

Hamilton inks extension

By Daily Courier Staff NOV 26 A4

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As a result, the college's board of governors extended the president's contract for another five years on Wednesday.

"It gives me great pleasure to make the announcement," said board chairwoman Janet Shaw.

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Hamilton was recently chosen chairman of the B.C. College Consortium, which is made up of the province's 11 colleges. He is also the former chairman of the B.C. Trades Training Consortium.

"I'm grateful for the vote of confidence from the board," said Hamilton, "and welcome the opportunity to continue to work with so many people at the college who believe so strongly in post-secondary education and meeting the needs of our communities."

During his 29 years at the college, Hamilton has seen dramatic changes as a professor, an administrator and even as a board member when he was working for School District No. 22.

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Under Hamilton, Okanagan College was transformed into an institution of prominence in B.C., she added.

"He has earned the respect and confidence of the staff of Okanagan College, of our board, and (of) community leaders throughout the Okanagan, Similkameen and Shuswap-Revelstoke region. He has also distinguished himself provincially and nationally."

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He was appointed interim college president when the provincial government announced Okanagan University College would be split into two institutions — UBC Okanagan and Okanagan College.

Okanagan College now has more than 1,000 employees and an annual operating budget of more than \$82 million. Last year, it had over 19,000 students at its campuses and centres, which stretch from Revelstoke to Oliver.

Since its inception, Okanagan College has exceeded government expectations in enrolment.

— Special to the Herald