



NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EDUCATION COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: January 5, 2022
TO: Education Committee
FROM: Don Balcombe, Assistant Superintendent & Derek Beeston, District Principal
SUBJECT: Careers and Technical Center (CTC)

Career programs offer the opportunity to get first-hand work experience in a career setting. This career exploration process can help students with the transition to the workplace by giving them the confidence they need to focus their efforts on getting the specific training and skills required for their career choice. Our team directly or indirectly supports over 4200 Students in Career Exploration any given year. In our **Dual Credit Programs** students earn both university and high school credits that lead to graduation and certification.

In Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, we have several programs operating under the CTC:

- Discover The Maker Way – We offer Maker Days professional development to our teaching staff to support them with the tools necessary to give them the confidence to offer more hands on, project based learning opportunities in their own classroom.
- Discover The Trades – We run presentations spanning from a one-hour introduction session to multi-day experiential learning opportunities both in and outside the classrooms.
- Explore Trades Sampler – This program in partnership with VIU allows 24 students to spend one semester exploring five trade areas that lead them to “discover” their passion. Our CTC coordinator teaches three weeks of instruction during this program covering many trades and career related topics culminating in the Careers Life Connection (CLC) course completion. This opportunity also places the students in up to four weeks of on-site work experience. We offer a mixed cohort in September and an all-female cohort in February. We are developing a third indigenous cohort for the 2022-23 school year. Most of these students go onto Train in Trades or Work in Trades programs. In the first semester we have had 2 employers offer students full apprenticeships while on the work experience.

- Explore Trade Skills – This program is run at NLPS school sites. The NLPS teacher would deliver three trades experiences during a semester as well as some common core curriculum. The CTC manages the Industrial Training Authority (ITA) registration and funding and assists finance with transferring the ITA funding to the schools to help support their programs. They receive \$100.00 per student in the program.
- Guided Work Experience – This is a program that we offered in the past and would like to revisit as it was very successful. This specialized Work Placement Program supports transitioning District Skills for Life students (14 one year) to the workplace. This program has resulted in securing employment for some students.
- Train in Trades – In this **Dual Credit program**, we are currently supporting over a hundred students this year in 19 Foundation or Level Programs. We have current partnerships with five Post Secondary Institutions the main one being VIU. We are offering the second Marine Service Technician Level One Program in five years in Nanaimo in partnership with Quadrant Marine. These programs are tuition free for our students.
- Work In Trades – We are targeting 40 students currently in or completing our Work in Trades Program this year. This program awards the student 16 school credits toward graduation, records hours with the ITA toward their trade and receive a \$1000.00 award. For any student that is both in Work In Trades and Train In Trades we receive a dual credit grant of \$500.00/student from the ITA.
- **Dual Credit Enrichment** – We have 90+ students taking over 170 courses this year in areas other than Trades, Technology, or Certifications. This allows students to experience the transition to University life in a safe and supported manner. Students can take up to four VIU Academic courses in a school year and receive the opportunity for early admission at VIU. This program is tuition free for our students.
- Certificate and Diploma – Besides trades the CTC offers this **Dual Credit** programs that include -Administration Assistant, Dental Assistant, Education Assistant, Early Childhood Education and Care, Health Care Assistant, and Information Technology and Applied Systems in both network security and application and webpage development.
- Elementary Trades Trailer – Our Elementary Trades teacher takes our trailer to our Elementary Schools to deliver a hands-on project-based experience. This experience is the first time most of these students have had a tool in their hand. This program is a great equalizer for students of all abilities.
- Certification training – In the past we coordinated certifications for over 200 students. This certification targeted students for the construction, healthcare, and food service industries: (CSTS, World Host, Food Safe, Standard First Aid with AED and CPR, WCB Occupational First Aid Level One, Fall Protection, Forklift, Scissor Lift, Confined Space,

Respirator Fit and Lock Out Procedures. It took place in July immediately following the end of the school year. We are trying to find a way to run this again as it led to many students securing summer employment, careers, and apprentices.

- Partnerships:
 - Heavy Metal Rocks – This three-day experience for 32 students allows them to independently operate road building equipment. They experience first hand if Heavy Equipment Operation is in their future.
 - RCMP Summer Camp – This one week camp allows 30 students to “live” the experience of the RCMP from learning arrest methods to how to run tactical operations. Due to COVID it has been postponed to 2022-23.
 - Education and Career Fair- We help organize these for the district. These have all moved online for the last two years but we look forward to in person events returning one day.
 - Ministry of Education – We are one of ten districts that were accepted to offer a pilot Early Childhood Education and Care course cost free for students at VIU. This course (ECEC 150) starts them on a journey that can lead to Early Childhood Educator, Education Assistant, Teacher, or Child Youth Family Support Worker. It also certifies them as an ECE Assistant A.
 - Stzuminus School – We are hosting Indigenous students from Stzuminus and LSS for a tour of CTC programs at VIU. They will receive presentations from Trades, Welcome Navigators, and the CTC on the options available at VIU both for Dual Credit and post high school. This is a pilot we hope to make an annual event and extend to include other local First Nation communities.
 - Skills Canada – This competition will be formatted to comply with health and safety due to COVID. **Typically**, over 1000 grade 5 - 9 students competed in their own schools to be one of the 200 juniors to compete along side our 100 grade 10 to 12 students in our Skills Canada Competition this year. We hosted 35 schools from 5 school districts that competed in 14 contests for the Mid Vancouver Island. Gold winning competitors from our region move onto the Provincials. Winners from there can move onto the National and even the World Competitions. We also have 200 plus students tour for the day and cheer on their classmates.
 - Mid Island Partnership – We are signatures in a Mid Island Partnership with VIU and nine other Districts. This partnership will solidify support and strengthen our dual credit programs including Trades, Technical, and Academic.

- VIU Student Support Services (SSS) – We do not have the ability to actively support students in their VIU classrooms, so we work with VIU SSS to ensure our students are receiving any supports they require to be successful in their VIU Programs.

Student totals do not tell the story of the CTC. The total courses that students take varies from 1 – 12 courses per year depending on what Program.

Below is a funded course total for this school year to date. This number will grow as we move forward as it does not include the New ECEC Pilot, new Work In Trades Students, the new Marine Service Tech Course, or new seats we get for other programs as they come available. I anticipate another 150- 200 courses this year. We are working with 273 students in active courses and tracking 30 Work In Trades students whose course work is complete but we still work with them until they reach their hour total (900) and get their \$1000.00 from the Ministry.

Total 2021-22 Courses as of December 16, 2021 = **1235**

Train in Trades September 2021	458
Train in Trades February 2022	205
Careers Certificate September 2021	89
Careers Certificate February 2022	30
Trades Sampler September 2021	48
Trades Sampler February 2022	39
Dce Sept 2021	80
Dce Feb 2022	94
Work in Trades	192
Total 2021-22 Courses	1235

Our completion rates remain in the 90's for all programs. We are still seeing the effects of COVID translating into increased stress and anxiety with students and have shifted internal resources along with support from other district personal to support those concerns.