

WELDING ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

June 6-7, 2017

Northwest Community College, Terrace B.C.

Participants:

Name	Institution	June 6/17	June 7/17	Email
Greg Dettenweitz	CNC	X	X	dettenweitzg@cnc.bc.ca
Larry Franzen	TRU	X	X	lfranzen@tru.ca
Colin Makeiv	Selkirk	X	X	cmakeiv@selkirk.ca
Keisha Reichert	NWCC	X	X	kreichert@nwcc.bc.ca
Al Sumal	KPU	X	X	al.sumal@kpu.ca
Jim Carson	UFV	X	X	jim.carson@ufv.ca
Spenser Julseth-White	UFV	X	X	spenser.julseth-white@ufv.ca
Bernard Booth	UAPICBC	X	X	bernard.booth@uapicbc.ca
Chris Udy, SLP	NIC	X	X	chris.udy@nic.bc.ca
Bruce Neid	NWCC	X	X	bneid@nwcc.bc.ca
Kevin Alexander	Camosun	X	X	alexank@camosun.ca
Mike Hallam	VIU	X	X	Michael.hallam@viu.ca
Greg Wagner	Okanagan	X	X	gwagner@okanagan.bc.ca
Sean Jarvis	Okanagan	X	X	sjarvis@okanagan.bc.ca
Ken McKay	COTR	X	X	kmckay@cotr.bc.ca
Mark Flynn, Chair	BCIT	X	X	mark_flynn@bcit.ca
Bernie McGee	BCIT	X	X	bernard_magee@bcit.ca
Tom Fodor	NWCC	X		tfodor@nwcc.bc.ca
Skyler Dayus	NLC	X	X	sdayus@nlc.bc.ca
Lee Reichert	NWCC	X	X	lreichert@nwcc.bc.ca

Guests:

Angela Caughy, ITA Program Development Officer acaughy@itabc.ca

Trent Conrad, CWA Foundation Technical Outreach Officer trent.konrad@cwa-foundation.org

Recording Secretary:

Meredith MacLeod, NWCC mmacleod@nwcc.bc.ca

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Welcome and Introductions

The Dean of Trades, Lorrie Gowen, welcomed the members to Northwest Community College and acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of the Tsimshian, more specifically the Laxyibuu clan of the Kitsumkalum First Nation.

Roundtable introductions of members.

The meeting was called to order at 9:06am

Additions to the Agenda

- Metal Fabrication (General)
- Budget Discussions

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda, with additions.

Moved by Colin Makeiv, seconded by Jim Carson. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2016 WAC Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the 2016 WAC Meeting, as presented.

Moved by Kevin Alexander, seconded by Ken McKay. Motion carried.

Chair Report

- Open School is splitting the Foundation modules to a Level 1 and 2 split. Waiting for ITA approval.
- There is new test implementation with Level 1 and 2 testing which will be rolling out this year. A new test will be given which aligns well with our current books.
- Apprenticeship enrollments have slowed down.
- How are we recognizing failures?
- Harmonization implementation—as of April 1, 2017, the Harmonization should be implemented. Some college may have delays. For BCIT it was a small change, which is now implemented.
 - Another discussion is the implementation of TIG—where to put it in Foundations?
- Back to 2011 levels of training. Factors: extra funding from AVED, issues with employee retention (in lower mainland), fewer Alberta welders in workforce, students getting work locally.
- Changes to BC Safety Authority.
- CWB testing numbers are down. Some colleges are doing less testing and some have stopped altogether due to changes from last year.

Discussion on the Current Dual Pathway of Apprenticeship and Modular Models

- Information from ITA advisors varies regarding B Level and Level 3. Institutions are receiving different advice and information than what is given to students.
 - Students being sold Level 3 by advisors. Undermining old system we have. Not that we don't want to allow people to move, but apprentices need to understand. Selling it in such a way that it looks so great, but students are misinformed.
 - If ITA is funding it, we need to keep pushing it.
 - A big hurdle: once done your Level 3, can't do any ASME until you have full red seal, but with B Level stamp you can.
- We need clear guidelines from ITA regarding pathways.
- Some apprentices coming in are very green. Students should require hours between, not just be recommended. Back-to-back level students struggle.
- Roundtable discussion about programming offered at each institution.

Discussion on Harmonization Implementation

- Discussion on where to put the TIG module.
 - Biggest change is addition of TIG to foundation program.
 - Can we get a consensus where we want to insert TIG?
 - Mid-program or at the end is the two suggestions.
 - Middle of program will work better because the risk you run at the end of the program you bottle neck. At the middle of the program you can manage it.
 - WAC not at a consensus.
 - Reasonable time to put it is after stick and before wire OR at the very end of program.
 - After a few trials there might be more opinions.
 - After we have done it a couple times, we will have opinions and can determine what makes sense.
- Level 3 Harmonization
 - Extra week (now 11 weeks rather than 10) will be an issue for some.
 - For 2 years that it will be 11 weeks. This is the cleanest harmonization, compared to other trades. 2 years is up for debate, may be extended.
 - One thing we need to find out from Angela, is that checklist included to employer. Some apprentices are saying they haven't seen it. What do they need to do to sign them up? They just go on direct access. Fair enough it is not mandatory but needs to be available.

Meeting adjourned for lunch break at 12:05pm

- Resource development for Open School documents.
 - We are looking for individual package modules that are usable for all of us. They need to be updatable in a timely fashion, with an expectation of continual updates. Do we want them paper or electronic? A limit of Acorn is we have to print ourselves (is there a copyright issue?) It would have to be part of it, some want electronic, others want paper—want the choice.
 - Acorn is more like a PowerPoint presentation. To me that not really want I want as a learning resource. Essentially, I'm sure acorn can give us what we want, what is there now doesn't fit. We need to tell them as a customer/have them replicate a current module, have them show us a sample then we would buy in. We need to shop.
- TTBC is pushing hard to take over control.
- Chris needs to know what message to take to the meeting—common resources, some control, online content and printable.
- May need a committee to take a look at this material. Show of hands: make this a package/give us a sample. Whether we control it or not is a secondary question.

Discussion on CWB changes and charges

- Due to change in CWB, implemented last year, some institutions do not test at all, others have a test day by bringing an inspector in.
- Roundtable discussion regarding testing at different institutions.
 - Range between no testing at all and a test day where invigilator comes in.

- Sounds like less institutions are testing, so not sure where students are going. On the job testing most likely (on island it is an option.)

Discussion on Changes to BCSA Requirements

- CR is new agency before 2014 grandfathered after the Level 2 CWB qualification.
- Everyone has to have certification after 2018 (?)
- Dennis in the contact at BCSA to get qualification done properly. Due in 2017.
 - There is a charge for looking at it.
- Alberta examiner—Alberta
 - BCP 100 and QC training
- BCSA—2-year weld certification and performance test.
- BCP 100 is a pre-requisite to the RED Seal Special Endorsement.
- Dennis would like to get rid of the PWP's
 - Procedures need to be revised.
- Have our own College procedure
 - Something to take the place of PWP's
 - Would need a body or name.
 - What would the liability be?
 - Ray Kerr is a retired welder, writing manuals for hire.

Preparation for discussion with ITA

- Transferring students from App to Modular
 - Logbook—when is it issued? Who gives sticker?
 - Practical Rubrix—does not exist
 - Need to decide how to assess practical that is consistent throughout WAC
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Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Additional Agenda Items

No additional agenda items.

Open Discussion

Motion to approve Mark Flynn as chair of WAC for another term (until 2019)

Moved by Jim Carson, seconded by Al Sumal. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Mike Hallam as vice-chair of WAC.

Moved by Jim Carson. All in favour. Motion carried.

Update on Training Models and Harmonization, New Logbooks—Angela Caughy, ITA

- Harmonization Update
 - Implemented at all levels. By next March, the harmonized training intakes will total 105 (B and A Level not in that count.)

- Logbook
 - Proposal to implement training stamps for Level 1, 2, and Foundations.
 - Advantages: visual confirmation, could be used in conjunction with PSC
 - Disadvantages: redundant if not linked to recommended WBT hours, could be confused with C of Q stamps.
 - Implications: Stamps not a completion requirement, only a support. They should not be used to impede technical training.
 - Q: Can stamp be given at our recommendation/request? i.e. “in order to receive stamp in logbook, ITA under our direction, would affix stamp after required hours.” A: We can look this and determine after. Hours cannot be mandatory, the ministry won’t allow it.
- Foundations—ITA ID number
 - Foundation students are struggling to get their ITA number. Handout to assist in steps on website.
 - Handout on how to guide students from Angela will be emailed to the group by Mark.
- Standardized Level Exam Policies
 - Level 1 Exam—pilot in December 2017, launch in February 2018.
 - Level 2 Exam—pilot in August 2017, peer-review in September 2017, launch in October 2017.
 - MPAW Exam—no pilot, launch in July 2017.
 - Foundations Exam is a bit trickier. Currently looking for an institution with a block intake to pilot exam.
- IPSE Statistics
 - Apprenticeship Stats
 - Drop in activity—200 less in system from last year.
- SLE Statistics
 - Exam Stats
 - Have gone up from last year. National average up by 4% (includes challengers.) Provincial average has increased significantly by 15% (does not include challengers.)
 - These numbers are from 2016 and do not include new harmonized cohorts.
 - Level Exams
 - Provincial pass rate is down by 8%, average score down by 2%.
 - Level 1—provincial pass rate down by 1%, average score remains the same.
 - Level 2—provincial pass rate down by 4%, average score down by 1%.
 - MPAW—provincial pass rate down by 25%, average up by 1%--not many have written yet.

Q&A and Discussion with ITA

- Q: Does ITA track failures? A: They would be in the system with their score. Q: Would it be a zero for technical training? A: Yes, they would sit in the 0 for technical training stats. Q: Would they be able to retake quiz? A: If they pass in-school, they can retake exam. Q: If they failed technical training, how many times would they get to retake the exam? A: ITA pays for the seat, not the individual.
- Q: Apprentices that are moving into the modular model are getting different information across the province. Our understanding is that some people are being told they can’t go from apprentices to modular? A: We evaluate these request individually by a one-off basis, if a

student has a sponsor we want them to stay as apprentices. Regionally there may only be a B Level program available, so we would allow them to move if needed. Q: What is the process for that change? We are looking for something we can follow (i.e. guidelines or contacts) A: We want apprentices to work with their advisors, then move up the chain of command/next contact as needed.

- Comment: It would be nice to see an explanation regarding this online i.e. “dealt with case by case,” with contact information included for students. We want a consistent message.
- Q: When will the logbook be issued? After the first level of training or completion of Red Seal? A: It should be issued after completion of Level 1.
- Q: When will Level 1 and 2 stamps in logbooks be issued? A: This is up to the institutions to enforce, or choose their recommendations/requirements. Possible idea to tie it to the tax credit. Tax hours are 1560, doubled for Level 2. A good way to notify students of tax credit as well. Q: Who would be issuing the stamps? A: Institutions can. No trouble for ITA to do it upon verification of hours. Q: What would hours be? A: That is what I was going to ask you, what would you want to see? 1000 for Level 1 as it is recommended? Discuss further?
- Q: Will students be required to show logbook in order to enroll in programs? A: Not from ITA as we don't run the programs.
 - Comment: We would like to see a more serious/official looking logbook and stickers (compared to released example.)

Meeting adjourned for lunch break at 12:08 pm

CWA Foundation—Trent Konrad, CWA Foundation

- CWB is a membership body with over 70,000 members.
- CWA Foundation is a separate entity.
- Large portion of money is spent on secondary school programs
 - BC is the only province without a red seal welder teaching at high school level—varies province by province.
- Mind Over Metal camps
 - Wanting to focus on different demographics i.e. women only, indigenous groups.
- Secondary School programs
 - Student awards up to 80 this year.
 - Equipment support—working to upgrade equipment, teach instructors.
 - Train the Trainer—2 in BC this year. 2-day tech-ed teacher's workshop. Training can be set up through districts or institutions.
 - ACORN—adoption in over 200 high schools.
- Trying to work from bottom up, if instructors are excited will pass on to students.
- PPE Initiative in Secondary Schools
 - 3000 auto darkening helmets in over 400 schools across Canada.
 - Leather jackets.
- Post-Secondary education programs
 - College student awards—84 awards of \$2500 given in 16/17
 - Program funding—\$250,000. If you want to run a program for a marginalized group, we will fund that entirely. Open Doors: click and apply OR phone and organize something.
 - \$163,000 in applied research funding awarded this year.
- Can-Weld

- This year in Montreal
- 21 students and 11 educators attended this year, funded by Foundation
- Conference--Will fund you and your student to meet the who's who of welding.
- More money moving towards women indigenous marginalized groups.

Further Discussion with ITA

- Removal of B and A Level.
 - C, B, A Levels are not currently harmonized. Government and ITA mandate that all trades are to be harmonized. Industry needs to be trained/educated a bit as well.
 - Consensus is a preference to B and A, but decision has been made, they will not be continuing.
 - What is the timeframe for change?
 - After roundtable discussion, institutions state they would need at least 3 years, although 5-6 years would be ideal.
- Piping Endorsement
 - Going to be a lot of work to phase out B and A and have industry train properly on the jobsite.
 - In BC, they don't care about apprentices. It won't work in this area.
 - Massive project to train industry. Have to work with BCSA to get pressure welding. Probably be 3 year minimum.
 - Need to address foundation students without sponsors.
 - Hard to get engagement right now.
- Learning Resources at Open School
 - Open School said they are waiting for ITA approval to start printing.
 - Handled by Josh Christianson at ITA.
 - Launch what we have then add supplemental piece when it is ready.

Open Discussion

- Apprenticeship checklist could be in module so it is easier to find. Currently is available online.
- MPAW checklist in new outline, looks different than what was discussed. Curious if anyone was involved changes. Exchange lists to double check.
- For those institutions teaching both pathways, have you noticed a difference in skill level between Level 3 and B Level?
 - About the same levels, although Level 3 should be higher.
 - Confidence level of the two pathways is different. Goes back to if they are getting training on the job.
- Looking for historical documents showing the hours for C and B Level. Send to Mark to forward to Angela.
 - Anyone know someone from the early ITACT days—they may have the early documents showing the hours.

Next Meeting

- Next meeting to be held at VIU, Nanaimo

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:25pm