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New Sustainability Certificate Program

Pending approval early in March, OC will be offering a new program in sustainability. The Sustainability Studies Post-Diploma Certificate will be delivered in a blended format of online and face-to-face, allowing students the option to work while completing the program. Students will be able to build on their industry experience or related education and specialize in sustainable construction.

For information, contact Amy Vaillancourt: availlancourt@okanagan.bc.ca.

Bachelor of Law Enforcement

Students graduating from Okanagan College's Criminal and Social Justice program will have the opportunity to stay at the Penticton campus to complete their Bachelor of Law Enforcement Studies through the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC). The Penticton campus is arranging an information session with representatives from the JIBC. Stay tuned for further details. Those interested in applying should be directed to the JIBC application page: <https://www.jibc.ca/student-services/jibc-application-form>. Applicants who meet the admission requirements and apply by March 1 are guaranteed admission.

Updates in the Calendar

The following paragraph has been updated in the **English for Academic Purposes Certificate** program description in the Calendar:

In addition to their EAP courses, students at EAP level 3 may take one academic course and at EAP level 4 up to two academic courses provided students meet course prerequisites. If a student has mixed levels, the dominant level will determine the student's level. The addition of academic courses must be approved by the academic course instructor and appropriate academic dean.

The following note has been added to the Calendar description for **Pastry Arts Certificate**:

Please note: This program is under review and changes are expected to be approved and published by May. The program will be 50 weeks and will include a 10-week mandatory co-op term. Applications for the anticipated January 2019 intake will open in early summer. If you would like to be added to the interest list so we can email you when applications open, please email Gail Wolski at gwolski@okanagan.bc.ca.

Youth in Care Update

Please note, Former Youth in Care forms and queries should now be forwarded to the Student Services office, not the Registrar's Office as previously requested. All tuition waiver forms should now be scanned and emailed to jmcgee@okanagan.bc.ca.

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Okanagan College
Registrar's Office
www.okanagan.bc.ca/registrar

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Education Council News

Education Council did not meet to approve curriculum this month but will resume its regular meeting schedule March 1, 2018.

Connecting With Applicants

Beginning this week, a new email campaign through the College's CRM system will target those who have applied to or have been admitted to any engineering technology program. This includes: Civil Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Electronic Engineering Technology, Network and Telecommunications Engineering Technology and Water Engineering Technology.

Each email will include a welcome from the program chair and an invite to attend a technologies meet and greet with professors at the end of May.

Reaching out to incoming students early in the admissions process should help build a more personal relationship with applicants and ensure Okanagan College is their first choice for their education.

Recruitment and Campus Event News

Salmon Arm

Members of the Okanagan College, Salmon Arm campus, were invited to attend a dinner hosted by the Adams Lake band on January 24. This was a great opportunity to connect with parents and high school students excited to learn more about future educational

opportunities.

The Okanagan College Students' Union, in collaboration with Interior Health, celebrated Sexual Health Awareness Day on February 6 and hosted a day full of education and fun!

Vernon

The Vernon Students' Association - Okanagan College (VSAOC) hosted their 9th Annual Campus Food Drive January 30 and 31 and raised over \$1,200. The VSAOC would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the students, staff and faculty who supported this important cause. Revenue generated from this event will help to keep the Student Food Bank shelves stocked, and helps support 17 students per month on the Good Food Box program. During this event, thousands of dollars in prizes were given to students, staff and faculty.

Renowned human rights activist, Rick Sauve, gave a free talk on February 6 as part of the Vernon Speakers Series. Over 85 people attended. Sauve is a former inmate turned internationally recognized human rights activist who has dedicated his life to improving the recognition of prisoners as rights-bearing citizens – a life's mission he stumbled upon while serving 17 years in prison for first-degree murder.

Upcoming VSAOC events include: a Trades Student BBQ, Student Appreciation Day on February 22, Let's Get Consensual Campaign events, Monthly Photo Contests, Open Mic Night on March 8, Campus BBQ on March 28 and a Movie Day in April.

In recruitment news, Tawnya Cameron has been busy planning and promoting the upcoming Arts, Science and Business Information Sessions, taking place March 1. She also recently completed a safeTALK workshop to become a suicide-alert helper, and is busy planning several OC and Freshman 15 presentations in the Planning 10 and Grad Transitions classes at local high schools. Tawnya will also be at the Kelowna campus this month to help run a session at Kelowna's Experience OC event and at the Salmon Arm campus to help at the Tech Meet-Up event.

Kelowna



Kelowna students were treated to a visit from the St. John's therapy dogs during the February Stress Buster event.

Kelowna students enjoyed a free Stress Buster event in the atrium of the Centre for Learning on February 8. The Registrar's Office along with the Business department offered a calming food station with samples of various foods that help ease stress. Samples of dark chocolate-covered almonds, blueberries and homemade guacamole were given out to hungry students along with a free lunch provided by the Athletics, Recreation and Student Life office.

The Kelowna campus tours

program has been revamped. Scheduled tours can be booked online and will be offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Most of the time tours will be with one of the campus student ambassadors. A sign has just been installed in the Pit where participants are asked to meet before the tour. If someone cannot make the tour, they are still asked to fill out the [online form](#) with the best day/time that works for them.

Penticton



February 8 was a relaxing day at the Penticton campus. More than 150 students took part in the annual Stress Buster event. Students participated in fun activities to help them relax and beat stress. Activities included aromatherapy, beading, board games, colouring, stressball making, therapy dogs, and yoga. Nursing students volunteered their time to showcase strategies for combating stress through exercise, sleep, test anxiety information, and time management strategies. The event also featured a table from campus wellness project, Flourish, where students could

share strategies that increase their mental well being.

The Women's Resource Centre hosted a quilting table where students made quilting squares to honour women. Tea and scones were served as a relaxing snack.

The event was so well received by students that it went way over time!

Castanet was also on site to cover the event. Read the article [here](#).

A huge thanks to everyone who made this event a big success for the benefit of the students!

Family Day 2019

The B.C. government is in the final stages of approving moving Family Day 2019 to align with other provinces. If approved, the academic schedule will be updated.

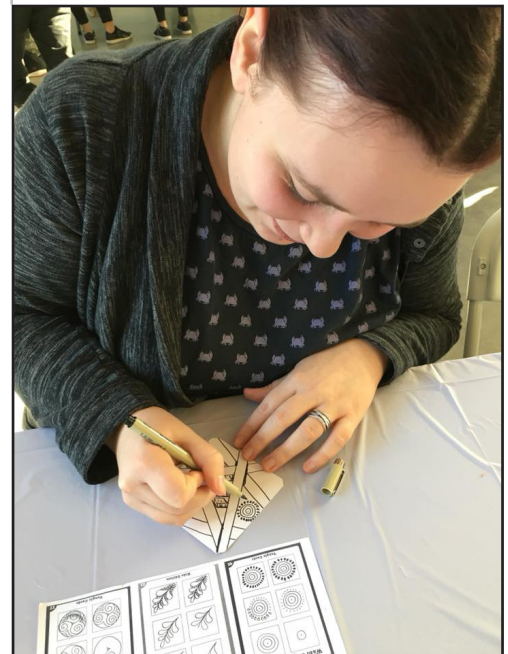
This will mean that the College's reading break will be during the family day week, one week later.

February 2018

- 15 Experience OC (Kelowna)
- 23 Big White Hang 10
- 27 Academic Skills Workshop (Penticton)

March 2018

- 1 Academic Skills Workshop (Penticton)
[Vernon Information Sessions](#)
- 2 Spaghetti Bridge Building contest
- 11 Daylight Savings Time
- 13 Stress Less Fair (Salmon Arm)
- 30 Good Friday (College closed)



Students learned about different ways to manage stress at various campus Stress Buster events in February. One method that works for some people is zentangling.