will be conducting Paint competitions at all future national events.
  - Lloyd would like to see a provincial competition instituted so that B.C. could send a representative to the national competition. He also felt having a provincial competition would provide some much needed exposure to training opportunities in the collision repair industry.
  - Discussion took place on the logistics of conducting a paint competition alongside the regular provincial competition. Concern was expressed about the environmental and legal aspect of spraying in a temporary facility.
  - One solution would be to conduct the competition offsite at a local collision repair facility or even at VCC's campus but the disadvantage to this would be a reduction of exposure to the public.
  - Different ideas were discussed regarding temporary spray facilities and locations close to the Tradex Trade & Exhibition Centre.
  - Randy D. suggested holding the paint contest over a two-day period where the actual painting could be done at VCC on the first day and then various polishing and decal application steps could be done at the Tradex Centre on the day of the provincial competition. Various types of props were suggested including scaled-down vehicle bodies which are sometimes used at OEM paint training facilities.
  - Everyone agreed that it would be beneficial to hold a provincial paint competition at Skills BC.

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***ACTION:***

*The group agreed to talk to various paint reps and gather suggestions as to how this could be done satisfactorily.*

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- **Textbook Review**
  - Lloyd asked about the textbook being used by the various schools. He said it is important that the test bank questions reflect information in the textbook.
  - Everyone is currently using **Auto Body Repair Technology** (5<sup>th</sup> edition) by James E. Duffy.

- Members expressed views that the textbook was used as more of a backup source for information and that typical lessons in an ELTT or Apprentice class would not normally follow this book on a page-by-page basis.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

- The *Auto Paint Prep C of Q exam*, *Test bank validation follow-up*, *Skills Canada paint competition*, and *Textbook review* items arising from last year's minutes had been moved ahead in the agenda to accommodate Lloyd's time schedule.
- **Review Of Student Numbers And Recruitment Issues**
  - Chris explained the origin of this topic from last year's meeting.
  - Randy D. said he had not received replies from VCC or BCIT as to their willingness to participate in last year's proposed sub-committee.
  - Everyone expressed the same concern that an industry targeted recruitment presentation would be beneficial for apprentice numbers.
  - Dennis mentioned that Del Anderson had an initial presentation compiled.
  - Randy D. said there is a section in the *Articulation Committee Companion Handbook* that mentions a possibility of funding for such sub-committees.
  - It was felt that the group must first express a desire to pursue this initiative collectively before a decision can be made to proceed any further.

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### ***ACTION:***

*Any school interested in participating in a sub-committee to develop an industry targeted presentation to enhance apprenticeship involvement will contact Chris by December 16, 2009.*

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- **Online Training Model Update**
  - Rory stated that most of their material should be posted by the end of January 2010.
  - Chris commented on last year's minutes that said the material would be finished by January 2009.
  - A sampling of various topics was displayed from the BC Campus website.
  - Randy S. mentioned the VCC branding on all the material and how that would limit its use by other schools. BCIT, UFV, and OC all stated they would not consider using any of the material that was branded throughout with VCC's logo.
  - Randy D. said this project was funded by BC Campus and the intent was to have generic training material on-hand for any school in BC teaching this trade. He said the VCC branding has made the material useful for VCC only.
  - Rory said it would be a huge task to remove the branding at this stage.
  - Chris said the branding concern was brought up five years ago at articulation when the project was just getting started. The same concern

has been brought up at every articulation meeting since with no change in direction by VCC.

- Chris said it appears VCC has taken advantage of provincial funding to create material that only they can use.
- It was also mentioned that this material was developed totally in-house at VCC with no collaboration with any other institution teaching the subject.
- Chris expressed concern that the articulation group is once again attempting to find out what the exact future of this material will look like.
- Chris felt attempts to ignore this problem due to the advanced stage of the project should not be condoned due to the efforts put forth by the group to correct the problems from the start of the project.

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***ACTION:***

*This topic will once again be reviewed at the next articulation meeting and any further developments will be examined at that time.*

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Review Of Course Offerings And Transferability**
  - A round table discussion took place regarding everyone's course offerings and how any transferability might work between schools.
  - **BCIT**
    - Randy S. said BCIT offers a 41-week collision program that includes material from all level of the apprenticeship outline. Randy S. stated the students challenge the IP exam at the end of the program but must enter industry and gain their time-in-trade before receiving their ticket.
    - Rory questioned how the students would intake the advanced level material without experience in the trade. Randy S. said past grads had been doing well in industry.
    - Randy S. said BCIT also offers a 26-week painting program that also covers all material in the apprenticeship outline. This program works in a similar fashion as the collision program as far as students entering industry and eventually receiving their ticket.
    - Randy S. explained BCIT's part-time courses such as their 20-week Estimating program and also a Custom Paint program that is delivered over five Saturdays.
  - **UFV**
    - Nick described UFV's 35-week ELTT program. It includes training in both collision repair and painting.
    - The students receive credit for Level 1 Collision Repair training and also challenge the Paint Prep C of Q at program completion.

- Nick explained that this year is their first year of operation and that he has been very busy getting up to speed with facilities, program design, etc.
- **OC**
  - Chris gave an overview of OC's program offerings.
  - OC offers apprenticeship training in Levels 1, 2, & 3 Collision and in Prep and Paint.
  - OC offers two 36-week ELTT programs that encompass Collision and Paint. Chris said in the past OC had offered separate programs but that 95% of the students ended up taking both so they combined the programs into one offering.
  - Graduates write the Level 1 Collision exam and the Paint Prep final exam upon completion of the program. Anyone who subsequently enters a Prep apprenticeship is encouraged to challenge the Paint Prep C of Q before returning for their Paint apprenticeship class. OC will investigate the possibility of all grads challenging the Paint Prep C of Q at program end.
  - A description of OC's International IP Refresher Program was given. Chris said the results were good even though the OC has changed the screening process for future classes. No classes are being planned at this time due to the economic downturn. Chris said a program like this must be 100% sure of placing graduates and even though OC had successfully placed grads throughout the four western provinces, it was felt the need for people to immigrate to Canada to alleviate labour shortages in our trade was not critical at this time.
  - Chris described OC's relationship with Toyota Technical College in Nagoya, Japan and how they had been offering a summer study program for Toyota for the past 18 years. Plans are already in place for a special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2011. Numbers for the 2010 class will break previous attendance records.
  - OC also delivers the Fibreglass & Plastic section of the RV program in both ELTT and Apprenticeship for OC's RV department.
  - OC also delivers the Safety and the Collision Repair & Paint components of OC's TTTE program designed to provide training for future high school shop teachers.
- **VCC**
  - Rory described VCC's 30-week ELTT Collision program. Graduates receive credit for Level 1 of the Collision Repair apprenticeship.
  - Rory also described VCC's 22-week ELTT Paint program. Graduates challenge the Paint Prep C of Q exam and receive credit for the technical training period of the Paint Prep apprenticeship.

- VCC offers Levels 1, 2, & 3 of the Collision Repair apprenticeship and also offers Prep and Paint apprenticeship training.
- Rory explained they have been offering the Online Apprenticeship in Collision, Prep, and Paint. Students are allowed a 3-month period to complete the online portion and then attend school for an abbreviated period for their in-school session. Prior to attending school, a journey person will attest to the various functions having been performed by the apprentice and will make recommendations on his/her findings.
- Rory explained that Ace-It programs have proved valuable for VCC's program line-up over the years and described how VCC has worked with the various high school districts to promote these programs.
- Rory then described a new initiative for VCC called the VCC Flexible Learning Program, a 30-week program in delivered in conjunction with various "rural" school districts in the province. VCC would provide 8 weeks of online training and the school districts would provide the face-to-face component. There would also be an 8-week work component in industry.
- VCC would create rural PAC's to increase industry support for such programs.
- The initial school districts include Victoria, Comox, and Salmon Arm.
- Randy D. questioned VCC's involvement with Salmon Arm considering it is in OC's geographical area. Rory stated that SD83 had contacted them and asked them to get involved.
- Chris said the reason VCC was contacted was because OC had turned down an offer to partner with SD83 because of a lack of facilities and instructor certification. Chris questioned VCC's information sheet that states "The school districts have fully equipped facilities which meet Red Seal equipment requirements." OC determined that the Salmon Arm facility did not even meet Worksafe BC guidelines.
- Randy D. was not happy to hear VCC using the same online material to deliver this course that the rest of the group was having such a hard time obtaining. He said it gives the appearance that VCC has been branding the online material and delaying the final delivery deadline so they could use the existing material to pursue channels that were not open to others.
- Chris expressed his extreme displeasure that VCC was planning to enter OC's training territory and set up a PAC in the Salmon Arm area. Chris thought this type of problem had been put to rest after last year's articulation meeting.
- Rory said this program was targeted at Ace-It students and not apprentices.

- Randy D. said that OC has not only had Ace-It students from Salmon Arm in their classes but also regular high school grads and apprentices from throughout that region.
  - Rory stated that VCC was only trying to be progressive by expanding their offerings.
  - Chris said that is all well and good unless they start interfering in another college's territory.
  - Chris explained how OC recruits students from the whole interior of the province. This included anywhere from the Yukon border to the Kootenays. The Lower Mainland was left up to the schools in that area to service.
  - After considerable discussion it was agreed that this issue should be referred to the individual Deans at VCC and OC to discuss.
  
- **Professional Development Opportunities**
  - A round table discussion took place as to the group's experiences in Professional Development opportunities. It was felt the group would benefit if people would share their recommendations as to the relative pros and cons of various activities.
  - Everyone agreed that NACE was the best overall opportunity for PD for instructors teaching Auto Collision Repair and Auto Painting.
  - Randy S. mentioned that Mark Deroche attended NACE this year. Randy D. said he attended this year's event as well. Nick also attended SEMA this year.
  - Randy D. said NACE appears to be getting smaller but that SEMA seems to be increasing their coverage of the Collision and Paint areas. He said all the paint companies were represented at SEMA and many collision-related companies were exhibiting there as well.
  - It was agreed that with the NACE and SEMA shows occurring during the same week in the same city it will continue to provide excellent PD opportunities.
  - Randy S. investigated a course in the UK covering metal restoration and fabrication of sheet steel and aluminum. It is conducted over a 2-3 week period and includes the use of an English wheel, panel fabrication, TIG welding, and jig and pattern making. It is offered through Contour Autocraft in Peterborough, England. The cost is approximately \$5,000 including accommodation.

## **MEMBERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION**

- Updated information was obtained from all members and a revised list will be sent to all members with the minutes.

## **ELECTION OF ARTICULATION CHAIR**

- Chris was re-elected as Articulation Chair for the next two-year period. It was agreed to hold the next election at the 2011 meeting.
- Chris said he would send a letter of thanks to BASF for their generous offering of dinner on Monday evening.

## **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

- The group decided to change the articulation timetable to a one-day meeting if at all possible. It is hoped that one intense day of discussions might be enough to cover all topics.
- It was agreed to have the next meeting in Kelowna on October 4, 2010.
- BCIT offered to host the 2011 meeting.



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**MEMBERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION (sorted by last name)**

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