ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

MINUTES OF THE

FULL BOARD MEETING of the BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held virtually on January 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Windsor, ON

Present:

Mr. K. Beaudoin

Mr. W. Beck

Ms. T. Bendo

Ms. M. DeSchutter

Ms. P. France, **President**

Mr. C. Hotham

Ms. R. Khosla

Mr. J. Parent

Ms. J. Piccinato, Vice Chair

Mr. R. Renaud

Mr. G. Rossi

Mr. N. Singh

Mr. E. Sovran, Chair

Mr. A. Teshuba

Ms. T. Wonsch

Regrets:

Mr. A. Provost

Ms. M. Watters

Also Present:

Ms. K. Adams, Board Secretary

Mr. E.P. Chant, Editor, SAINT, Student Newspaper

Mr. J. Fairley, Vice President, College Communications & Community Relations

Mr. W. Habash, Vice President, Academic

Mr. M. Jones, Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer

Mr. R. Nicoletti, Executive Director, President's Office, Corporate Secretary & Ministry Compliancy

Mr. R. Seguin, Vice President, International Relations, Training & Campus Development, virtually

Mr. J. Sirianni, Vice President, Human Resources, Safety & Facilities Management

Having a quorum of Governors in attendance either virtually or in person, the Notice of Meeting and the Agenda having been duly sent to all Board members, the meeting was declared regularly constituted. A copy of the Notice of Meeting/Agenda is attached as **Appendix 'A'**.

Mr. E. Sovran chaired the meeting and Ms. Adams was the recording Board Secretary.

1.0 Adoption of the Agenda and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Ms. Renu Khosla declared a conflict of interest for the following:

Item #4.1 – Greenhouse Technician – Ontario College Diploma

Hearing no additional amendments or conflicts of interest, it was

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors adopt the Full Board agenda as presented.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Full Board meeting held on Tuesday November 23, 2021, in Windsor, ON

Hearing no amendments, errors or omissions to the minutes, it was

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the Full Board minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting.

3.0 President's Report

The Board Chair called on the President to provide her report to the Board.

Ms. France noted that the President's Report was included in the Full Board meeting documents, distributed by email and has been posted to the Board portal. She outlined the events and initiatives that have occurred since the last Board meeting:

• The President noted that prior to the holiday break, the College communicated its intentions to resume in-person instruction for almost all programs on January 24, 2022 and that the first week of classes commencing January 17, 2022, would be online. Emergency Alternative Delivery Plans have also been created and are currently posted to the website for Winter 2022. Based on current provincial COVID-19 surges and in consultation with local public health agencies, Emergency Plans were invoked for the week of January 24, 2022 with plans to resume in-person classes on January 31, 2022.

Also, in light of the surge in COVID-19 omicron variant cases, healthcare facilities in our communities will likely experience a higher number of patients who are COVID-19 positive over the next few weeks. Students with clinical placements in a healthcare setting have been advised that there is potential for exposure. The College will attempt to provide students who choose to defer their placement with alternative placement opportunities as soon as they feel safe to do so.

 On Sunday, December 12, 2021 the Faculty Union provided the College Employer Council (CEC) notice for strike action. On Saturday, December 18, 2021, academic employees started Phase 1 of their strike action which they have referred to as "work-to-rule".

On Monday, January 17, 2022, the CEC asked the Ontario Labour Relations Board (ORLB) to conduct a vote with OPSEU academic employee membership on the CEC's most recent offer. It has been confirmed that a virtual vote will take place between February 15-17, 2022. The President will continue to keep the Board informed as additional information becomes available.

- The President held a Virtual College Update for all full-time Support Staff on Friday, January 7, 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the transformation of Employment Services. The President provided the background on the transformation and noted that St. Clair College was not successful in its Request for Qualification submission. As a result, College Administration is preparing for the wind down of the Employment Centres in Windsor, Amherstburg and Wallaceburg over the next 15 months.
- The President provided the latest vaccination statistics for employees and students, noting that overall, 92.5% are fully vaccinated.
- Winter 2022 Convocation will be held virtually and will be aired on Friday, February 25, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- The College was contacted by the Downtown Mission requesting our assistance to provide the required meals to the shelter, as their staff recover from a COVID-19 outbreak within their operations team. In order to assist our community, the College gladly agreed to help and began providing meals as of Thursday, January 20, 2022 at no cost.
- The College was contacted on January 11, 2022 by the City of Windsor on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross to support the Isolation and Recovery Centre (IRC), located at the Best Western Hotel in the Downtown core. The request was for the delivery of meals to the hotel for migrant workers who have tested positive for COVID-19 and required a location to recover. Through the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts (SCCCA) catering program, the College is providing three meals per day to each guest during their quarantine period with the Canadian Red Cross distributing the food to each guest.

The President's report is attached to the minutes as Item #3.0.

The President also noted that the media report was sent out electronically and is attached for information.

4.0 Approval Items

4.1 <u>Greenhouse Technician – Ontario College Diploma</u>

As previously noted, Ms. Renu Khosla declared a conflict of interest for Item #4.1: Greenhouse Technician – Ontario College Diploma and exited the meeting at this time.

The Board Chair called upon Mr. Waseem Habash to speak to this item. Mr. Habash noted that the program request was included in the Full Board agenda package and highlighted the following:

- The request for approval is to deliver a funded Greenhouse Technician, twoyear Ontario College Diploma program, commencing in Fall 2023.
- This program was requested by the greenhouse industry in Windsor-Essex/Chatham-Kent. The largest obstacle in offering this program was the cost and availability of a greenhouse. As outlined in the report, the College has partnered with members of the greenhouse industry who have tremendous experience and have garnered support from growers in the Kingsville and Leamington areas.
- One of the challenges of this program is its Net Present Value (NPV) which can
 mostly be attributed to high operating costs as a result of program
 requirements, as well as the request of the industry partners to maintain
 enrolment of only 25 students per academic year. This request was made in
 an effort to satisfy work placement requirements and to not saturate the market
 with graduates. This would result in a negative NPV of \$494,000 over an eightyear period.
- The goal is to expand the program once it has launched and is successful, but this is not a certainty. With enrolment of 50 students, the program would be in a break-even position.
- The program would be held in Learnington to allow close proximity for students to the greenhouses.

A Governor inquired if there was any opportunity to partner with greenhouse growers located in the Niagara Region, allowing the College to expand the program? Or would this pose geographical issue?

Mr. Habash stated that this is not currently an opportunity as the College wants to ensure the commitment from the local greenhouse industry. At this time the College has been assured by 13 local growers to accept two students each for

placements. While there may be opportunity in the future to increase the availability of student placements, he noted that Niagara College also offers a Greenhouse Technician program, and the College would need to be respectful of this

The President noted that this program has been a request of the greenhouse industry in our community for many years. This industry is currently a federal government priority as 50% of greenhouse growing in Ontario is done in Windsor-Essex. In addition, Niagara College is the closest college to this region offering a Greenhouse Technician program, which is not readily available to the employers of the local greenhouse industry. It was requested that St. Clair College offer this program as a community college, serving its community.

A Governor asked to confirm the NPV of the Greenhouse Technician program.

Mr. Habash stated that the program has a negative NPV of \$494,000 over an eight-year period. He then provided the annual loss for each of the eight years. The average loss is approximately \$50,000 per year, following year one.

A Governor inquired that if the greenhouse industry in our communities are requesting the College to offer the program and to keep enrolment at a maximum of 25 students annually, could the College request additional placements or sponsorship for the program?

Mr. Habash noted that the College did approach the local growers to consider an increase in enrolment, however at this time they feel that they do not want to saturate the market too quickly and want to ensure the success of the program. He added that there is potential to grow the Greenhouse Technician program in the future, however College Administration is providing the data for the program as it is known at this time. He also stated that it is not a certainty that the College will be able to increase the enrolment of the program to 50 students in the future.

A Governor inquired whether there are potential government subsidies to lessen the negative NPV.

Mr. Habash responded that the College has attempted to secure additional funding and will continue to do so. He noted that the College has offered programs in the past that were requested by local industry and had a negative NPV. The College has previously offered programs in response to local industry requests in order to be supportive of the communities that we serve.

A Governor inquired if College Administration has offered programs in the past that have had a negative NPV and if they were successful in the long term.

Mr. Habash responded that yes, College Administration has previously brought forward programs to the Board for approval knowing that there would be losses in the first two to three years but would have the ability to recover the losses after grant funding becomes available. There is a two-year slip awaiting grant funding at which time the College can recover the loss, however these losses and recovery

were forecasted. In the case of the Greenhouse Technician program, at this time the College will not have the ability to recover the losses.

The President noted that the College has previously offered programs on a short-term basis in order to satisfy the needs of the community and noted Premier Aviation as an example. The St. Clair College Skilled Trades Regional Training Centre is another program that is offered in the community at a loss to the College. To be a good community college, there are instances where the College can offer programs at a loss, but to be fiscally responsible this cannot be done all the time or on a continuous basis. Programs are reviewed on an annual basis for quality, financial considerations and the continued need for the program in the community.

Mr. Habash noted that there is an Annual Report on New Programs provided to the Board as part of the Annual Workplan. This report includes the performance of each program from a financial, enrolment and quality standpoint. The majority of new programs do experience a financial loss in years one and two but increase in profitability in year three and beyond.

A Governor expressed their support of the Greenhouse Technician program. He then asked if the greenhouse industry and political leaders are aware of the losses that the College will incur upon offering this program and if so, has there been any suggestion on their part to help mitigate the risk to the College.

The President noted that the industry partners and the political leaders are aware of the potential loss to the College and are knowledgeable of the program package that was being brought forward to the Board of Governors. She noted that the political leaders are hopeful that the program will be successful while the greenhouse growers are attempting to manage expectations today, as they are dealing with the effects of COVID-19 on their industry.

The President noted that St. Clair College offers approximately 125 full-time postsecondary programs, as well as apprenticeships. Each program has a varying Return on Investment, many meet the goal of 40% Contribution to Overhead, some fall below, and some exceed it. Program mix is critical to the institution as not all programs will meet the 40% Contribution to Overhead, the balance is also in the value that the program offers from a vocational or economic perspective to the community.

After a brief discussion it was

RESOVLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the delivery of a funded Greenhouse Technician, two-year Ontario College Diploma program, commencing in Fall 2023.

Ms. Renu Khosla rejoined the meeting at this time.

4.2 Cybersecurity: Automobility – Ontario College Diploma

The Board Chair called upon Mr. Waseem Habash to speak to this item. Mr. Habash noted that the program request was included in the Full Board agenda package and highlighted the following:

The request for approval is to deliver:

- Cybersecurity Automobility an unfunded two-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity Analytics Automobility a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- These two, one-year Graduate Certificates and the Micro-Credentials are embedded into the two-year Graduate Certificate, with all three offerings commencing in Fall 2022.
- Cybersecurity is a major threat to all industries and sectors of business and is a
 growth industry. This program will focus on automobility in year two.
 Commercial vehicles and transporters of goods are particularly concerned
 about future cyber-attacks as they can detrimentally impact the logistics supply
 chain.
- College Administration has worked in conjunction with Invest Windsor-Essex and regional employers.
- Enrolment is forecasted conservatively for both international and domestic students with the goal to maintain the College's ratio of international to domestic student enrolment.
- The program has a high forecasted Return on Investment and an eight-year Net Present Value (NPV) of \$3.1 million.

After a brief discussion it was

RESOVLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the delivery of Cybersecurity – Automobility - an unfunded two-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate, commencing in Fall 2022.

After a brief discussion it was

RESOVLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the delivery of Cybersecurity – a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate, commencing in Fall 2022.

After a brief discussion it was

RESOVLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the delivery of Cybersecurity Analytics - Automobility – a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate, commencing in Fall 2022.

5.0 By-law and Policy Review

5.1 By-law 6: Term of Office

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 1st reading By-law 6: Term of Office, as amended.

5.2 Board of Governors End of Term Self-Reflection Form

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the Board of Governors End of Term Self-Reflection Form, as presented.

5.3 Policy 2003-5: Code of Conduct

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 1st reading of Policy 2003-5: Code of Conduct, as amended.

5.4 Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the

Board of Governors approve the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form, as presented.

5.5 Policy 2003-6: Cost of Governance

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the

Board of Governors approve the 3rd reading of Policy 2003-6: Cost of Governance, as amended.

5.6 <u>2003-4.1</u>: Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the

Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of Policy 2003-4.1: Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference, as amended.

5.7 By-law 10: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the

Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of By-law 10: Election of Chair and Vice Chair, as amended.

5.8 By-law 11: Duties of the Chair

After a brief discussion, it was,

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2nd reading of By-law 11: Duties of the Chair, as amended.

6.0 Date of the Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

The Full Board meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

Transforming lives and strengthening communities through high quality and accessible educational experiences that support career-readiness, innovation, and life-long learning.

ST. CLAIR COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

496th FULL BOARD MEETING

of the

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, January 25, 2022

<u>TIME</u>: Immediately following the In-Camera meeting.

NOTE: This meeting will be held virtually with the meeting

invitation forthcoming.

AGENDA

- 1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
- 2.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 23, 2021 IN WINDSOR, ON
- 3.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Policy Executive Limitations Communication & Counsel #2003-21)

Information Item – The President will provide her report to the Board apprising the Board of any new developments since the last meeting.

- 4.0 APPROVAL ITEMS
 - 4.1 Greenhouse Technician Ontario College Diploma

Approval Item – The request for the new program, attached as Item #4.1 will be presented.

4.2 Cybersecurity: Automobility – Two Year Ontario College Graduate Certificate

Approval Item – The request for the new program, attached as Item #4.2 will be presented.

5.0 BY-LAW AND POLICY REVIEW

5.1 By-law 6: Term of Office

Approval Item - The Board will review By-law 6: Term of Office for 1st reading, attached as Item #5.1.

5.2 Board of Governors End of Term Self-Reflection Form

Approval Item – The Board will review the proposed Board of Governors End of Term Self-Reflection Form, attached as Item #5.2.

5.3 Policy 2003-5: Code of Conduct

Approval Item - The Board will review Policy 2003-5: Code of Conduct for 1st reading, attached as Item #5.3.

5.4 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

Approval Item – The Board will review the proposed Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form, attached as Item #5.4.

5.5 Policy 2003-6: Cost of Governance

Approval Item – The Board will review Policy 2003-6: Cost of Governance for 3rd reading, attached as Item #5.5.

5.6 2003-4.1: Audit and Finance Committee – Terms of Reference

Approval Item – The Board will review Policy 2003-4.1: Audit and Finance – Terms of Reference for 2nd reading, attached as Item #5.6.

5.7 By-law 10: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Approval Item – The Board will review By-law 10: Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2nd reading, attached as Item #5.7.

5.8 By-law 11: Duties of the Chair

Approval Item – The Board will review By-law 11: Duties of the Chair for 2nd reading, attached as Item #5.8.

6.0 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

6.1 The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at the Windsor Campus.



TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2022

RE: REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAM: GREENHOUSE TECHNICIAN,

ONTARIO COLLEGE DIPLOMA

SECTOR: ACADEMIC

WASEEM HABASH, VICE PRESIDENT

AIM:

To request approval to deliver a funded Greenhouse Technician two-year Ontario College Diploma program, commencing in Fall 2023.

BACKGROUND:

The greenhouse industry has requested that a post-secondary program be offered in the Windsor-Essex/Chatham-Kent area, to support the development of a labour force with the necessary skills to work in this highly technical and specialized field of agriculture. An increase in crop diversification, the continued expansion of the greenhouse sector, as well as the introduction of new, high technological methods of production, have created a gap in the workforce. Greenhouse owners have been forced to hire untrained personnel to fill these positions and as a result are having to utilize many resources to train new hires in their production facilities. Unfortunately, the learning experience is limited and the new hires struggle to meet employers' expectations. An offsite training program offering both theoretical and practical experience at commercial greenhouses would assist in training new hires in greenhouse operations or fulfill various roles in the sector. Therefore, the proposed Greenhouse Technician program is recommended for the following reasons:

- 1. Support local industry and community partners.
- 2. Strengthens the connection between the College and community through Experiential Learning.
- 3. Enhances employability skills.
- 4. Increases enrolment.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This program is designed for students interested in a career in the greenhouse industry. This is a two-year program where first-year students learn through a combination of in-class lectures, e-learning, laboratory work and greenhouse visits. Second-year students may choose to specialize and their training will consist of in-class, e-learning and greenhouse experience (approximately 50%). As part of the program, students will be responsible to successfully complete a capstone course which will require the knowledge and experience gained in all courses and placements in order to create and submit a project management timeline as part of the course requirements.

This program will provide students with the knowledge necessary to work in the greenhouse industry as Greenhouse Technicians. These operations could include vertical or container farms where vegetables, flowers, fruits, microgreens and other crops are grown and harvested. Graduates are expected to find work in greenhouse production, as assistant and/or head growers, pest management specialists, supervisors or managers, as well as opportunities in the logistics team. Graduates may be employed in Ontario's greenhouse industry or in the support services such as suppliers (fertilizers etc.), manufacturers, logistics and government positions (production technicians).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) with the majority of courses at the College (C), University (U), University/College (M) or Open (O) level qualify for this program. The English proficiency requirement for international students is CAEL 50, IELTS 6.0 with no band lower than 5.5; or TOEFL iBT 61; or Pearson Test of English (PTE) Level 51.

MEETS ST. CLAIR COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

This program concept is consistent with the following College Strategic Directions:

- (1) Increasing enrolment by growing domestic and international enrolment;
- (2) Academic by increasing the number of students in programs with Experiential Learning opportunities and
- (3) Increasing community engagement.

MEETS ST. CLAIR COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC MANDATE AGREEMENT:

The Greenhouse Technician program falls under the horticultural occupational division according to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) classification (53902/53905) and therefore falls outside of the program area of institutional strength but provides an increase in the areas of Community/Local Support, Economic Impact and Experiential Learning.

LABOUR MARKET RESEARCH:

Leamington and Kingsville, located in Essex County are the top growing areas for greenhouse vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant and strawberries. Compared to other regions, a significant proportion of these workers are employed by farms

in the counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton. Essex County also boasts a number of nurseries, tree and floriculture producers, which will support work in this field. Moving forward, this region will remain one of the key hubs for greenhouses, nurseries and floriculture production as the result of announcements that indicate the expansion of infrastructure to support the expanding greenhouse sector.

For the purposes of this proposal, we are linking to Greenhouse Supervisors - technical workers in greenhouse contexts with supervisory abilities within the larger NOC 8255 contractors and supervisors, landscaping, ground maintenance and horticulture services. These workers possess technical skills to plant, cultivate and harvest trees, shrubs, flowers and plants within a greenhouse while also supervising and coordinating the activities of workers in the following unit groups: nursery and greenhouse workers (8432) and landscaping and grounds maintenance labourers (8612). Job titles include nursery foreman/woman, greenhouse supervisor and horticulture workers supervisor.

The employment outlook from 2019-2021 will be fair for Greenhouse Supervisors within the Windsor-Sarnia region. Employment growth and retirements are mitigated by a small number of unemployed workers and seasonal employment to lead to this outlook.

In the region, approximately 730 people work in this occupation. In terms of land use, Essex County greenhouses cover 84,114,866 square feet or 53.1% of the provincial total. The largest employment sectors are:

- Management and Administrative Services (79%).
- Agriculture (14%).

The median wage of \$25.50/hour in the region is 2% higher than the Ontario median wage for this occupation.

As of March 9, 2021, the following postings were available on jobbank.gc.ca:

- Windsor- Sarnia 3 openings.
- Ontario 48 openings.
- Canada 201 openings.

The employment rate for graduates of this program were 80% in a related field for the year 2019.

STUDENT DEMAND RESEARCH:

There are currently two institutions with similar programs – Niagara College (2-year Ontario College Diploma) and University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus (Associate Diploma). The following is information available for domestic applications and registrations for the Niagara College program from 2016-2020:

Figure 1 represents domestic applications for Niagara's program for 2016 – 2020. There has been 75% growth in applications over the period.

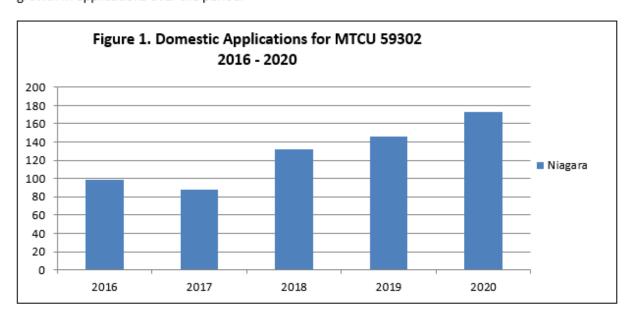
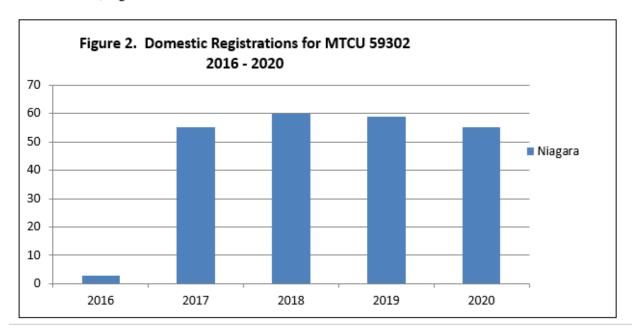


Figure 2 represents domestic registrations for Niagara's program for 2016 – 2020. After a suspended intake in 2016, registrations have been stable.



It has been identified that on average, three students per year from the Windsor-Essex area register in Niagara's program. The Greenhouse industry did express a concern during the Ad-Hoc meeting that there is only sufficient employment for a total of 150 graduates. They recommend that St. Clair College only deliver the program for a duration to produce this number of graduates. At an intake of 25 students per year, St. Clair College will only deliver the program

for an 8-year period to account for attrition of students and graduates who move away from the region, and then revisit the need for the program in the future, if any.

ENROLMENT PROJECTIONS:

The following table identifies the eight (8) year enrolment projections for an anticipated total of 626 students:

Enrolment	2022- 2023	2023- 2024	2024- 2025	2025- 2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028	2028- 2029	2029- 2030
Domestic	9	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
International	36	68	68	68	68	68	68	68
Total:	45	83	83	83	83	83	83	83

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

A pro-forma budget was created to show the cost/revenue for the two-year Greenhouse Technician program. Please see the attached budget. The eight-year net present value for the program shows a net loss of \$494,010.

Beginning in 2020-2021, the Core Operating Grant is determined based on an Enrolment + Performance Model (SMA3). Under this model, a college's enrolment grant remains static, as long as the College's Weighted Funding Units (WFU) enrolment remains within the +3%/-7% corridor from the midpoint. A college's Performance-Based Grant remains static as long as performance targets are achieved. This proposed program will have a negative impact on the Performance-Based portion of the grant starting in 2023 and has been factored into the budget. Impact of SMA3 can be found on the subsequent budget under College Level NPV.

ADHOC PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The ADHOC Pre-Program Advisory Committee assembled from the appropriate industry stakeholders that would employ graduates of the proposed program APPROVED the proposal for a two-year Greenhouse Technician Ontario College Graduate Diploma, commencing Fall 2023. This package contains the Ad-Hoc Program Advisory Committee Minutes, including the motion and approval.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT:

Currently 13 of the 13 employers contacted have provided letters of support to provide placements for 27 students.

RECOMMENDATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board approves the request for two-year Ontario College Diploma in Greenhouse Technician in Fall 2023.

Appendix A

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Greenhouse Techician

Academic School: Skilled Trades

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023			FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027		FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	9	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
International	36	68	68	68	68	68	68	68
Total	45	83	83	83	83	83	83	83
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$16,047	\$26,564	\$26,830	\$27,098	\$27,369	\$27,643	\$27,919	\$28,198
International Tuition	\$245,520	\$449,232	\$453,724	\$458,261	\$462,844	\$467,473	\$472,147	\$476,869
ISR	(\$13,500)	(\$25,500)	(\$25,500)	(\$25,500)	(\$25,500)	(\$25,500)	V	(\$25,500)
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$2,926	\$7,802	\$12,670	\$14,619	\$14,619	\$14,619
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$20,250	\$25,006	\$29,882	\$34,750	\$36,699	\$36,699	\$36,699
Total Revenue	\$248,067	\$470,546	\$482,986	\$497,543	\$512,133	\$520,933	\$525,884	\$530,885
F								
Expenditures:	47.5 2.	Φ7.7.1-	A7.070	00.00	00.400	40.671	40.510	#0.000
FT Faculty Costs	\$7,564	\$7,715	\$7,870	\$8,027	\$8,188	\$8,351	\$8,518	\$8,689
PT Faculty Costs	\$59,237	\$119,438	\$121,827	\$124,263	\$126,748	\$129,283	\$131,869	\$134,506
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Lease Costs	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Equipment Costs	\$70,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$49,104	\$89,846	\$90,745	\$91,652	\$92,569	\$93,495	\$94,429	\$95,374
School Overhead	\$10,226	\$19,008	\$19,505	\$20,084	\$20,664	\$21,022	\$21,232	\$21,443
Total Expenditures	\$321,131	\$351,008	\$344,946	\$349,026	\$353,169	\$357,151	\$361,049	\$365,012
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Contribution Margin (40%)	\$99,227	\$188,218	\$193,194	\$199,017	\$204,853	\$208,373	\$210,354	\$212,354
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$420,358	\$539,226	\$538,140	\$548,044	\$558,022	\$565,524	\$571,403	\$577,366
Exponditures a contribution margin	Ψ120,000	Ψ000,220	φοσο, 1 το	φο 10,011	Ψ000,022	ψοσο,σ2 1	ψοι 1, 100	ψοι ι ,σσσ
Program Level Net Difference	(\$172,291)	(\$68,680)	(\$55,155)	(\$50,501)	(\$45,889)	(\$44,591)	(\$45,518)	(\$46,481)
	(•						
Program Level Net Present Value	(\$494,010)							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	(\$20,250)	(\$27,932)	(\$37,684)	(\$47,420)	(\$51,318)	(\$51,318)	(\$51,318)
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	(\$7,064)	(\$13,357)	(\$13,357)	(\$13,357)	(\$13,357)	(\$13,357)	(\$13,357)
College Level Net Difference	(\$172,291)	(\$95,994)	(\$96,444)	(\$101,542)	(\$106,666)	(\$109,266)	(\$110,193)	(\$111,156)
College Level Net Present Value	(\$830,305)							
	(+,)							

Notes:

Located at Leamington site; lease details not yet finalzed.

20 international and 5 domestic students / intake in Fall; students have traditional Spring/Summer break

No full-time teaching other than coordinator

Approved Year 1 Tuition

Tuition based on Horticulture Landscape 20/21 and increase 1% annually international; no increase domestic

Domestic

No technicians in labs subject to final curriculum approval

Program will have a negative impact on Institutional Strength portion of Performance Grant.

The program's forecasted contribution margin over 8 years is 23%, 17 percentage points below the 40% benchmark. As a result, other programs/operations of the College will potentially need to cover the program's forecasted

shortfalls relative to it contribution to overhead target.

Under the corridor funding model, the combination of Enrolment and Performance Grants for the College are static. New programs do not bring net new grant funding. As a result, the grant funding noted in this program budget represents a reallocation from existing programs.

\$3,566

\$13,640

International



Minutes of College Program Advisory Committee Meeting

Program Code:	Program Name:
N/A	ADHOC Program Advisory Committee Meeting
	Greenhouse Technician Program
Current Meeting Date:	May 26, 2021 at 3:00pm
Meeting Place:	Zoom Meeting
Previous Meeting Date:	N/A
Next Meeting Date:	N/A
Recording Secretary:	Tara Watts

College policy requires meetings to be held at least once every academic year (defined as August 27th to August 26th).

Committee Members	Organization	Attendance	Term	Conflicts
Niki Bennett	Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers	Present	Compliant	No
Rick Mastronardi	TriSon Farms/OGVG	Present	Compliant	No
Marco Hoogenboom	Hoogenboom Family Farm Inc.	Present	Compliant	No
Pooneh Kalhorzadeh	Great Norther Hydroponics	Present	Compliant	No
Alan Beausoliel	Truly Green Farms	Present	Compliant	No
Joe Sbrocchi	OGVG General Manager	Present	Compliant	No
Fadi Al-Daoud	OMAFRA Greenhouse Production Specialist	Present	Compliant	No
Norm Hansen	Erieview Acres Inc.	Present	Compliant	No
Siera Simoni	OGVG Innovation Assistant	Present	Compliant	No
Aaron Coristine	OGVG Manager, Science, Regulatory Affairs &	Present	Compliant	No
	Government Relations			
Nishan Antaal	Southshore Greenhouses	Present	Compliant	No
Rob Petro	OGVG Energy, Infrastructure & Environment	Present	Compliant	No

The meeting should start with a review of member terms. In the event a member's term exceeds that allowed by the policy steps should be taken to correct this at the commencement of the meeting. If this is not corrected at the meeting an Action Plan should be part of the Minutes requiring terms to be corrected.

Committee members are independent members of the community that do not have a direct connection with the program. Full time faculty and part time instructors are not eligible to be voting members.

Are committee members satisfied that current membership is representative of the community? If "no" an Action	Yes			
Plan should be created to expand committee membership.				
Are there a sufficient number of committee members present to have a meaningful and productive meeting?	Yes			
College policy requires a quorum of committee members to vote on approving a new program, relaunching a suspended program				
or changing an existing program's curriculum or program hours by more than 25%. A quorum is defined as 50% of committee				
members + 1.				
Are there a sufficient number of committee members present to constitute a quorum?	Yes			

College Resource Persons	Position	Attendance	Conflicts
Waseem Habash	St. Clair College – Vice President, Academic	Present	No
Ken Blanchette	St. Clair College – Associate Vice President of Academics	Present	No
Lido Zuccato	St. Clair College – Dean of Engineering, Skilled Trades and	Present	No
	Apprenticeships		
John Byng	St. Clair College – Chair of Engineering, Skilled Trades and	Present	No
	Apprenticeships		
Lindita Prendi	St. Clair College – Executive Director of Academic Excellence	Regrets	No
Shalin Khosla	St. Clair College	Present	No

College Program Advisory Committee Meeting General Information

PAC discussions should be summarized in these Minutes. Any major action recommended by committee members should recorded in the Action Required part of the Agenda Topic and Discussion part of the template.

It is the role of the School Chair and faculty to review PAC recommendations to determine what suggestions require action. These should be recorded in the Acton Plan part of the template and contain the components identified in that section.

Mandatory Discussion Topics for College Program Advisory Committee Meetings						
Review of Minutes From Previous Meeting		Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed – N/A		
Review of Program Entrance Requirements		Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed – N/A		
Review of Program Graduation Requirements	\boxtimes	Reviewed		Not Reviewed		
Review of Program Related Pathways and Transfer Agreements		Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed – N/A		
Review of Program Vocational Learning Outcomes	\boxtimes	Reviewed		Not Reviewed		
Comments Discussions on these subjects are recorded in the Agenda Tonic are	d Dica	ussian sastian halaw	\ c+ior	Dlans that result		

Comment: Discussions on these subjects are recorded in the Agenda Topic and Discussion section below. Action Plans that result from such discussions are recorded in the PAC Action Plans section below.

Item #	Agenda Topic and Discussion	Action Required
1.0	Introductions Niki Bennett	No action required.
	The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm and introductions were made by N. Bennett. Meeting was held via Zoom.	
2.0	Establishment of Ad-hoc PAC committee (Review Policy) Lido Zuccato	No action required.
	Review Membership	
	 2.1 Ad-hoc membership numbers and industry representation L. Zuccato explained that being a part of this meeting extends the offer to participate in the Greenhouse PAC committee meetings in the future when the program launches. 	
	 2.2 Identify Voting Members L. Zuccato indicated that all members in attendance that are from industry are considered voting members. 	
	 2.3 Establishment of official Ad-hoc Committee Motion to approve – A. Coristine approved. Seconded by M. Hoogenboom CARRIED 	
3.0	Approval of Agenda With no additions or changes to the agenda, it was moved by A. Coristine and seconded by M. Hoogenboom that the agenda be accepted as is. All were in favour. CARRIED	No action required.
4.0	Presentation from SCC Powerpoint Waseem Habash/Ken Blanchette	No action required.
	W. Habash explained that the intention of the meeting was to present the Greenhouse Technician Program (2-year diploma) that would prepare graduates for entry-level positions in greenhouses as a greenhouse technician. He explained that before a program is approved by the Board of Governors and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities it must have an Ad-hoc committee reviews and approve the program before a submission can be made to the BOG or the ministry.	

Need in the Community:

Through discussions with greenhouse growers, Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG), and local politicians, a need has been identified for a Greenhouse Operator/Technician program for the counties of Essex and Kent.

W. Habash explained that although there was an expressed need in the community for this program, the cost of a greenhouse was prohibitive from the college perspective and the ability to operate a greenhouse at the same time was problematic. The solution was to develop a program that would provide classroom theory and lab work, and from there, students will receive the hands-on experience and spend time in our industry partner greenhouses on placement

Existing Programs in the Province:

- Based on the research conducted by St. Clair College, there are various types of programs offered in the food sector.
- Other programs in the province did not meet the scope of what the local greenhouse industry needs.
- St. Clair College decided to seek the right individual who is capable and knowledgeable to develop the program.

Proposed Program at St. Clair College

- Based on the input from Shalin Khosla and discussions with various growers, OGVG, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), a two-year Greenhouse Technician program was determined as suitable for delivery.
- The program has been developed to provide students with the basic fundamentals in the first year to prepare them for Work Integrated Learning in year 2, plus, the program provides the opportunity for the student to specialize in Production or Pest Management.

Program Development and Approval Process

- Obtain Internal St. Clair College Approval Complete
- Present to industry Complete (February)
- Obtain Industry Approval: May 26, 2021 Ad-Hoc PAC (review policy)
- Obtain St. Clair College Board of Governors Approval: June 2021 or September

	Credential Validation Service Approval: 4 weeks	
	Ministry Approval for Funding: 8 to 32 weeks	
	Potential Start Date: January 2022 otherwise it would be Fall 2022.	
	Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLOs) Shalin Khosla	
	These Vocational Learning Outcomes's are dictated by the ministry.	
	*The Vocational Learning Outcomes's were reviewed and endorsed intheis meeting by	
	industry members.	
	Today's Meeting Request:	
I	1. Review the curriculum	
	2. Vote on approval/denial of program to proceed	
	3. Approve Industry Support Letter. This letter would state that members of	
	industry would take students on placement. The college is looking for 25	
	placements but would like to obtain 50 support letters to ensure all students	
	can obtain placements/WIL.	
5.0	Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings	N/A
6.0	Business Arising from the Minutes	N/A
7.0	New Program Proposal Shalin Khosla	No action required.
	7.1 Program Description and Intent Shalin Khosla	No action required.
	Program Description:	
	 The program is designed for students interested in a career in the greenhouse sector. 	
	This is a two-year program where the first-year student learns through a	
	combination of in-class lectures, online learning, laboratory work, and	
	greenhouse visits.	
	The second-year students may select to specialize in pest management or	
	production, and their training will consist of in-class, online learning, and	
	greenhouse experience (approximately 50% of the time).	
	As part of the program, the students will be responsible for completing a	
	Capstone course, where the students will draw from knowledge and experience	
1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1
	gained in all courses and would create and submit a project management	

7.2 Market Need Waseem Habash					No action required.
Through discussi					
Growers (OGVG) , and local politicia	ns , a need has	been identified for Greenl	house	
Operator / Techi					
7.3 Program Cur			Shalin K	Chosla	No action required.
	omputer Skills that vironment.		xplained how the Chemis vill be geared towards the		
Semester 1	aldin Teal I	Semester 2			
GVTC101	Science for the Greenhouse	GCTC106	Integrated Pest Management		
C) (T0102	Greenhouse Production	GCTC1009	Biological Control		
GVTC102	Greenhouse Production	GCTC1010	Biosecurity and Sanitation		
GVTC103A	2	GCTC1010 GCTC1011	Post-Production		
CHMxxx (old PSE124)	Chemistry	dereioii	Greenhouse Production		
GCTC107	Pathology	GVTC103B	3		
	Entomology	CVTC2023	Computer skills		
GCTC108	Mathematics for	CVTC2022	Agriculture Business		
GCTC108 MTHxxx	Greenhouse Technicians	0110202	Management		

Semester 3	Production	Semester 3	Pest Management
CVTC2012	Greenhouse Climate	CVTC2012	Greenhouse Climate
	Greenhouse Nutrition &		Greenhouse Nutrition &
CVTC2013	Fertilization	CVTC2013	Fertilization
CVTC104	Greenhouse Production 4	CVTC2014	Greenhouse Diseases
CVTC105	Greenhouse Production 5	CVTC2015	Greenhouse Pests
CVTC2016	IPM	CVTC2016	IPM

Proposed Curriculum - Year 2 - Semester 4

S. Khosla explained how the Capstone Project last the durartion of the second year.

Semester 4	
CVTC2017	Biosecurity and Sanitation
CVTC2018	Greenhouse Engineering
CVTC2019	Capstone Project
CVTC2020	Post Harvest
CVTC2021/HRM 105	Management

- M. Hoogenbum asked for clarification regarding climate computers. S. Khosla explained that the intention is for students to be able to work with climate software programs and that he is in discussions with a few companies currently about this.
- Question was raised as to what the amount of hours per course is. W.Habash stated that on average it is 3hrs/per course per week for 15 weeks but minor adjustments may be made to class hours if required.

		·
	purchased as well.	o N/A
	equipment and Facilities Lido Zuccar	·
•	climate control/greenhouse growing, he asked how will this be addressed within the program? S. Khosla explained that the instructors would be up-to-date with this technology and there would be as guest speakers from Ontario and across Canada. He mentioned that there are talks about 'new plant growing system' discussion for the program as well. Placements Lido Zuccar L. Zuccato discussed the college will be sending out support letters to industry members to obtain placements for students and reiterated that there is a need for 25 placements for the first year the program is launched and enrollment numbers for future years are to be determined. Accreditation Lido Zuccar	to Industry Support letters to be sent out to Industry Employers. Support letters are required from Industry members to support a minimum of 25 placements to present to the Board of Governors for program approval.

ie./interviews, GPA's or complete randomization. He explained when a site is taking on a student, there is detailed training provided for student and a set list of outcomes that a student needs to accomplish, this is not left for the employer to determine. There is constant communication between college instructors to provide guidance and monitor progress. All the requirements are laid out in a way that all outcomes are achievable by students.

- K. Blanchette further explained the support letters that are needed. It is not 50 individual sites that are required. The college needs to demonstrate to the Ministry and the Board of Governor's that the college has a commitment from the growers, that every enrolled student can have a placement. The college is looking to start with 25 students and will need to determine the future level of compulsory enrolment. It could be 10 sites that would take 5 students each or any combination that supports the number of students in the program. The support letters that are being requested from employers would indicate that they are interested in placing students at their greenhouse as well as how many. The college would also want to know what intake/time of year would best equip a student to obtain the most experience while on placement.
- A. Coristine asked if this program is open to domestic and international students. W. Habash confirmed that is open to both. He mentioned that there is a high interest for international students in this program, specifically. He predicts more international students will apply but cannot confirm that. He mentioned that if there is domestic interest from individuals who are already working in the field that would like to upgrade, online training could be made available. They also may not need to take all course, in this case, Prior Learning Assessments (PLARs) can be made available.
- F. Al-Daoud asked if students will be introduced to regulations and certifications that will be needed to start their own greenhouse? S. Khosla explained that part of the lab work would involve students going out to various greenhouses where they will see the interactions between government, departments, OGVG, suppliers, etc.
- P. Kalhorzadeh asked how international students would be able to work after they graduate. W. Habash explained that IRCC allows international graduates of

2-year programs to apply for a 3-year work permit. Once they successfully complete the 3-year duration they can apply for permanent residency status in Canada. That is the hope for many international students when they come to Canada. It was asked if international students are screened for language/education prior to acceptance into this program. W. Habash confirmed that they are required to submit transcripts as well as obtain a minimum of 6.0 in their IELTS testing to be accepted. If an international student comes to study and fails a course, they are put in a program called Accuplacer and MyLab – this must be completed before they are readmitted into the program. W. Habash explained that most international students that have come to study have done so without issue but those that struggle are provided with assistance. A voting member asked if it has been confirmed that there is adequate interest to fill the 25 seats. W. Habash responded by saying that pre-scouting had occurred to determine response. Through conversations with the International Department, it was demonstrated that they could fill 200 seats but the college has opted to maintain the 25 seat capacity currently based on previous meetings. W. Habash mentioned that shuttle buses might have to be set in place by college to assist transport to and from placements. W. Habash shared that when the college initially expressed interest in opening the doors to internationals students, it had been said that this city was too small to attract these applicants but the college is now at approximately 4-5000 international students. Ad-hoc Endorsement of the new program 8.0 Lido Zuccato No action required. L. Zuccato asked the committee if the college has received endorsement from voting members. It was motioned by A. Coristine and seconded by M. Hoogenboom. CARRIED Any changes or deletions? Any opposition? Carried. A. Coristine asked who will administering the curriculum for the program? W. Habash indicated that S. Khosla is the current faculty member but the college

will be looking for additional local individuals in the industry that are interested in teaching. W. Habash explained that there would be training provided to new faculty ie./how to how to use college software, learning management systems, how to teach online, integration of students etc.

- K. Blanchette further explained that the entire college faculty consists of vocational experts in their field. S. Khosla also mentioned that specialists from the industry would also be involved in teaching lectures. The skeleton for each course is in existence and now it needs to be further developed to meet all required learning outcomes. Those that assist in course development would be compensated for their development time. There will also be a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) that meets annually where course adjustments can be discussed and made based on the feedback given. Each program receives an annual review where we look at all elements of the program to ensure program delivery meets industry standard. Every 5 years there is a cyclical program review where every aspect of the program is looked at by industry experts to ensure that the right things are being taught and adjustments are made accordingly.
- J. Sbrocchi asked if there has been enough adequate research done to ensure that there will be sustained demand for this program? Is there enough room within the local greenhouse sector to have 25 to 50 students absorbed into the industry per year? W. Habash acknowledged that this had been discussed and is the reason why the initial 50 seats were reduced to 25 seats. He stated that potentially after the need for students has been met locally after the first 5 years of the program running, there is the possibility of taking a brief hiatus from running the program. It was further explained that the program was developed based on the need expressed by the community and that the other factor to consider is that not all graduates will decide to stay within the region.

8.1 Approval of Curriculum and Program Chart

Lido Zuccato

No action required.

Motion to approve curriculum and program chart was moved by A. Coristine and seconded by M. Hoogenboom. L. Zuccato asked if there were any changes or deletions needed. A. Coristine asked if changes can be made after the periodic reviews of curriculum. K. Blanchette explained that the current approval is to get things moving

	to the next stage but there can be identified pieces that will explained that the Vocational Learning Outcomes cannot be each course can be further developed. CARRIED.	_	
	8.2 Approval of Industry Support Letter	Niki Bennett	No action required.
	N. Bennett showed the Industry Support Letter to members	for their review.	
	Motion to approve was moved by M. Hoogenboom and second without deletions, changes or any opposed. CARRIED	onded by J. Sbrocchi	
9.0	New Business		No action required.
	W. Habash mentioned that the next and final Board of Gove summer is June 23, 2021. W. Habash would like to bring thi approval but would need the 25 letters of support prior to tit would be presented at the following meeting in September members to expedite their letter submissions, if possible, so could be presented in June as it cannot be submitted to the Governor's approval. W. Habash would need to know by mit to the meeting agenda.	s program forward for hat. If that is not possible, er 2021. He requested that this program proposal ministry prior to Board of	
10.0	Date of Next Meeting – N/A	Lido Zuccato	No action required.
	L. Zuccato discussed that another meeting wouldn't be held Governor's has approved. Once it is approved, a Program Ac be developed and regularly scheduled meetings will be organized.	dvisory Committee would	
11.0	Adjournment	Lido Zuccato	No action required.
	Motion to approve adjournment moved by A. Coristine and Hoogenboom. CARRIED.	seconded by M.	

PART	PART A: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIR				
	The committee has concluded and the Chair agrees that formal action plans are not required.				
\boxtimes	The committee has concluded and the Chair agrees that the following action plans are required:				
Action Item Description		Designation	Responsible Person	Completion Date	Monitoring Process
Industry Support letters to be sent out to Industry Employers. Support letters required from Industry members to support a minimum of 25 placements to present to the Board of Governor's for program approval.		Major	Lido Zuccato/Niki Bennett	14 June 2201	Other - see comment below
Comment: Lido to follow up with Niki weekly to monitor support letter responses from Industry.					

	Chair Implementation of PAC Action Plans				
PART	PART A: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIR				
	☐ The committee has concluded and the Chair agrees that formal action plans are not required.				
\boxtimes	☐ The committee has concluded and the Chair agrees that the following action plans are required:				
Action Item Description		Designation	Responsible Person	Completion Date	Monitoring Process
Obta	in St. Clair College Board of	Major	Waseem Habash, Lido	23 June 2021	Other - see comment below
Gove	ernor's Approval: June 2021		Zuccato		
Targ	et Approval from BOG,				
June	23, 2021, if we have				
received appropriate numbers					
of in	dustry support letters. If				
insuf	ficient support letters are				
recei	ved by June 14, 2021, BOG				
_	age submission date				
	ram proposal to BOG				
needs to be extended to					
Sept	ember 2021.				
Com	Comment: Monitor support letter responses. Need support for 25 placements to present program to the Board of Governors.				

Full Board Agenda: January 25, 2022

PART B: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIR			
8 June 2021		I agree the review is complete and action plans are approved to enter into the Action Items	
		database.	

Minute Taking / Action Item Entry Process

- 1. Recording secretary, completes minutes.
- 2. **Recording secretary**, identifies Actions Required from minutes and brings all items in "Action Required" Tab to the bottom of the minutes in chart form.
- 3. **Recording Secretary,** Sends Minutes with identified Actions Required to Chair for final modifications and task assignment.
- 4. Chair makes any required modifications to the minutes.
- 5. **Chair** completes chart (Part A): Adds designation (Major/Minor), identifies person(s) responsible and sets completion date for all action items. Chair also identifies any additional action items he/she feels are required.
- 6. Chair Checks off box in Part B. Agrees the review is complete and action plans are approved to enter into the Action Items

 Database
- 7. **Recording Secretary,** Uploads approved minutes to Action Items Database.
- 8. **Recording Secretary,** Copies URL link for document in Action Items Database.
- 9. **Recording Secretary.** Enters all action items in Action Items Database. Recording secretary cross references the list of action items from the minutes with the database, to ensure all items are entered.
- 10. **Chair** approves "Microsoft Flow" email that is sent to him by Action Items Database. Approval of this email distributes the task to the person responsible

Full Board Agenda: Item #4.1 Appendix B January 25, 2022 14 of 14



TO: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FROM: PATRICIA FRANCE, PRESIDENT

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2022

RE: REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAMS:

CYBERSECURITY – AUTOMOBILITY – TWO-YEAR ONTARIO
 COLLEGE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE, UNFUNDED

• CYBERSECURITY – ONE-YEAR ONTARIO COLLEGE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE. FUNDED

 CYBERSECURITY ANALYTICS – AUTOMOBILITY– ONE-YEAR COLLEGE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE, FUNDED

SECTOR: ACADEMIC

WASEEM HABASH, VICE PRESIDENT

AIM:

To request approval to deliver:

- Cybersecurity Automobility an unfunded, two-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity Analytics Automobility a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.

These two, one-year Graduate Certificates and the Micro-Credentials are embedded into the two-year Graduate Certificate, with all three offerings commencing in Fall 2022.

BACKGROUND:

Cybersecurity is a major threat to all industries and sectors of business. With the increasing use of computer-controlled vehicles and the eventual utilization of autonomous vehicles, the risks of cyber breaches will greatly increase. Therefore, the proposed Cybersecurity – Automobility program is recommended for the following reasons:

- 1. Enhances employability skills.
- 2. Supports industry and community partners.

3. Strengthens programming synergies with the College's other Information Technology programs, as many have cybersecurity courses, and these will become an area of strength for the College.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This program cluster provides students with key concepts of information security, technical and practical job skills necessary to secure, protect and defend network infrastructures and an organization's valuable data assets.

The curriculum provides a broad understanding of cybersecurity concepts, industry best practices for information security and key security concepts that will protect an organization against fraud, data breaches and other vulnerabilities. The program is designed to prepare information and digital security professionals with the ability to manage and develop policies, standards, procedures, guidelines, policy framework, assess and mitigate risk and integrate advanced security solutions.

The growing internet security sector requires an in-depth understanding of cybersecurity issues, as well as fundamental internet architecture and protocols. In addition, network security skills such as packet, vulnerability, exploit analysis and cybersecurity research are also discussed. This program focuses on the vulnerabilities of automobiles and other methods of transportation. Graduates will develop highly marketable skills that are required in the cybersecurity field, particularly with automotive firms.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Two-Year Ontario College Graduate Certificate – Diploma or degree in a relevant field from a recognized college or university or demonstrated competence through related work.

The English proficiency requirement for international students is CAEL 50, IELTS 6.0 with no band lower than 5.5, TOEFL paper-based test (PBT) of 550 or internet-based test (iBT) 78, or Pearson Test of English (PTE) Level 51.

One-Year Ontario College Graduate Certificate and Micro-Credential Courses – Diploma or degree in a relevant field from a recognized college or university or demonstrated competence through related work.

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be required to provide their own computing device with the following minimum hardware and software requirements:

- Intel I7 or AMD A10 processor or better with chipset that must support virtualization.
- 16 GB of RAM.

- 1 TB hard drive.
- Ethernet/Wireless Network Card.
- One USB 3.0 port (two preferred).
- Windows 10 Professional Edition.

MEETS ST. CLAIR COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

This program concept is consistent with the following College Strategic Directions:

- (1) Increasing enrolment by growing international and domestic enrolment.
- (2) Academic by increasing the number of students in programming with experiential learning opportunities.

MEETS ST. CLAIR COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC MANDATE AGREEMENT:

Cybersecurity – Automobility falls under the information systems security division according to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) classification code 73002. A review of the Strategic Mandate Agreement 3 (SMA) metrics indicates an increase in the metrics associated with Graduation Rate, Community Impact, Economic Impact, Graduate Earnings and Experiential Learning, as well as a potential decrease in the metric of Institutional Strength. As the category of Institutional Strength refers to the proportion of total population within programs designated by the College in the SMA3, this program is not one of the designated programs and is intended to increase the population of domestic students in the College.

LABOUR MARKET RESEARCH:

Cybersecurity falls under the primary occupational group of NOC 2171 *Information System Analysts and Consultants* and secondary occupational group of NOC 2171.2 *System Security Analysts*. Information or system security analysts analyze and test systems requirements, develop and implement information systems development plans, policies and procedures and provide advice on a wide range of information systems issues. They are employed in information technology consulting firms and in information technology units throughout the public and private sectors, or they may be self-employed. Graduates of this program may typically find employment in both the automotive cybersecurity field as well as the broader category of manufacturing and supply chain cybersecurity field. Graduates may also find employment in the utilities and finance sectors. For Windsor-Sarnia region specifically, these sectors represent 62% of the employment sectors (Professional and technical services – 25%; Utilities – 14%; Motor vehicle and parts manufacturing – 11%; Chemical manufacturing – 6% and Finance, insurance, and real estate – 6%).

EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS:

Cybersecurity falls under NOC 2171 Information Systems Analysts and Consultants and MCU 73002 Information Systems Security. St. Clair College consulted with Academica Group to produce a Program Feasibility Report containing labour market analysis and MCU graduate profiles for these codes. The report is summarized below:

While incidents of cyber-attacks in the automotive manufacturing sector have notably increased in recent years, many companies are not prepared or do not have significant processes in place to identify or respond to security breaches. It has been determined that ISO/SAE 21434 will be the international industry standard used as the baseline for vehicle manufacturers and suppliers to ensure cybersecurity risks are managed. This will lead to an increased demand for cybersecurity specialists in the automotive manufacturing sector. Windsor-Essex has positioned itself to be able to lead the way in automotive, and manufacturing cybersecurity and to become a hub within the industry.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) projected a labour shortage at the national level for NOC 2171 for the period 2019-2028. Job creation represents 47% of openings and is driven by technological innovation and infrastructure upgrades to increase data security. Online job postings are generally increasing for both automotive cybersecurity positions as well as the broader category of manufacturing cybersecurity positions. This growth requires workers with skills in blockchain technologies, cybersecurity, predictive analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.

Labour supply is mainly from recent graduates with university degrees and 5 years of related work experience. Immigration is a major contributor of job seekers due to worldwide standardization of skills and lower barriers for workers in this area to secure entry and permanency in the country. Roughly 25% of new workers come from related information technology fields such as database analysts, software engineers, and web designers and developers. There are currently no programs in Ontario directly comparable to this proposed graduate certificate and St Clair College is in an excellent position to continue to form relationships and partnerships to establish itself as a leader in this area.

For the Windsor-Sarnia Region, work prospects have increased from fair (2016-2018) to good (2019-2021). The regional labour market is considered balanced as there are fewer openings due to retirements.

The MCU graduate profile for MCU 73002 (2014-2018) indicates that the employment rate is roughly 20% lower than typical college system graduates. Graduates mainly find employment in user support, technician, or sales positions with only 14% of graduates in occupations falling under NOC 2171.

For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to Appendix A.

ENROLMENT PROJECTIONS:

The following table identifies the eight (8) year intake projections for a total of 1,217 anticipated full-time students; with 1070 from international enrolment and 147 from domestic enrolment:

Enrolment	2022- 2023	2023- 2024	2024- 2025	2025- 2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028	2028- 2029	2029- 2030
Domestic	14	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
International	90	140	140	140	140	140	140	140
Total:	104	159	159	159	159	159	159	159

It is important to note that the above chart portrays intake numbers, while the budget is based on an aggregate number of students in the program.

Utilizing 2022-2023 as an example, the College is planning an international intake of 40 students in Fall 2022 and 50 international students in Winter 2023. Hence, total enrolment for budget purposes would be as follows:

Fall 2022 AAL 01 = 40

Winter 2023 AAL 02 = 35 (5 student attrition)

 $\frac{\text{Winter 2023 AAL 01} = 50}{\text{Total Enrolment} = 125}$

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Cybersecurity – suite of programs: A summary of the pro-forma budgets indicate that the cost/revenue was created to show the cost/revenue for the suite of programs on the assumption that the programs run consecutively and share faculty costs. The eight-year Net Present Value (NPV) for the suite of programs shows a net gain of \$3,456,499, based on the rollup budget.

Beginning in 2020-2021, the core operating grant is determined based on an Enrollment-Based + Performance-Based Model (SMA3). Under this model, a college's Enrolment-Based grant remains static as long as the College's Weighted Funding Units (WFU) enrolment remains within the +3%/-7% corridor from the midpoint and a college's Performance-Based grant remains static as long as performance targets are achieved. This proposed program is not expected to impact the Performance-Based portion of the grant.

AD-HOC PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Ad-Hoc Pre-Program Advisory Committee, assembled from the appropriate industry stakeholders that would employ graduates of the proposed program,

APPROVED the proposal for a two-year Cybersecurity – Automobility Ontario College Graduate Certificate, commencing September 2022. Inclusive in this package is the Ad-Hoc Program Advisory Committee Minutes that comprise the motion and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board of Governors approve the request to deliver:

- Cybersecurity Automobility an unfunded, two-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Cybersecurity Analytics Automobility a funded, one-year Ontario College Graduate Certificate.
- Two, one-year Graduate Certificates and the Micro-Credentials are embedded into the two-year Graduate Certificate, with all offerings commencing in Fall 2022.

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Cybersecurity Rollup

Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	22	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
International	125	470	515	515	515	515	515	515
Total	147	501	546	546	546	546	546	546
	_							
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$53,105	\$79,016	\$79,016	\$79,016	\$79,016	\$79,016	\$79,016	\$79,016
International Tuition	\$887,875	\$3,216,300	\$3,540,049	\$3,575,448	\$3,611,204	\$3,647,315	\$3,683,790	\$3,720,626
ISR	(\$46,875)	(\$176,250)	(\$193,125)			(\$193,125)	V /	(\$193,125)
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$4,948	\$11,067	\$17,193	\$18,399	\$18,399	\$18,399
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$25,038	\$40,968	\$40,968	\$40,968	\$40,968	\$40,968	\$40,968
Total Revenue	\$894,105	\$3,144,104	\$3,471,856	\$3,513,375	\$3,555,256	\$3,592,573	\$3,629,048	\$3,665,884
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$101,597	\$220,230	\$231,010	\$242,325	\$254,200	\$266,664	\$279,747	\$293,479
PT Faculty Costs	\$55,104	\$236,066	\$257,986	\$260,807	\$266,023	\$271,343	\$276,770	\$282,305
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$1,470	\$5,010	\$5,460	\$5,460	\$5,460	\$5,460	\$5,460	\$5,460
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$152,200	\$236,800	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$240,800	\$240,800
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$105,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$177,575	\$643,260	\$708,010	\$715,090	\$722,241	\$729,463	\$736,758	\$744,125
School Overhead	\$18,358	\$62,473	\$68,753	\$69,610	\$70,476	\$71,246	\$71,999	\$72,759
Total Expenditures	\$611,304	\$1,403,839	\$1,512,019	\$1,534,091	\$1,559,200	\$1,584,977	\$1,611,534	\$1,638,929
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$357,642	\$1,257,641	\$1,388,742	\$1,405,350	\$1,422,102	\$1,437,029	\$1,451,619	\$1,466,354
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$968,946	\$2,661,480	\$2,900,761	\$2,939,441	\$2,981,302	\$3,022,006	\$3,063,153	\$3,105,282
Program Level Net Difference	(\$74,841)	\$482,624	\$571,095	\$573,934	\$573,954	\$570,567	\$565,895	\$560,602
Program Level Net Present Value	\$3,456,499							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	(\$25,038)	(\$45,916)	(\$52,035)	(\$58,161)	(\$59,367)	(\$59,367)	(\$59,367)
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$74,841)	\$457,586	\$525,179	\$521,899	\$515,793	\$511,200	\$506,528	\$501,235
College Level Net Present Value	\$3,133,347							
Approved Year 1 Tuition	Domestic	\$7,000		International	\$13,914	I		

Notes:

Located at South

This summary is the rollup of 5 programs sharing curriculum: an unfunded 2-year graduate certificate, two funded 1-year graduate certificates, and two microcredentials. Intakes are planned so all teaching costs are subsumed within the teaching costs of the 2-year graduate certificate

Under the corridor funding model, the combination of Enrolment and Performance Grants for the College are static. New programs do not bring net new grant funding. As a result, the grant funding noted in this program budget represents a reallocation from existing programs.

1 FT faculty reallocated from other programs in Year 1, 1 net new FT faculty added in Year 2

No technicians in labs subject to final curriculum approval

International tuition based on Data Analytics 20/21 fees increased 1% each year. Domestic tuition is maximum allowable per MCU guidelines

The forecasted contribution margin of the 5-program combination over 8 years is 47%, exceeding the 40% benchmark.

The unfunded two-year graduate certificate has 3 intakes / year. The funded graduate certificate corresponding to Year 1 of the two-year program has 1 intake in Fall of each year. Both microcredentials have 1 intake each in Winter of each year. The funded graduate certificate corresponding to Year 2 of the two-year program has 1 intake in Fall of each year starting in 2023.

Only one coordinator for all programs.

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Cybersecurity (2 year)

Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
International	125	470	515	515	515	515	515	515
Total	125	470	515	515	515	515	515	515
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
International Tuition	\$887,875	\$3,216,300	\$3,540,049	\$3,575,448	\$3,611,204	\$3,647,315	\$3,683,790	\$3,720,626
ISR	(\$46,875)	(\$176,250)	(\$193,125)	(\$193,125)	(\$193,125)	(\$193,125)	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	(\$193,125
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$841,000	\$3,040,050	\$3,346,924	\$3,382,323	\$3,418,079	\$3,454,190	\$3,490,665	\$3,527,501
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$101,597	\$220,230	\$231,010	\$242,325	\$254,200	\$266,664	\$279,747	\$293,479
PT Faculty Costs	\$55,104	\$236,066	\$257,986	\$260,807	\$266,023	\$271,343	\$276,770	\$282,305
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$1,250	\$4,700	\$5,150	\$5,150	\$5,150	\$5,150	\$5,150	\$5,150
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$129,000	\$222,000	\$227,000	\$227,000	\$227,000	\$227,000	\$227,000	\$227,000
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$105,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$177,575	\$643,260	\$708,010	\$715,090	\$722,241	\$729,463	\$736,758	\$744,125
School Overhead	\$17,253	\$60,309	\$66,156	\$66,886	\$67,624	\$68,369	\$69,122	\$69,882
Total Expenditures	\$586,779	\$1,386,565	\$1,495,312	\$1,517,257	\$1,542,238	\$1,567,990	\$1,594,547	\$1,621,942
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$336,400	\$1,216,020	\$1,338,770	\$1,352,929	\$1,367,231	\$1,381,676	\$1,396,266	\$1,411,000
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$923,179	\$2,602,584	\$2,834,082	\$2,870,186	\$2,909,469	\$2,949,665	\$2,990,813	\$3,032,942
Program Level Net Difference	(\$82,179)	\$437,465	\$512,842	\$512,137	\$508,610	\$504,524	\$499,852	\$494,559
Program Level Net Present Value	\$3,062,228							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$82,179)	\$437,465	\$512,842	\$512,137	\$508,610	\$504,524	\$499,852	\$494,559

College Level Net Present Value

\$3,062,228

Approved Year 1 Tuition

\$0 **Domestic**

International \$14,206

Notes:

Located at South

International students only

Unfunded; no impact on Performance Grant.

1 FT faculty reallocated from other programs in Year 1, 1 net new FT faculty added in Year 2

No technicians in labs subject to final curriculum approval

Tuition matches recent approvals in system and increased 1% / year

Based on 3 intakes / year, 40 students per Fall intake, 50 students per Winter and Spring intake

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Cybersecurity (Year 1)

Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
International	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822	\$51,822
International Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ISR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$4,788	\$9,575	\$14,354	\$14,354	\$14,354	\$14,354
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$25,038	\$27,306	\$27,306	\$27,306	\$27,306	\$27,306	\$27,306
Total Revenue	\$51,822	\$76,860	\$83,916	\$88,703	\$93,482	\$93,482	\$93,482	\$93,482
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$7,564	\$7,715	\$7,870	\$8,027	\$8,188	\$8,351	\$8,518	\$8,689
PT Faculty Costs	\$55,104	\$56,206	\$57,330	\$58,477	\$59,646	\$60,839	\$62,056	\$63,297
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$19,000	\$8,500	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$19,000	\$0,500	\$0,000	\$0,000	\$0,000	\$0,000	\$0,000	\$0,000
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 \$0	\$0	\$0 \$0
School Overhead	\$1,077	\$1,597	\$1,743	\$1,842	\$1,942	\$1,942	\$1,942	\$1,942
Total Expenditures	\$82,925	\$74,198	\$75,123	\$76,526	\$77,956	\$79,313	\$80,696	\$82,108
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$20,729	\$30,744	\$33,566	\$35,481	\$37,393	\$37,393	\$37,393	\$37,393
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$103,654	\$104,942	\$108,689	\$112,007	\$115,349	\$116,705	\$118,089	\$119,501
Program Level Net Difference	(\$51,832)	(\$28,082)	(\$24,773)	(\$23,304)	(\$21,867)	(\$23,223)	(\$24,607)	(\$26,019)
Program Level Net Present Value	(\$206,737)							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	(\$25,038)	(\$32,094)	(\$36,881)	(\$41,660)	(\$41,660)	(\$41,660)	(\$41,660)
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$51,832)	(\$53,120)	(\$56,867)	(\$60,185)	(\$63,527)	(\$64,883)	•	(\$67,679)
College Level Net Present Value	(\$441,667)							
Approved Year 1 Tuition	Domestic	\$5,758	I	International	\$0	1		
Approved real relation	Domestic	ψ 3 ,730		miernational	\$0	ı		

Notes:

Located at South

Domestic students only

Program is Year 1 of proposed 2-year cybersecurity graduate certificate and faculty costs shown assumes program runs independently. If programs run concurrently, faculty costs will be \$0.

No technicians in labs subject to final curriculum approval

Tuition matches recent approvals in system.

Based on 1 intake each Fall.

Under the corridor funding model, the combination of Enrolment and Performance Grants for the College are static. New programs do not bring net new grant funding. As a result, the grant funding noted in this program budget represents a reallocation from existing programs.

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Cybersecurity (Year 2)

Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030	FY 2030-2031
Domestic	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
International	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911	\$25,911
International Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ISR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$1,207	\$2,394	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$13,662	\$13,662	\$13,662	\$13,662	\$13,662	\$13,662	\$13,662
Total Revenue	\$25,911	\$39,573	\$40,780	\$41,967	\$43,173	\$43,173	\$43,173	\$43,173
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$7,564	\$7,715	\$7,870	\$8,027	\$8,188	\$8,351	\$8,518	\$8,689
PT Faculty Costs	\$55,104	\$56,206	\$57,330	\$58,477	\$59,646	\$60,839	\$62,056	\$63,297
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$4,300	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$4,500 \$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0
School Overhead	\$539	\$823	\$848	\$873	\$898	\$898	\$898	\$898
Total Expenditures	\$67,597	\$68,834	\$70,138	\$71,467	\$72,822	\$74,179	\$75,562	\$76,974
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$10,364	\$15,829	\$16,312	\$16,787	\$17,269	\$17,269	\$17,269	\$17,269
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$77,961	\$84,664	\$86,450	\$88,254	\$90,091	\$91,448	\$92,832	\$94,243
Program Level Net Difference	(\$52,050)	(\$45,091)	(\$45,670)	(\$46,287)	(\$46,918)	(\$48,275)	(\$49,659)	(\$51,070
Program Level Net Present Value	(\$352,347)							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	(\$13,662)	(\$14,869)	(\$16,056)	(\$17,262)	(\$17,262)	(\$17,262)	(\$17,262
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$52,050)	(\$58,753)	(\$60,539)	(\$62,343)	(\$64,180)	(\$65,537)	(\$66,921)	(\$68,332
College Level Net Present Value	(\$455,047)							
	(+ 100,041)	<u> </u>	_			_		
Approved Year 1 Tuition	Domestic	\$5,758		International	\$0			

Notes:

Located at South

Domestic students only

Program is Year 2 of proposed 2-year cybersecurity graduate certificate and faculty costs shown assumes program runs independently. If programs run concurrently, faculty costs will be \$0. approval

Tuition matches recent approvals in system.

Based on 1 intake each Fall.

Under the corridor funding model, the combination of Enrolment and Performance Grants for the College are static. New programs do not bring net new grant funding. As a result, the grant funding noted in this program budget represents a reallocation from existing programs.

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Ethical Hacking and Network Defence Microcredential

Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
International	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$733	\$733	\$733	\$733	\$733	\$733	\$733	\$733
International Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	ψ/ 55 \$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 \$0
ISR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$89	\$160	\$249	\$249	\$249	\$249
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$733	\$733	\$822	\$893	\$982	\$982	\$982	\$982
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Faculty Costs	\$5,510	\$5,621	\$5,733	\$5,848	\$5,965	\$6,084	\$6,206	\$6,330
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$2,100	\$1,000	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
School Overhead	\$16	\$16	\$18	\$19	\$21	\$21	\$21	\$21
Total Expenditures	\$7,646	\$6,657	\$6,671	\$6,787	\$6,906	\$7,025	\$7,147	\$7,271
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$293	\$293	\$329	\$357	\$393	\$393	\$393	\$393
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$7,940	\$6,950	\$7,000	\$7,144	\$7,299	\$7,418	\$7,539	\$7,664
Program Level Net Difference	(\$7,206)	(\$6,217)	(\$6,178)	(\$6,251)	(\$6,316)	(\$6,436)	(\$6,557)	(\$6,681
Program Level Net Present Value	(\$47,483)							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	***	•	(000)	(0400)	(00.40)	(00.40)	(00.40)	(00.40
PG Metric Recovery	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	(\$89) \$0	(\$160) \$0	(\$249) \$0	(\$249) \$0	(\$249) \$0	(\$249 \$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$7,206)	(\$6,217)	(\$6,267)	(\$6,411)	(\$6,565)	(\$6,685)		(\$6,930
Concept Level Net Billerence	(ψ1,200)	. (\$0,217)	(40,201)	(ψο, +11)	(\$0,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(\$0,500
College Level Net Present Value	(\$48,591)							
Approved Year 1 Tuition	Domestic	\$367	1	International	\$0			

Notes:

Located at South

Domestic students only

As a standalone program, the microcredential will achieve the 40% contribution margin target at 24 students.

Part-time tuition only

Intake only in the Winter immediately following the Fall with domestic intake.

Program Budget Summary

Name of program: Cybersecurity Analyst Microcredential Academic School: Business and Information Technology

Enrolment:	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027	FY 2027-2028	FY 2028-2029	FY 2029-2030
Domestic	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
International	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Revenues:								
Domestic Tuition	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550
International Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ISR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enrolment Grant (EG)	\$0	\$0	\$71	\$125	\$196	\$196	\$196	\$196
Performance Grant (PG)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$550	\$550	\$621	\$675	\$746	\$746	\$746	\$746
Expenditures:								
FT Faculty Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Faculty Costs	\$4,133	\$4,215	\$4,300	\$4,386	\$4,473	\$4,563	\$4,654	\$4,747
FT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PT Support Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Supplies	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Equipment Costs (IT Services & Software)	\$2,100	\$1,000	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
Professional Development & Curriculum Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recruitment Commission (20%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
School Overhead	\$12	\$12	\$13	\$15	\$16	\$16	\$16	\$16
Total Expenditures	\$6,265	\$5,247	\$5,233	\$5,321	\$5,409	\$5,499	\$5,590	\$5,683
Contribution Margin (40%)	\$220	\$220	\$248	\$270	\$298	\$298	\$298	\$298
Expenditures & Contribution Margin	\$6,485	\$5,467	\$5,481	\$5,591	\$5,708	\$5,797	\$5,889	\$5,982
Program Level Net Difference	(\$5,935)	(\$4,918)	(\$4,860)	(\$4,916)	(\$4,962)	(\$5,051)	(\$5,143)	(\$5,236)
Program Level Net Present Value	(\$37,592)							
EG Recovery from Other Programs	\$0	\$0	(\$71)	(\$125)	(\$196)	(\$196)	(\$196)	(\$196
PG Metric Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
College Level Net Difference	(\$5,935)	(\$4,918)	(\$4,931)	(\$5,041)	(\$5,158)	(\$5,247)		(\$5,432)
College Level Net Present Value	(\$38,464)							
			•			-		
Approved Year 1 Tuition	Domestic	\$275		International	\$0			

Notes:

Located at South

Domestic students only

Microcredential is one course in Year 1 of proposed 2-year cybersecurity graduate certificate and faculty costs shown assumes program runs independently. If programs run concurrently, faculty costs will be \$0. Part-time tuition only

Intake only in the Winter immediately following the Fall with domestic intake.



Minutes of College Ad Hoc Pre-Program Advisory Committee Meeting

Program Code:	Program Name:
B2 – TBA	Cybersecurity – Autonomous Vehicles
Current Meeting Date:	May 17, 2021 @ 5:00 pm
Meeting Place:	Virtual Teams Meeting
Previous Meeting Date:	None
Next Meeting Date:	TBA
Recording Secretary:	Andrew Steele

College policy requires meetings to be held at least once every academic year (defined as August 27th to August 26th).

<u> </u>	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		<u> </u>
Committee Members	Organization	Attendance	Term	Conflicts
AJ Khan	Vehiqilla	Electronically	Compliant	No
Frank Abbruzzese	AlphaKor, Founder	Electronically	Compliant	No
Jimmy Truong	Enjoy Technologies	Electronically	Compliant	No
Noah Campbell	Wave Direct	Electronically	Compliant	No
Dan Cercelli	Connecting Windsor Essex	Electronically	Compliant	No
John Haldeman	IBM	Electronically	Compliant	No
Matt Caplin	Windsor Police Services	Electronically	Compliant	No
·				

The meeting should start with a review of member terms. In the event a member's term exceeds that allowed by the policy steps should be taken to correct this at the commencement of the meeting. If this is not corrected at the meeting an Action Plan should be part of the Minutes requiring terms to be corrected.

Committee members are independent members of the community that do not have a direct connection with the program. Full time faculty and part time instructors are not eligible to be voting members.

Are committee members satisfied that current membership is representative of the community? If "no" an Action
Plan should be created to expand committee membership.

Are there a sufficient number of committee members present to have a meaningful and productive meeting?

Yes

College policy requires a quorum of committee members to vote on approving a new program, relaunching a suspended program or changing an existing program's curriculum or program hours by more than 25%. A quorum is defined as 50% of committee members + 1.

Are there a sufficient number of committee members present to constitute a quorum?

Yes

College Resource Persons	Position	Attendance	Conflicts
James Marsh	Dean, Business, IT & Media Art & Design	Electronically	No
Anthony Mancini	Chair, School of Business & IT	Electronically	No
Amar Singh	Associate Vice President, Communications & IT	Electronically	No
Manjeet Burmi	Manager, Network & Security	Electronically	No
Lindita Prendi	Executive Director, Centre for Academic Excellence	Electronically	No
Linda Hill	Staff, CAE	Electronically	No
Dr. Ali El-Sharif	SCC – Professor	Electronically	No
Dr. Sikder Kamruzzaman	SCC – Professor	Regrets	No
Dr. Ming Quan Fu	SCC – Professor	Electronically	No
Andrew Steele	SCC - Professor	Electronically	No

College Program Advisory Committee Meeting General Information

PAC discussions should be summarized in these Minutes. Any major action recommended by committee members should recorded in the Action Required part of the Agenda Topic and Discussion part of the template.

It is the role of the School Chair and faculty to review PAC recommendations to determine what suggestions require action. These should be recorded in the Acton Plan part of the template and contain the components identified in that section.

Mandatory Discussion Topics for College Program Advisory Committee Meetings							
	Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed				
\boxtimes	Reviewed		Not Reviewed				
	Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed				
	Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed				
	Reviewed	\boxtimes	Not Reviewed				
		Reviewed Reviewed Reviewed	⊠ Reviewed □ □ Reviewed ⊠ □ Reviewed ⊠ □ Reviewed ⊠				

Comment: Discussions on these subjects are recorded in the Agenda Topic and Discussion section below. Action Plans that result from such discussions are recorded in the PAC Action Plans section below.

Item #	Agenda Topic and Discussion	Action Required
	Meeting commences at 5:02 PM with James Marsh welcoming all attendees.	
	1.0 Introductions	
	Attendees are asked by James Marsh to begin introductions starting with Mr. Singh, Mr. Caplin,	
	Ms. Prendi, Mr. Haldeman, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Abbruzzese, Dr. Ming, Ms. Hill, Mr. Khan, Mr. Cercelli,	
	Mr. Mancini, Mr. Burmi, Mr. Truong, Dr. El-Sherif, and Mr. Steele.	
	2.0 Approval of Agenda	
	James Marsh asks the voting members for a vote to approve the agenda and whether there are	
	any objections. There are no objections, the agenda is approved, and James Marsh asks for a motion	
	with Frank Abbruzzese as first mover and Matt Caplin seconding.	
	*Voting members are listed as 'Committee Members' above.	
	3.0 Update on St. Clair College	
	James Marsh updates members on new news at the college with the recent completion of the \$23	
	million Sports Park with football/soccer stadium and indoor tennis courts. Also, the current building	
	going on at South Campus of a 40,000 square foot Zekelman Center of Business & IT with an	
	additional 10,000 square foot eSports arena to promote this growing field and the College's eSports	
	and Entrepreneurship program.	
	4.0 Review of Membership	
	Review of Membership is completed.	
	4.1 Ad hoc membership numbers and industry representation.	
	Review of Membership is completed.	
	4.2 Identify Voting Members	
	James Marsh summarized the policy regarding PAC meetings and that only external members are	
	voting members with those members from College faculty/staff/management are present in a	
	supporting role.	
	4.3 Establishment of official Ad Hoc Committee. (Item require decision / vote)	
	Noah Campbell moves for the establishment of the official Ad Hoc Committee with AJ Khan	
	seconding with no objections.	

James Marsh outlines this committee's need for a Chairman. AJ Khan expresses interest. Matt Caplin brings first motion to make AJ Khan the Chairman and Noah Campbell seconds with no objections.

*Mr. AJ Khan is designated Chairman of the Cybersecurity – Autonomous Vehicles Program Advisory Committee. AJ Khan gratefully accepted the position.

5.0 New Program Proposal

James Marsh outlines the new program and reminds members of the documents sent outlining a brief description of the program, list of courses, suggested vocational learning outcomes and program chart of when the courses would be delivered.

James Marsh pointed out that the primary purpose of this meeting is to establish industry and community interest in the program with future meetings where a more detailed investigation and discussion of the program, courses, delivery could be deliberated.

5.1 Program Description and Intent

James Marsh stated that this program provides students with key concepts of information security, technical and practical job skills necessary to secure, protect and defend network infrastructures and an organization's valuable data assets.

The curriculum provides for a broad understanding of cyber security concepts, industry best practices for information security and key security concepts that will protect an organization against fraud, data breaches and other vulnerabilities. The program is designed to prepare information and digital security professionals with the ability to manage, provide policies, standards, procedures, guidelines, policy framework, assess and mitigate risk and integrate advanced security solutions. The growing Internet security sector requires an in-depth understanding of cyber security issues, and fundamental Internet architecture and protocols. In addition, network security skills such as packet, vulnerability, exploit analysis, and cyber security research are also discussed. This program focuses on the vulnerabilities of automobiles and other methods of transportation.

Graduates will develop highly marketable skills that are required in the cyber security field especially with automotive firms.

5.2 Market need

James Marsh points out 11 other programs at other Colleges in the province currently run cybersecurity. He believes there is a market need.

AJ Khan also points to his need to grow his company and can't find expertise in cybersecurity, specifically automotive cybersecurity, and believes a program which specializing in this area would be in high demand not just in Ontario, but Canada as well.

5.3 Program Curriculum Review – draft sent with agenda Not discussed at this time

5.4 Capstone

Not discussed at this time

5.5 Accreditation - Is there anything we should consider?

James Marsh asks committee members for their opinions regarding accreditation and whether members endorse or have suggestions with regards to accreditation – e.g. Certified Ethical Hacking.

AJ Khan agrees with the idea of accreditation with an emphasis on automotive cybersecurity from groups with interests in the specific proposed area of study, suggesting the APMA (Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association) as a possible accrediting body.

John Haldeman points to his support in the course documentation referencing CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional) and a couple other possible certifications. They feel those enrolled in a program like this would want it to lead to a formal certification.

Noah Campbell suggests a broader foundational approach to prepare students for possible future certification exams instead of a certificate focus specific perspective in the program.

Amar Singh agrees with Noah Campbell. Since this would be the first time the College enters into the cybersecurity realm, give students, initially, the basics to then go on to more specialization, then after let it grow into other options.

Dr. Ali El-Sharif recommend a program which teaches to the examinations, but aligns learning objective to the certificating bodies, which brings value and where certifications would be a natural bi-product.

5.6 Equipment and Facilities – Discuss needs and BYOD requirements?

James Marsh asks Amar Singh about whether this program could be a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Mr. Singh suggests a discussion first to come to a determination and in his opinion this program would want multiple platforms (suggests VMWare) and provide multiple hosting environments. Not sure if BYOD is the right way to go ("horsepower") multiple OS' and Mr. Amar would segregate the network. Believes it's not the right way to go right now.

Mr. Campbell agrees and raises concern that in a BYOD situation the kinds of activities required might cause damage to a student's purchased hardware.

5.7 Student Activities / Community Engagement Not discussed at this time

6.0 Ad Hoc Committee endorsement of the new program

James Marsh calls for the approval of the new program. Frank Abbruzzese motions and AJ Khan seconds with no objections to approve. Everyone in favour and motion passes. Committee endorses new program.

6.1 Approval of the New Program, Curriculum and Program Chart

James Marsh hands to the Chair, AJ Khan for approval of the new curriculum and program chart. Points out that this is a draft curriculum and program chart for a post-graduate certificate with a prior diploma or degree as a pre-requisite to enroll.

Linda Hill calls attention to the final bullet on VLO document re. document (see page 1 "– DEV"). Asks if this is to be assumed as a placeholder that "will speak to the modifier". Mr. Marsh agrees, and states to the committee that the Ministry has set certain VLO's for cybersecurity and that we're doing a modifier for autonomous vehicles that will "speaks to that". States that will needs to be reviewed when we have a true committee meeting.

Dr. Ming Fu says that they have reviewed program chart and outcomes, and would like to ask about 'cloud computing' regarding security risk and that there is no course related to that and if it could be discussed in the future. Mr. Marsh agrees and that these preliminary documents will be reviewed with input sought in the future

James Marsh asks for motion to approve the curriculum, and program chart. Frank Abbruzzese motions and AJ Khan seconds with no objections. Everyone in favour and motion passes.

6.2 Industry Support Letters

The committee will be asked in the future for support letters from respective companies which will be included in the documentation sent to the Ministry for approval.

Noah Campbell asks about letters of support and if there was any template. Mr. Marsh states they will send one with additional support and suggestions.

7.0 New Business

AJ Khan pointed out and recommended the committee should look at marketing the program's specialization specifically in automotive cybersecurity.

Matt Caplin asks committee and college about this 2-year post-grad, asks AJ Khan if a potential student would come to a job initially starting in security or as an entry position in another area of the company, or "jump right in". AJ concurs and states roles in the company could be in the areas of

cyber risk, vehicle architecture, auditing of vehicle data, unique roles not even defined in the market at this present time, and it would be great to have a program to help prepare a graduate with a background already.

Matt Caplin also asks about the pre-requisite for computer programming. Could the program also potentially be open to engineering? Is it important to have a programming pre-requisite? Mr. Marsh also asks, would an engineer be someone who would also be able to enter the program or come via a computer science programming background? Dr. Ali El-Sharif agrees with the point, that infrastructure roles and roles of programming could be adjusted to more scripting, but not necessarily coding. Agrees with Mr. Khan that the job roles needed in two years have not even been defined. We need to create professionals with the mindset and abilities to adjust not necessarily to a particular job role but one that still needs to be created in the next 2 to 3 years.

Amar Singh states that computer programming would not agree with the path, and more interest in a network graduate. "Unless you're writing the software, geared to more defense of the already predefined programs and environment, it has a more networking perspective, and include engineering".

Frank Abbruzzese agrees also regarding non-programming roles and more policies procedures about what's needed is the strategy. There could be a layer of programming, but in its current iteration more networking and include engineering.

Manjeet Burmi also agrees. More networking, though Semester 4 directly aligns with automotive where at that time there would be a focus on scripting and programming, while in previous semester's the focus is networking.

AJ Khan compares the automotive and financial sector. In a large financial company (e.g. Banking) there are currently 1000 people in risk management. This will translate in the near future to the automotive sector and will see similar job opportunities at this scale. This would be in areas like network security, coding, SEC DEVOPS, even lawyers. Lots of opportunities and he looks to future discussions on what roles a graduates can fulfill.

Noah Campbell agrees that the program needs to be broad and potential applicants could be anything under the current IT programs at the College or University (e.g. Computer Science, Engineering - Automotive and Electrical). There is a need to support this kind of transition to attract a broader pool of talent. As the program develops the target audiences in less traditional programs in the business sector will grow.

Matt Caplin feels it is positive for the committee to have a deeper discussion: Are we designing this program for people who work at Transit Windsor and the Police Service which would use available technologies to implement or those who would work for an automotive company and developing software and systems? Other questions to ask would be "Vision for the program" and hopes both could be met and discussed in the future.

Amar Singh believes it can consider both perspectives. Specific to security – the teaching of the infrastructure structure (e.g. network, defense, protection of environment institution) and application security (e.g. programming, applications to use, secure it make it more robust and less vulnerable). Two streams but always with security as the priority. James Marsh asks if programming is fairly high level and potentially limiting. Mr. Singh agrees.

Jimmy Truong expresses concern about not enough pool of programmers interested in security and that it is better to have the program open to a broader range of disciplines.

James Marsh asks Frank Abbruzzese if they hire programmers for security. Mr. Abbruzzese states they are not hiring programmers for cybersecurity but more medium and higher end network administrators. None for automotive but he likes the movement in this direction: "Programming will play a role", but Mr. Abbruzzese likes the broader role for initial program. He believes in the changing landscape, mindset and talent which are moving into the area and the need for the College to lead the market to create a brand new sector of professionals.

AJ Khan also points out new additional roles such as a Security Operations Center (SOC) analyst, specifically ones in Vehicle Security Operations Centre with duties like incident management, and roles not previously defined.

James Marsh thanks the committee for a great discussion and ask if there's any other business. Lindita Prendi points out that any future committee meeting will need to gather additional feedback a begin any potential revisions to the VLO's which the Ministry provides and are used in other programs and colleges. And that there is flexibility to uses and modify what's currently there, obviously continuing to use its main dimensions and themes, then modify them to fit the needs of the program. This will then need the committee's feedback to modify and align it the intention of the program. The committee then needs to review course descriptions, "logical flow", confirming courses offered are in alignment with the Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO) and has a logical progression from one semester to the next.

James Marsh agrees and that internal staff will support and circulate to the committee.

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

Potential next meeting dates will be circulated to committee members.

9.0 Adjournment

James Marsh informs committee that we've completed what we need to do at this point of the process and thanks all the members for attending, their help, support, and input.

Meeting adjourned – 6:02pm

PART A: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIR								
\boxtimes	The committee has concluded, and the Chair agrees that formal action plans are not required.							
	The committee has concluded and the Chair agrees that the following action plans are required:							
-	Action Item Description Designation Responsible Person Completion Date Monitoring Proces							
Inser	t detailed action item here	Choose an item.	Insert the name of the	Click or tap to	Choose an item.			
in ful	l sentence format. Add		person responsible for	enter a date.				
rows	as required for additional		completion of the					
actio	n items.		action item and					
			reporting monthly to					
			the Program Chair					
Comi	ment:							

PART B: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIR							
7 June 2021	\boxtimes	I agree the review is complete and action plans are approved to enter into the Action Items database					

Full Board Agenda: Item #4.2: Appendix B January 25, 2022 9 of 9



BOARD OF GOVERNORS BY-LAWS

Policy Title: Term of Office Area of Responsibility: Board of Governors

Policy Section: Board of Governors By-law By-law No: 6

Effective Date: November 24, 1998 Page: 1 of 1

Supersedes: N/A Last Review Date: January 31, 2012

Mandatory Review

Date:

Term of Office

The term of office of a Governor shall be as prescribed by Ontario Regulation 34/03. Incumbent Governors approaching the completion of their first three-year term must declare their intention to continue serving on the Board, in writing and submit the Self-Reflection Form (Appendix F) to the Board Chair for consideration. Other factors for consideration for re-appointment will include meeting attendance, participation, compliance with Board By-laws and Board Policies, and behaviour consistent with the Code of Conduct policy.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS END OF TERM SELF-REFLECTION

GOVERNOR NAME: DATE:

Please rate the response that best reflects your opinion. The rating scale for each statement is: Strongly Disagree (1); Disagree (2); Maybe or Unsure (3); Agree (4); Strongly Agree (5).

STATEMENT	RATING						
I have a good record of meeting attendance to fulfill my duties and responsibilities as a Governor.							
I read the minutes, reports and other materials in advance of all Board meetings.							
I am familiar with the Board By-laws and Board Policies or access them when necessary.							
4. I maintain the confidentiality of all Board discussions and decisions.							
5. When I have a difference of opinion than the majority, I respectfully raise it.							
6. I support Board decisions once made even in circumstances when I am not in agreement.							
7. I promote the work of the College in the community whenever the opportunity arose.							
8. I have completed the Certificate of Good Governance.							
9. I have attended/completed relevant Board of Governors professional development, ie. Certificate of Advanced Good Governance, CICan Conference, Board Retreats, etc.							
10. I have the ability to focus at a strategic level and contribute to the							
development of strategic objectives as required. 11. My contributions to Board discussions are forward thinking, constructive,							
timely, independent and to the point.							
12. I treat other Governors and College staff with respect and dignity at all times.							
My Overall Rating: (add together all the ratings):							
☐ Excellent (37+) ☐ Satisfactory (26-36) ☐ Poor (9-25)							
COMMENTS:							
GOVERNOR SIGNATURE: D	PATE:						
BOARD OF GOVERNOR CHAIR REVIEW & COMMENTS:							



POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Title: Code of Conduct Area of Responsibility: Board of Governors

Policy Section: Governess Process Policy No. 2003-5

Effective Date: May 28, 2019 Page: 1 of 3

Supersedes: May 31, 2003 Last Review Date: May 28, 2019

Mandatory Review May 28, 2024

Date:

Board members will be independent, impartial and responsible in order to effectively govern the College. This Code of Conduct is intended to set basic rules for Board members in order to maintain the Board's integrity and the confidence of the community.

- 1. Board members will be ethical and professional. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as Board members. Board members will treat one another, students and staff with respect, cooperation and will deal openly on all matters.
- 2. Members are accountable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of their office honestly, in good faith and in the best interest of the College.
- 3. Board members will not communicate any matter designated as confidential to anyone.
- 4. Board members will abide by the confidentiality of information in perpetuity.
 - 4.1 Board members will not waive Board rights to confidentiality including discussions which occur at legally-held-in-camera meetings of the Board.
 - 4.2 Board members will enforce upon themselves whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence including a resolution of censure or a request for removal of a Board member.
 - 4.3 Members of the Board who are students or employees of the College should not raise issues at the Board level which affect them personally. Such issues should be handled through the regular avenues of communications within the College.
- 5. Board members will not attempt to exercise individual authority over the organization except as explicitly set forth in Board policies.
 - Board members' interaction with the President or with staff will recognize that any individual member or group of members does not have authority other than that explicitly stated in Board policies.

- Board members' interaction with the public, press or other entities will recognize the same limitation and the similar inability of any member(s) to speak for the Board.
- 5.3 Board members will make no evaluations of the President or staff performance except as that performance is assessed against explicit Board policies by the official process.
- Board members will encourage employees to utilize reporting lines within the administration to bring their concerns to the Board.
- 6. Board members will be familiar with the incorporating documents of St. Clair College, Board Bylaws, Board regulations, Board policies and organizational structure of the College, as well as the general rules of procedure and proper conduct of a meeting so that any decision of the Board may be made in an efficient, knowledgeable and expeditious fashion.
- 7. Board members will be well prepared for each meeting and for the discussion of any item.
- 8. Board members will take part in educational activities that will assist them in carrying out their responsibilities.
- 9. Board members will attend meetings on a regular and punctual basis.
- 10. Governors when acting as Governors, are expected to consider and represent the interests of the College and its community as a whole in preference to any other interests which that Governor may also have or represent.
- 11. In keeping with the Minister's Binding Policy Directive and the "Conflict of Interest" Policy Framework Governors must declare a conflict of interest, at the earliest opportunity, with respect to their fiduciary responsibility and are expected to adhere to the Minister's Binding Policy Directive, as well as the Board By-laws and Policies pertaining to the "Conflict of Interest".

As members of the Board of St. Clair College, Board members are guided by the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities Act, particularly, Regulation 770 and the Minister's Binding Policy Framework. The following specific points, however, are particularly to be noted in the conduct of the Board matters:

- 1. Board members must be sensitive to conflicts of interest whether it is actual, perceived or potential and should be guided by the Provincial guidelines in those matters. A conflict of interest declaration must be made on any items or discussions which cut across members' involvement with respect to other organizations or possible gains to themselves or their families.
- 2. Board members should avoid raising any specific cases in respect to professors/instructors, students, or employees at the Board meetings. Such items should be discussed with the President or Chair of the Board outside of the context of the formal meeting of the Board.

Process for Declaring a Conflict of Interest

At the beginning of every Board meeting, the Chair of the Board is to ask, and have recorded in the minutes, whether any Governor has a conflict to declare with respect to any agenda item. A Governor who has a conflict of interest is to declare the conflict and the general nature of the conflict.

In keeping with best practices, Board members that have declared conflict are to leave the room prior to that particular agenda item being discussed. This includes both open and closed/in camera meetings, and in cases of actual, perceived and potential conflict.

This approach provides the best protection for the Board and the individual Governor, to avoid any claims that the Governor influenced a Board decision for his/her benefit or to benefit the conflicting interest.

Handling Violations of the Code of Conduct

A Board member who is alleged to have violated the Code of Conduct will be informed in writing and will be allowed to present his/her views of such alleged breach at the next Board meeting. The complaining party must be identified. If the complaining party is a member, he/she and the respondent member will absent themselves from any vote upon resolution of censure or other action that may be brought by the members. Members who are found to have violated the Code of Conduct may be subject to censure.

In addition to the above, Board members will be required to complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form (Appendix G) annually, to be reviewed by the Board Chair.



Board of Governors Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

Name:

A Conflict of Interest arises when a Board member's private or personal interest supersedes or competes with his or her official duties and responsibilities as a member of the St. Clair College Board of Governors. This could arise from actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest of a financial or other nature.

This Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form should disclose any personal, immediate family, financial, business, volunteer affiliations or otherwise that may give rise to a real or apparent conflict of interest.

Please describe below any relationships, transactions, positions you hold (volunteer or otherwise), or circumstances that you believe could contribute to a conflict of interest:

I have no conflict-of interest to report.

I have the following affiliations that may result in a real or perceived conflict of interest, which includes all volunteer, employment or Board participation.

1
2.
2
3 <u>.</u>
4
4.
<u>5.</u>
I hereby certify that the information set forth above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.
Signature:
Date:

DRAFT Dec. 2021



Board of Governors Policy Manual

POLICY TYPE: Governance Process NUMBER:

POLICY TITLE: Cost of Governance DATE: May 2003
REVISED: January 2009

September 2010

2003-6

May 2011

September 2011 September 2013 January 2015 January 2022

REVIEWED: November 2021

The purpose of the Board is to ensure that St. Clair College achieves appropriate results for our clients at an acceptable cost and avoids unacceptable actions and expenditures.

Because poor governance costs more than learning to govern well, the Board will invest in its governance capacity.

- 1. The Board recognizes that continual updating of skills, and awareness of new issues, are vital to a member's contribution to the Board. Therefore, new Board members shall receive a complete orientation to ensure familiarity with the education system and issues, the organization's structure and issues, and the Board's process of governance.
 - a. Board members shall have ongoing opportunity to take responsibility for continued training and education to enhance their governance capabilities including, but not limited to:
 - i. Attendance at provincial Board workshops.
 - ii. Attendance at other conferences or other developmental activities.
 - iii. Attendance at the Board Annual Retreat.

Each member of the board who attends any conference will be required to report back with a brief synopsis to the Board.

Participation at Provincial College Organization of which St. Clair College is a Corporate Member: The Board recognizes the provincial college conference as an important developmental activity of the Board and its work. Participation at the annual provincial conference shall be open to all members of the Board. Notification to Board members and opportunity to attend shall form part of the Board's Annual Workplan. The provincial

conference shall be added to the September meeting of the Board at which time the Chair shall call for members to put their name forward to attend as conferees. <u>Each new Governor will be required to successfully complete the Certificate of Good Governance within two years of their appointment to the Board.</u>

Additionally, in order to be eligible for election to the Board Chair position, candidates must have successfully completed the Certificate of Advanced Good Governance.

Participation at National College Organization of which St. Clair College is a Corporate Member: The national college conference is an opportunity for the Board to gain some understanding to the Canada-wide system issues. Participation at the annual national conference shall be open to the President, the Chair, the Vice Chair, and up to six (6) other members of the Board. Notification to Board members and opportunity to attend shall form part of the Board's Annual Workplan.

Selection and approval to attend the national conference or other developmental activities will be determined using the following "Guidelines for Determining Professional Development Activities" (attached).

Conferees will attend such meetings primarily to receive information and exchange ideas. Board members will be expected to report back to the Board and provide a brief synopsis of their experience at conferences, workshops and other development activities attended as members of the Board.

- 2. The Board will establish governance process policies and a governance action plan that will serve as measurable standards against which the Board's performance can be evaluated.
 - a. At least on an annual basis, the Board will conduct a self-evaluation. As a result of this evaluation, the Board will include in its governance action plan, specific goals and objectives for improvement on identified areas.
 - b. The Board will monitor its adherence to its own governance process policies on a regular basis. Upon the choice of the Board, any policy can be monitored at any time. However, at a minimum, the Board will monitor its own adherence to the policies annually.

<u>Guidelines for Determining Professional Development Opportunities</u>

Annual National College Conference

The President, Chair and Vice Chair should attempt to attend the national conference during their term, when possible.

Application by other members of the Board to attend the national conference shall be at the discretion of the Chair, with preference based on the following criteria:

• Board members may attend the national conference at least once during each 3-year term.

- With the exception of the student member, members who are in their year of retirement from the Board are ineligible to attend the national conference.
- Highest seniority on the board shall be given priority and previous attendance will be considered. The Chair shall report to the Board regarding approvals of members selected to attend conferences.

Other Conferences, Workshops and Development Opportunities

Additional educational opportunities will be brought forward to the Board as they are known. Members who wish to attend conferences, workshops and other development opportunities can apply to the Chair. The Chair will review requests against conferences attended previously, current work of the Board, strategic work of the Board, cost, and the Board's own goals for itself.

Board members who are approved to attend educational opportunities will be reimbursed for all Board/College related travel as pre-approved by the Board/Chair and in accordance to the Board's travel and expense policies.



Board of Governors Policy Manual

POLICY TYPE:

Governance Process

NUMBER:

2003-4.1

POLICY TITLE:

Audit and Finance

DATE:

March 2019

Committee - Terms of

Reference

In accordance with Policy 2003-4, Committee Principles, an Audit and Finance Committee will be established by the Board of Governors at the appropriate time with primary responsibility to ensure compliance with Board policy through financial oversight and inquiry.

Policy 2003-4.1 outlines the Audit and Finance Committee Terms of Reference.

1. Composition

3 external Board members + President, and/or an external non-voting member at the discretion of the Board.

The Committee Chair will be elected by the members of the Committee. As defined in the By-laws, the Committee Chair may also be appointed Treasurer of St. Clair College. Only those members of the Committee can vote.

2. Meetings

The Committee will meet a minimum of 3 times per year at the call of the Chair.

3. Responsibilities

i. Audit

- Appointing external auditors.
- Reviewing and approving the audit plan for the external auditors to ensure that the combined evaluation of risks and testing of controls is comprehensive.
- Review the scope of the external auditor's reviews of the College's internal controls, any significant findings and recommendations by the external auditors and the responses of the College's staff to those findings and recommendations.

- Ensure that external auditors have access to the Committee to ensure that no management restrictions have been placed on their scope, extent of audit examinations or reporting of their findings.
- Review with the external auditors the results of the audit and determine if there were any difficulties or disputes with management, any significant changes in the audit plan, any significant changes in accounting policies and any management estimates that required significant judgement.
- Review and discuss the annual financial statements and related note disclosures with management and the external auditors.
- Seek assurance that the financial statements of the College are prepared in accordance with public sector accounting standards, which would include oversight of the selection of accounting policies used in the preparation of the financial statements, and consideration of all relevant alternatives.
- Review the annual draft financial statements and, where appropriate, suggest improvements in the financial information and, when accepted, recommend the final statements for approval by the Board.
- Have the right to make inquiries and call upon corporate officers of the College, as the Committee deems necessary.
- Review the performance of the external auditors annually and recommend to the Board their appointment and related fees.

ii. Financial

- Review the annual budget and mid-year budget and recommend its approval to the Board.
- Receive reports from management, external auditors and legal counsel, if appropriate or necessary, on all significant deficiencies or indications/detection of fraud along with the corrective activity undertaken.
- Evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the Board's policies as well as the College's administrative, operating and accounting policies through communication with management and the external auditors and make recommendations to the Board regarding necessary changes.
- Ensuring the College has an Investment Policy for the operating, reserve, and endowment funds, and periodically review its relevancy.

iii. Other

- Acting as a resource to administrators with respect to financial matters.
- Assisting the Board in identifying and managing financial risk posed to the College by being an objective party to review, critique, and advise with respect to financial information.
- Reviewing major proposals as submitted by administration or highlighted by the Board of Governors.



BOARD OF GOVENORS BY-LAWS

Policy Title: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Board of Governors By-law

Effective Date: May 22, 2018

Supersedes: January 29, 2013

Mandatory Review

Policy Section:

Date:

Area of Responsibility: Board of Governors

By-law No: 10

Page: 1 of 1

Last Review Date: May 22, 2018

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- 10.1 Eligibility to serve as Chair or Vice Chair is open to external members, who have successfully completed their Certificate of Good Governance. Eligibility to serve as Board Chair also requires successful completion of the Certificate of Advanced Good Governance.
- 10.2 Board elections of the Chair and Vice Chair shall take place annually at the Board meeting in June or as soon thereafter as possible. The vote shall be by secret ballot by all voting members of the Board in attendance.
- 10.3 The current Chair, if ineligible for re-election, shall act as Chairperson of the process to elect the officers. If the current Chair is standing for re-election, or in the Chair's absence, the Corporate Secretary shall act as Chairperson of the officer election process.
- 10.4 Officers shall serve a one-year term commencing annually on September 1. Officers are eligible for re-election, except that there shall be a limit of two (2) consecutive one-year terms of office for Chair



BOARD OF GOVENORS BY-LAWS

Policy Title:

Duties of the Chair

Area of Responsibility: Board of Governors

Policy Section:

Board of Governors By-law

By-law No: 11

Effective Date:

November 24, 1998

Page: 1 of 1

Supersedes:

N/A

Last Review Date: April 30, 2013

Mandatory Review

Date:

Duties of the Chair

The Chair shall:

- 11.1 Preside at meetings of the Board in accordance with the By-law;
- 11.2 Together with the Corporate Secretary, Treasurer or other Board officers appointed for the purpose, sign all By-laws of the College;
- 11.3 Sign such contracts, documents or instruments in writing as require the signature of the Chair;
- 11.4 Have such other powers and duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Board, or as are incidental to the office of the Chair;
- 11.5 Act generally as public spokesperson for the Board;
- 11.6 Shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees; and
- 11.7 Ensure that Board governance is conducted in accordance with Board policies duly approved by the Board.
- 11.8 The outgoing Board Chair will act as a mentor in an advisory capacity for one year, immediately following the completion of their term, at the request of the Board.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Meeting of the Board of Governors Full Board – January 25, 2022



1. Winter 2022 Semester Update

Prior to the holidays, the College communicated its intentions to resume in-person instruction for almost all programs on Monday, January 24, 2022 and that the first week of classes commencing January 17, 2022 would be online. As you are aware, Emergency Alternative Delivery Plans (online, hybrid or in-person) have been created and are currently posted on the website for Winter 2022. Based on current provincial COVID-19 surges, and in consultation with local public health agencies, we will invoke these Emergency Plans for the week of January 24, 2022 with plans to resume in-person classes for everyone on January 31, 2022.

At this time, March Break will continue as planned and the Winter semester will end on April 29, 2022. All placements will continue, as scheduled, unless otherwise communicated and all faculty will continue to upload their teaching materials to Blackboard and will ensure it is posted for the duration of the semester.

Due to the recent surge in COVID-19 Omicron variant cases, healthcare facilities in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent will likely experience a higher number of patients who are COVID-19 positive over the next few weeks. Students with clinical placements in a healthcare setting have been advised that there is potential for exposure to patients with the COVID-19 virus or direct contact. The College will attempt to provide students who choose to defer their placement with an alternative placement opportunity as soon as they feel safe and the healthcare facility provides us time for our students to attend. This could potentially happen later in the semester, or in the worst-case scenario, in a future semester. Future placement opportunities will depend on availability in the healthcare facility and the student's comfort level to return.

All first year, first semester post-secondary students commenced their online studies on January 17, 2022. As communicated to students on December 3, 2021, their program will continue to remain online for the entire semester, with the exception of the first semester courses in the following four (4) programs due to the nature of their delivery:

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- Electrical Techniques (T947);
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP);
- Personal Support Worker (H932 and K933);
- Pre-Health Sciences Pathway to Advanced Diplomas and Degrees (C904).

The College's website will continue to be updated regularly as information becomes available. A Q&A has been posted on the College's website to help with answering questions and can be found at https://www.stclaircollege.ca/covid-19.

2. Registration Statistics

As of Monday, January 17, 2022, the Day 1 Winter 2022 Registration Statistics are as follows:

	Dom. FT	Dom. PT	TOTAL Dom.	Int'l FT	Int'l PT	TOTAL Int'l	TOTAL FT	TOTAL PT	Overall TOTAL	ENRL PROJ	SEATS
Windsor-Chatham January Intakes	450	28	478	1,320	1	1,321	1,770	29	1,799	2,002	203
Windsor-Chatham Returning	5,627	397	6,024	3,191	67	3,258	8,818	464	9,282	10,651	1,369
WINDSOR CHATHAM TOTAL	6,077	425	6,502	4,511	68	4,579	10,588	493	11,081	12,653	1,572
Acumen January Intakes	0	0	0	958	1	959	958	1	959	830	-129
Acumen Returning	0	0	0	2,054	82	2,136	2,054	82	2,136	2,195	59
ACUMEN TOTAL	0	0	0	3,012	83	3,095	3,012	83	3,095	3,025	-70
SCC TOTAL	6,077	425	6,502	7,523	151	7,674	13,600	576	14,176	15,678	1,502
Year-Over-Year Comparison (Day 1 Winter 2021)	6,611	(-534)		7,775	(-252)		14,386	(-786)			

3. Collective Bargaining Update

On Sunday, December 12, 2021, the Union provided the College Employer Council (CEC) notice for strike action. On Saturday, December 18, 2021, academic employees (full-time and partial-load instructors, professors, librarians, and counsellors) started Phase 1 of their strike action which they have referred to as "work-to-rule". On Monday, January 3, 2022, academic employees started Phase 2 of their strike action which they have referred to as "work-to-rule". On Monday, January 17, 2022, the CEC asked the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) to conduct a vote with OPSEU academic employee membership on the CEC's most recent offer. On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the CEC and OPSEU met with the OLRB to discuss the dates for the upcoming vote. It has been confirmed that the virtual vote will take place between February 15 – 17, 2022. An e-mail with voting instructions will be distributed to eligible voters closer to those dates. The CEC and the CAAT-A team proposals can be found at www.collegeemployercouncil.ca/

https://www.collegefaculty.org/



4. Support Staff Virtual College Update

The President held a Virtual College Update for all full-time Support Staff on Friday, January 7, 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the transformation of Employment Services. The President advised that St. Clair College participated in the Request for Qualification (RFQ) process and received a letter of notification in September 2021 advising that we were not successful and will not proceed to the next stage of the competitive process. As a result, Administration is preparing for the wind down over the next 15 months of the Employment Centres in Windsor, Amherstburg and Wallaceburg. Support Staff were informed that the College has commenced the stability process with the goal of accommodating all EO staff, and avoiding any bumping, if at all possible. As such, every full-time equivalent (FTE) posting will be reviewed, and where there is a potential fit, the College will backfill the position temporarily until all impacted staff have been provided "home" positions.



5. Vaccination Statistics

VACCINATION STATUS REPORT FOR MCU - Jan. 14, 2022											
Overall		Vacci	nation Sta	atuses		Totals			Percentages		
Person Type	1 2		3	4	5	Total	Not Vaccinated	Status 3,4,5	%#1	%#2	%#3,4,5
Employee	1243	4	0	16	59	1322	79	75	94.0%	0.3%	5.7%
Student	8822	23	3	211	503	9562	740	717	92.3%	0.2%	7.5%
Totals	10065	27	3	227	562	10884	819	792	92.5%	0.2%	7.3%

(1 = Full Vaccinated, 2 = One Dose, 3 = Medical Exemption, 4 = Unvaccinated, 5 = Status Not Disclosed)

6. Winter 2022 Convocation

Due to the Ontario Premier's announcement on January 3, 2022 that the Province of Ontario is "temporarily moving the province into Step Two of its Roadmap to Reopen", SOG decided to move the Winter 2022 Convocation ceremony from an in-person event to a virtual event. It is estimated that there will be approximately 1,300 Winter 2022 graduates. Taping will take place at the SCCCA between February 14 – 16, 2022 and will be aired on Friday, February 25, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.



7. Downtown Mission Assistance

The College was contacted by the Downtown Mission requesting our assistance as they experienced a COVID outbreak within their operations team. The majority of staff were required to isolate or quarantine, resulting in only a few volunteers to provide meal service. The Mission serves, on average, three hundred meals per day between three meals periods. The request was to provide the required meals to the shelter while the staff recover. In order to assist our community, the College gladly agreed to help and we started providing meals as of Thursday, January 20, 2022 at no cost.

8. Canadian Red Cross

The College was contacted on January 11, 2022 by the City of Windsor on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross to support the Isolation and Recovery Centre (IRC) created at the Best Western Hotel in the Downtown core. The support request was for the delivery of meals to the hotel (next door to the SCCCA) for migrant workers who tested positive for COVID and required a location to recover. Through the SCCCA Catering Program, the College provides three meals per day to each guest over a ten to fourteen-day period. The distribution of food is being handled through the Canadian Red Cross.

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More hospital delays, fewer paramedics in Windsor Essex may be leading to Code Blacks

Paramedics in Windsor Essex experienced a Code Black situation the day after four medics were placed on leave.

CBC News · Nov 18, 2021



Paramedics of Windsor-Essex experienced another Code Black Tuesday night. (Mike Evans/CBC)

Paramedics of Windsor-Essex experienced another Code Black Tuesday night, which saw a period of time with no ambulances to respond to 911 calls immediately.

The newest shortage of ambulances comes after a four paramedics were placed on unpaid leave for not complying with the vaccine policy for city employees. The deadline to submit proof of vaccination for city staff passed on Monday.

Bruce Krauter, the chief of Essex Windsor EMS, said a recent spike in ambulance offload delays are to blame for Code Blacks.

Offload delays happen when a patient arrives to the hospital in an ambulance -- but there is nobody there to receive the patient right away. So paramedics have to take care of that patient until someone from the emergency department is able to let the patient in.

He said they are working to solve the problem.

"We're meeting with the hospitals not just daily, but continually throughout the day and the night to ensure that we have proper patient flow and that we can get the ambulances offloaded on a timely manner so we can have them available."

Krauter said offload delays are longer and more frequent now than ever.

"We haven't seen offload delays like this... in three years. I am personally attributing it to the collateral damage of COVID," he said. "The vaccination rates are not where they should be and I would encourage everyone to get vaccinated."

Union pointing to shortage in staff, ambulances

Fewer EMTs can also leave the system prone to another Code Black. Most recently there was a Code Black in September.

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James Jovanovic, the president of the local paramedics union, CUPE Local 2974, said there needs to be more acknowledgement of the chronic shortage in staff and ambulances.

"This is a public safety concern. Yet, every time county council addresses the issue, they deflect by saying this is a province issue or a hospital issue, or that the union is doing this for bargaining," he said. "But that's simply not true... We need more care and attention."

County council referred to the public concern that was being raised as 'noise'. So when you see that being the response, it certainly can be frustrating.

- James Jovanovic, president of the paramedics union, CUPE Local 2974

Jovanovic said there was a spike in the number of Code Blacks this early spring and summer.

"That was in correlation with the reduction of several ambulances from our night shift. From there, it kind of had a ripple effect on our staffing, where our staffing experienced a higher rates of burnout, more sick time, more overtime with less ability to accept overtime -- then it snowballed from there," he said.

Adding with fewer staff and more trucks taken out of the mix it leads to more Code Blacks. He said it feels like county council is not listening

"Specifically in relation to a member of the community who passed away after waiting five hours for an ambulance. County council referred to the public concern that was being raised as 'noise'. So when you see that being the response, it certainly can be frustrating."

Jovanovic is referring to a county council meeting that took place on October 20, 2021. There was a limited discussion about a patient that had died after a long wait for an ambulance.

He said they need to hire at least 50 more paramedics to run at full capacity. Krauter said they are looking to recruit some part time staff, but not nearly as many as fifty.

What they need is two more ambulances, said Jovanovic. Krauter said the total cost of one new ambulance (including maintenance, insurance and other costs) can come to about \$1.5 million.

Jovanovic said it is crucial to quickly hire more paramedics because Windsor-Essex is currently experiencing a code-red -- with only about two ambulances ready to hit the road on a day-to-day basis.

Krauter said they are working on recruiting more people as well.

"We've been recruiting constantly over over the course of the pandemic. Once we finish a recruitment phase, we're recruiting more paramedics. We had a meeting with St. Clair College the other day... enrolment rates are somewhat down, in not just the paramedic field, but in the health care field," he said.

"There is burnout across the healthcare sector because we have been working at this crisis for 19 months now."

CBC News reached out to Essex County council for comment, but they have not responded by the time of this publication.

Fratmen stunned as late miscues open door for Beefeaters to secure OFC title

Windsor Star - Nov 22, 2021



WINDSOR, ONTARIO. NOVEMBER 20, 2021 - Marcus Cooper, left, of the St. Clair College Fratmen and Toby Gbobaniyi of the London Beefeaters fight for a loose ball on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at the Acumen Stadium in Windsor. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

It was an absolutely stunning turn of events for the St. Clair Fratmen.

Slowly building a 14-point lead in the final quarter of Saturday's Ontario Football Conference championship at Acumen Stadium, the Fratmen watched what looked to be a sure title performance slip away in the final three minutes.

Two St. Clair miscues turned the tide in the dying minutes as the London Beefeaters rallied for a second-straight title by hitting a rouge as time expired to take the game 15-14.

"The word crazy keeps coming to mind because of how quickly it slipped away from us," Fratmen quarterback Michael Beale said. "It's gone through my head 100 times."

This was a Fratmen team that had not trailed through 10 games this season before the Beefeaters hit the winning rouge with time expired.

"I never, in a million years, thought I would have at team that never trailed a second all season and not win it," St. Clair head coach Mike LaChance said. "It's mind boggling."

St. Clair's high-powered offence, which had averaged nearly 54 points a game coming into Saturday's final, was held to a single field goal in the first half for a 3-0 lead a the break.

Full Board Minutes: January 25, 2022 "It was the best game we've played all year defensively," LaChance said. "On offence, we put points on the board, but dropped three touchdowns and missed two field goals or we win that one walking away.

Two conceded safeties by London, the second with 2:52 left in regulation, along with a Beale four-yard touchdown pass to Dante Lewis had the Fratmen poised to win the OFC title for the first time since 2018.

"This one hurts more than any in my 18 years and I've had some hard ones," LaChance said. "This one hurts for sure.

"At home, first year at the college and I know how much the college wanted to host a national championship. I know in year of COVID how much the players and the coaches put into it."

A snap over the punter's head was recovered by London in the end zone to make it a one-score game. St. Clair could not move the ball on its next possession and the Beefeaters got the ball back and the Beefeaters struck for a 41-yard touchdown pass to tie the game at 14-14 in the final minute.

On the ensuing kickoff, St. Clair fumbled the ball and setting the stage for London to punch through a final point to win it as time expired and advance to the national championship game.

"I definitely think we needed to play a more rounded game," Beale said. "Early on, we didn't get in rhythm (on offence) and it showed at the half only up 3-0. We were more desperate in the second half, but in the end you have to finish and we didn't finish.

"It just goes to show you can have all the regular-season accolades and it can be taken away. I feel bad for a lot of our senior guys. A guy like me, it was only my first year, and unfortunately my last, but there's some seniors in their third or fourth year that didn't get a chance to win it in their last year and walk off the field on a high note."

Efforts to raise awareness of housing crisis in county ramping up

Windsor Star - Nov 22, 2021



Dave Mota, left, organizer of a Rally for Affordable Housing event, is shown with other participants in Essex on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

One Essex County man is attempting to raise concerns this area's homelessness and housing affordability crisis is not just a city of Windsor problem, but escalating in surrounding communities.

Dave Mota, who resides in Colchester, organized a rally Sunday in Essex attended by about two dozen supporters in a bid to create greater awareness of the housing woes in rural municipalities across Essex County.

"There is not enough affordable housing in Essex County for people to live," he said. "The inflationary rate this year is 4.1 per cent, but people are not getting raises. You now have elderly people, grandma and grandpa on fixed income, who have to decide whether to pay for their medicine or food.

"You have young people expecting a baby or single mothers who can't afford a house or rent. It's not just people with addictions, but you have people with mental illness or others now being left with no place they can afford to live."

In municipalities across Essex County, Mota points to smaller homes or cottages that previously housed residents being converted for tourist rentals, older homes being torn down for new developments and tenants being forced out by landlords or out-of-town investors who have increased the rent.

"The affordable living is not there for people," said Mota, who works at St. Clair College in information technology. "The only one making a buck are investors. There is a crisis happening for affordable and geared-to income housing."



Participants in the Rally for Affordable Housing call for solutions to the housing crisis Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021, in the Town of Essex. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

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Mota recognizes he is just one voice, but hopes to gain increasing attention of those who might be able to make a difference.

"I'm just hoping it gets to a point where people not just think about themselves, but realize this is a major issue out there," he said. "You have a lot of people in the county who don't go into the city to see (the homeless problem), but all this is starting to happen out here. I just feel the more people we can get out here, then something might get done.

"Right now, what you see are investors making a fortune off people who can't buy food."

What Mota would like to see among possible solutions includes more geared-to income housing and rent controls.

Essex Deputy Mayor Richard Meloche and Coun. Sherry Bondy were among those who have joined Mota and attended the rally.

Bondy hopes the community will help find local solutions.

"It's the top question I am getting right now," she said. "People are calling me saying 'My landlord is selling the house' or it's being converted to an Airbnb, 'I want to move out of my parents' basement,' but there is nowhere for them to go.

"I have no answers for people. The only way to get solutions is to organize. This is not just an Essex County problem, but we have to start somewhere. This is not just about affordable housing, but there is no attainable housing. This is not going to get better unless we all work together and come up with solutions."

Bondy feels rallies such as Sunday's can help tap into ideas.

"Maybe it's more zoning for residential, new bylaws for someone to create a second dwelling (on their property)," she said. "But there is also a lack of workers to build things right now and a huge increase in cost of materials. We have to try as a collective group to get ahead of this."

Ideas could also be as simple as getting elderly single people to connect and share living space, possibly converting municipal or leased lands for a "nice" trailer park, Bondy said.

"Let's all of us work out a solution," she said. "We can't just pull more houses or apartments out of a hat. I'm looking to the community for answers. Right now, a new side-by-side duplex is selling for \$400,000 minimum. We need more affordable housing in the county."

Automobility announcement to include new manufacturing concept

Windsor Star - Nov 23, 2021



Key players involved in Wednesday's automobility announcement are pictured inside the Invest Windsor Essex VR Cave, on Monday, Nov. 22, 2021. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

A quiet courtship that has been ongoing for two years has resulted in a private-public partnership that will be the first of its kind in Canada.

Details of the partnership will be unveiled Wednesday by Invest WindsorEssex officials at the official announcement at St. Clair College, which also include Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens and Essex County Warden/Tecumseh Mayor Gary McNamara.

The partnership, which includes a foreign firm, will create a unique ecosystem partnership and production facility that is focused on leveraging a proven model in the electric vehicle space that has proven to be successful globally.

The flexible production concept is expected to enhance local efforts to establish the region as the nation's automobility capital. In the past five years, the area has received \$12.5 million from the federal government and \$2.5-million from the province strictly aimed at nurturing Windsor's automobility ambitions.

The project is the latest piece in a puzzle local officials have been building in past five years to help the region transform itself in preparation for the electrification of the automotive industry.



Key players involved in Wednesday's automobility announcement at Invest Windsor Essex on Monday, Nov. 22, 2021. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

The announcement will add to existing local facilities such as the Ontario's Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network's Virtual Reality Cave, the University of Windsor's SHEILD Automotive Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence and the university's CHARGE lab. The lab is doing research in partnership with the private sector into batteries, powertrains and the next generation of electric motors.

The announcement also fits well with the City of Windsor's Windsor Works future economic development plan.



New manufacturing firm part of Canadian Automobility Hub

Windsor Star - Nov 24, 2021



Invest Windsor Essex is pictured on Monday, Nov. 22, 2021. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

The formation of a new micro manufacturing company unique to Canada and the establishment of an automobility accelerator at St. Clair College are the centrepieces of the new Canadian Automobility Hub announced Wednesday by Invest WindsorEssex.

The hub, which will be housed in the college's Truck and Coach building on its south Windsor campus, is a public-private partnership consisting of the new manufacturer Automobility Enterprises and the academic branch Automobility Research.

"We know disruption is going on and we want that disruption to be here," said Invest WindsorEssex's Matthew Johnson, executive director, Mobility Partnerships and Innovation.

"We want the jobs that come with the disruption.

"Green projects are part of this and will be taking place side-by-side with these innovations. What will be happening is going to diversify the economy more than you think."

Automobility Enterprises is a micro manufacturer formed by Windsor Mold, the German engineering firm PEM Motion and Ottawa-based Integris Software.

The plant will produce zero-emission, electric vehicles aimed at last-mile commercial delivery. Its focus will be on small batch production, 5,000-10,000 units or fewer, with the ability to quickly pivot to produce a different product.

The new company will also offer services in other areas of automobility such as conversions of vehicles from gas to electric power as well as helping local firms and individuals develop and test new innovations and future proof their operations.

"What's good about this is it helps the community transform into the new transportation environment," said Integris Software's managing director Randy Zadra.

"It's not just automotive. In talking to mining companies, they want all EVs in their mine shafts, so there's no exhaust fumes. Agriculture is another industry well suited for this.

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"It's participating in the redefining of transportation."

The factory will be located in a building currently owned by Windsor Mold on Durham Place and is expected to be operational in 12 to 18 months.

We now have a great pipeline to take innovative ideas from the start right through to completion.

The plant is expected to cost approximately \$30 million to launch. The number of jobs at launch will be determined on the contracts secured by that time.

The company's first contract is to convert two of Enwin's vehicles from gas to electric power. Automobility Enterprise employees will begin that work immediately at the college offering experiential learning to students.

Zadra said the Windsor plant will be like no other in Canada in its ability to be flexible by using the manufacturing processes developed by PEM Motion. He added It will give Canadian companies in the automobility space, from manufacturing to tech development and cyber security, a new tool to help innovate and develop their products faster and more inexpensively.

It's also a proven model as the zero emission vehicles PEM produces have been in use globally for several years, including by the German postal service.

"It's manufacturing that's already developed, agile and fast," said Zadra, who added there's a very high interest from clients around the world in the Windsor project.

"You can build 5,000 of Type A vehicles and then nine months later, after a short changeover period, build something completely different. There's no long retooling period."

PEM Motion director Karl Anton said by year's end there would be 25,000 of the company's vehicles in service.

"PEM started seven years ago to prove e-mobility could work," said Anton, who worked 34 years for Ford Motor Company and rose to become head of European production.

"Now it's one of the largest EV fleets in the world."

Anton said what is different about the PEM Motion manufacturing process and planning is it involves all employees and is constant. There's a reliance on artificial intelligence, machine learning and even the use of gaming platforms.

"We're looking for people with higher competency levels," Anton said. "Everyone has a responsibility in planning and executing and it creates more job satisfaction. This is where manufacturing is going in the future."

The seeds for the new company were planted two years ago at the Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association annual conference in Windsor.

After both sides did their due diligence, slowed by COVID-19, Anton said Windsor emerged as a natural fit for PEM.

Based on the measure of North American industrial codes, the Windsor region already has twice as many companies in the automobility space as the next closest Canadian community.

"We wanted to tap into the manufacturing expertise and eco-system that's here," Anton said.

Windsor Mold President and COO David Mastronardi said the marriage of German expertise in new manufacturing processes with the quality of local firms and talent is precisely what the region needs to remain competitive in a re-birthed industry.

"One of our founding principles is we're technology focused and we need to continue to evolve," Mastronardi said.

"The other thing is we also have to evolve with the latest manufacturing processes.

"It's how do we get our engineering to a different level? How do our technologies apply to that?"

Automobility Enterprises won't be operating in a vacuum as the company will also support the activities of students and local firms through the hub.

Both the university and college are reviewing their curriculum and faculty needs to meet the industry's demand for new skills and talent in the coordinated regional approach.

The University of Windsor will also begin a \$3-million renovation and expansion of its Faculty of Engineering building this month. The expansion will include a doubling of the size of the Centre for Hybrid Automotive Research and Green Energy Lab where research is being conducted in the areas of batteries, powertrains and the next generation of electric motors in partnership with the industry.

"The ecosystem has been built by everyone," University of Windsor executive director of research and innovation Heather Pratt said. "We're taking that knowledge and we're trying to monetize it.

"We now have a great pipeline to take innovative ideas from the start right through to completion."

St. Clair College's director of research, innovation and entrepreneurship Peter Wawrow said the interaction for students with industry will prepare them for jobs but also for the wider impact automobility will have on society.

"The transformation of the auto industry is also transforming the city itself," said Wawrow after seeing the effects in PEM Motion's home in Aachen, Germany.

"Windsor is similar to Aachen and we see the same potential. The preparations to be part of this are also a great opportunity for the college to transform as well."

Fewer buses on the road has put more pressure on students

CBC News · Nov 24, 2021



Transit Windsor riders board the 1C bus outside Tecumseh Mall on Nov. 8, 2017. (Dale Molnar/CBC)

A reduction in bus service brought on by drivers refusing the COVID-19 vaccination is having an impact on some of Windsor Transit's most loyal customers: students.

The transit commission rolled back service this week as it looks to hire at least 40 new bus drivers. It's currently running on an "enhanced" Saturday schedule, with some routes leaving earlier and ending later where possible.

Reduced frequency means some riders, like St. Clair College student Navjeet Singh, are having to wake up earlier and return home later, as they juggle the new schedule.

"So I usually wake up at around 5:30 in the morning.. and I go to college at 8:30 am," he said. "If I miss a bus, I'm going to miss my class. It's as simple as that," Singh says, whose only mode of transportation is the bus.



Navjeet Singh is a St Clair student in the Event Management program. He said he will have to wake up earlier to make sure he catches his bus to class. (Aastha Shetty/CBC News)

Shubham Sharma, president of the Student Representative Council at St. Clair, points to already busy buses at rush hour that are now even more packed.

"The first concern is regarding the crowded bus. So during the peak hours, for example, if a student is having classes at 8 a.m., they have to plan accordingly. If the buses are jam packed, they have to wait for the bus for like after half half an hour or one hour. So it's very concerning for us."

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Driver shortage

Windsor Transit says it is prioritizing adding buses to routes that service the city's student population, such as the 1C and 2, and is working to make sure the interruption isn't long term.

It anticipates other routes, including the 5, 8, 14 and 518X, will also see frequency of service increase.

"Those routes currently run in the ten minute frequency with Saturday service, so they're down to a 20 minute frequency," explained Tyson Cragg, the executive director of Transit Windsor. "But we're going to take every available bus that we have with extra operators and slot them in to the the service,"

To do that, Windsor Transit says it needs to hire drivers.

Cragg says about 20 are on unpaid leave for not being vaccinated. They have until Feb. 15, 2022, to get the shot, at which point they will be fired.

Advocates push for improved service

But according to some students and advocates, not having enough buses on the road has been an issue for a long time.

Jessica Bondy, the project lead at Activate Transit Windsor Essex, said the city needs to take a closer look at ways to improve funding for public transit, including building a bigger bus terminal.



Angie Lopez is a 3rd year biomedical student at St. Clair. She said waking up earlier and losing an extra hour of sleep every morning is having an impact on her ability to learn. (Aastha Shetty/CBC News)

"It's unrealistic to want to improve services or add buses when we don't have the space to do that. We can drastically improve services if we had a bigger facility. The current facility is 50 years old," she said.

"How do we make sure we are not in this position — where things are stretched so thin — 50 years down the line?"

Bondy said her group is talking to St. Clair College and University of Windsor students to collect more information on how they are impacted.

"We were at St. Clair College actually earlier this week, and the general consensus was, 'what are you going to do'? Because there's a general sense that their hands are tied. Students should be able to rely on transit. And they cannot."

Canada's first auto hub launches in Windsor-Essex



Invest WindsorEssex announced the launch of the Canadian Automobility Hub on Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021.

CTV Windsor Web Writer / Reporter - Nov. 24, 2021

Windsor, Ont. –

Invest WindsorEssex (IWE) announced the launch of Canada's first Automobility Hub on Wednesday.

Local elected officials, global industry leaders, post-secondary education institutions and guests, IWE unveiled one of the region's new centres for automotive innovation and collaboration at St. Clair College in Windsor.

"Invest WindsorEssex is proud of the efforts to achieve this great milestone contributing to the necessary economic evolution of our region. We have brought together a cluster of innovative partners that are ready to collaborate to compete in the global marketplace as the Automobility Capital of Canada," said Stephen MacKenzie, president and CEO of IWE.

"The Automobility Hub is the first of its kind in Canada. It offers a suite of resources and services, including a state-of-the-art ramp-up factory, to enable and support a network of innovative entrepreneurs and businesses interested in advancing the market for electric, zero-emission, as well as connected and automated vehicle technology and infrastructure."

The Canadian Automobility Hub was coordinated by IWE to work with regional ecosystem partners, including all levels of government, local post-secondary institutions, program service providers and businesses, as well as binational private sector partners, to support and foster entrepreneurship and innovation in automobility.

The project is one of many supported by FedDev Ontario, which recently awarded \$7.5 million to support 1,350 entrepreneurs and attract \$40 million in foreign direct investment in Windsor-Essex. This funding is built on an initial \$5 million FedDev Ontario investment announced in September 2019.

St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are key partners in the hub and provide the bridge between industry and research needed to establish an automobility ecosystem and ramp-up factory.

"Students and graduates from our college will now have a destination to apply their technical expertise to advance software and engineering technology for modern mobility manufacturing right here in Windsor-Essex," said Patricia France, president of St. Clair College. "Our local community's manufacturing strength and skilled workforce means we are a hub for innovation, new tech enterprises, and the auto sector of the future."

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University of Windsor president Robert Gordon says the university continues to support opportunities to leverage their unique assets to ensure that public and private partners have access to the expertise they need to help diversify and strengthen the economy of the Windsor-Essex region.

"By leveraging these assets and fostering a strong ecosystem of innovation in Windsor-Essex, as well as expanded opportunities for research and development collaboration we are well-positioned to support the transformation of our local economy from the Automotive Capital of Canada to the Automobility Capital of Canada," said Gordon.

IWE has been critical to the success of this initiative and in securing German-based company PEM Motion, who is providing engineering consulting services and development solutions to help advance technology for vehicle batteries, fuel cells and electric motors right here in Windsor-Essex.

"PEM Motion is proud to be one of the anchor private sector partners for the Canadian Automobility Hub. We look forward to working with innovative businesses and entrepreneurs in Windsor-Essex to bring their products to market," said Christoph Lienemann, managing director for North America, PEM Motion.

PEM Motion, Windsor Mold Group and Integris form Automobility Enterprises Inc., make up the private sector company of the Canadian Automobility Hub.

"We are entering a new era of sustainable mobility and the goal of Automobility Enterprises is to bring together German-based innovation in the EV space with North American product development and manufacturing capabilities, right here in Windsor-Essex," said David Mastronardi, president of Windsor Mold Group and board member of Automobility Enterprises.

'Accelerator on steroids' for EVs launches in Windsor

'First of its kind in Canada' hub to bring innovative design, production to Windsor

CBC News · Nov 24, 2021



Zero-emissions, electric delivery vehicle at the Canadian Automobility Hub. Vehicles such as these are ones that the hub looks to research and produce. (Darrin Di Carlo/CBC)

As Windsor aims to become the "automobility capital of Canada," a new hub in the city seeks to push the envelope on electric vehicle research and production.

On Wednesday morning, Invest Windsor-Essex launched the Canadian Automobility Hub — a startup accelerator that it's calling the "first of its kind in Canada."

According to Invest Windsor-Essex executive director of mobility partnership and innovation Matthew Johnson, "there is no physical space like this" in the country, adding that it's an "accelerator on steroids."

The hub includes a "ramp-up factory" where people can research and build zero-emission, electric vehicles or other autonomous devices, such as drones.

The unveiling at St. Clair College is exciting for motive power technician student Drew Reaume, who said he's passionate about limiting the environmental impact vehicles have.

"We see the impact that gasoline engines have on the environment, how the EV is a much cleaner design and how the cars are produced and made, everything is much cleaner and environmental friendly," he said.

"It seems that gasoline, diesel are becoming limited in the future so having the opportunity to work on electric cars at St. Clair will open a lot of doors ... for the future," he said.



Drew Reaume, left, and Jacob Shafar, right, are motive power technician students at St. Clair College. They told CBC News Wednesday that the opening of the hub presents exciting new career opportunities for them.

This announcement comes as Windsor continues to move toward electric vehicle production opportunities.

This past summer, the Liberal government said it is committed to turning all new cars and light-duty trucks sold in the country to zero-emission by 2035.

Hub spans 3 locations in city

Three locations across the city will host the research and enterprise sections of the new Canadian Automobility Hub: St. Clair College, the University of Windsor and automotive manufacturing company Windsor Mold Group.

The University of Windsor space is expected to be completed by mid-summer 2022, but the other two are ready to be used.

"[The space] is encompassing all of the business advisory services as well as the manufacturing and entrepreneurial services in one place," he said.

"The ultimate goal is that the entrepreneur or startup company that starts at the ramp-up factory will eventually get to a point where they will actually need to open up their own facility to meet demands of their own customer base."

The creation of the hub — funded by private and public sector groups, along with government supports — costs between \$15 and \$20 million, according to Johnson.

Job-wise, Johnson said the number of people hired will depend on the contracts that come through.

To start, he said there is a request from ENWIN Utilities to transition some of their vehicles into electric ones — it's a job that Johnson said will take about three to five people.

Invest Windsor-Essex said some funding for the hub was taken from a \$5 million FedDev Ontario grant. The remainder came from private sector investment, but Johnson couldn't provide an exact breakdown.

PEM Motion and Integris, alongside Windsor Mold Group, are the private sector partners. Though PEM Motion is a German-based company, Johnson said the country has "advanced" knowledge on battery electric vehicles that they want to benefit from.

Meanwhile, the public sector partners, like St. Clair College and the University of Windsor, are providing the space and equipment, he said.

Canada's first Automobility Hub launches in Windsor-Essex

IT World Canada - November 24, 2021



Today, Invest WindsorEssex (IWE), the lead economic development organization for the Windsor-Essex region, announced the launch of Canada's first Automobility Hub, a public-private partnership that aims to promote automotive innovation and collaboration.

The <u>hub</u>, which is based at <u>St. Clair College</u>, Windsor Campus, consists of the new Windsor, Ontario-based mobility solutions provider Automobility Enterprises (AE) and an academic branch, Automobility Research (AR).



Stephen MacKenzie, president and CEO of IWE

Essentially an automobility accelerator, the Canadian Automobility Hub offers a suite of resources and services, including a ramp-up factory which will provide an all-in-one solution for industry and research to enable and support a network of innovative entrepreneurs and businesses interested in advancing the market for electric, zero-emission, connected, and automated vehicle technology and infrastructure, said Stephen MacKenzie, president and chief executive officer of IWE when announcing the initiative.

"Invest WindsorEssex is proud of the efforts to achieve this great milestone contributing to the necessary economic evolution of our region. We have brought together a cluster of innovative partners that are ready to collaborate to compete in the global marketplace as the Automobility Capital of Canada," said MacKenzie.

Composition of the hub

Key partners in the hub include WindsorEssex, the <u>City of Windsor</u>, and the County of Essex, Automobility Enterprises (AE), and Automobility Research.

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AE is a collaboration encompassing three organizations: German consulting and engineering services firm Metion; automotive manufacturing and innovation firm Windsor Mold Group; and Ottawa-based Integris Software. It is focused on the development and manufacturing of innovative products to support the future of sustainable mobility. IWE says AE will support customers from concept to series production and assembly, locally in Windsor. Using a proven model, and technology partnerships and innovation from around the globe focused on fuel cells, battery technology, electric motors and propulsion technologies, AE offers electric vehicle (EV) services and solutions across several applications and markets, with a focus on commercial vehicles.



AR is composed of St. Clair College and the <u>University of Windsor</u>, both of which will provide the critical bridge between industry and the research needed to establish an automobility ecosystem and ramp-up factory. St. Clair College is the location of the AR branch of the hub. This will provide students and graduates from the college with a destination to apply their technical expertise to advance software and engineering technology for modern mobility manufacturing in Windsor-Essex, said Patricia France, president of St. Clair College.

"The University of Windsor continues to support opportunities to leverage our unique assets to ensure that public and private partners have access to the expertise they need to help diversify and strengthen the economy of the Windsor-Essex region," said University of Windsor president and vice-chancellor Robert Gordon. "By leveraging these assets and fostering a strong ecosystem of innovation in Windsor-Essex, as well as expanded opportunities for research and development collaboration we are well-positioned to support the transformation of our local economy from the Automotive Capital of Canada to the Automobility Capital of Canada."

Resources and services offered

The Canadian Automobility Hub contains all the machinery and resources necessary to manufacture mobility prototypes. This includes, but is not limited to, a CNC bending machine, additive manufacturing solutions, laser welding, mechanical workshop, framing station, and small assembly line, as well as machines to produce and test battery prototypes and drive trains. Having all these machines and tools creates an opportunity for cost-efficient prototyping and testing of pre-series for electric vehicles using the knowledge and support of participating partners, IWE explained.

During today's announcement, representatives from Automobility Enterprises demonstrated an electric e-commerce delivery van built by a subsidiary of German multinational package delivery and supply chain management company Deutsche Post. The electric van is part of one of the largest electric vehicle fleets in the world and has been in use for parcel delivery in Germany for over seven years. This model can be a great fit for Canadian utility and delivery fleets in the future as they make the transition to electric vehicles, according to IWE.

IWE says it has created the Canadian Automobility Hub to work with regional ecosystem partners, including all levels of government, local post-secondary institutions, program service providers and businesses, as well as binational private sector partners, to support and promote entrepreneurship and innovation in automobility. The economic development organization also noted that the support of the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) has helped it start catalyzing the growth of an automobility cluster. FedDev Ontario provided an investment of \$7.5 million to IWE to support 1,350 entrepreneurs and attract \$40 million in foreign direct investment in the region. This funding is in addition to an initial \$5 million FedDev Ontario investment announced in September 2019.

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Canada's first Automobility Hub launched in Windsor-Essex

Wednesday, November 24th 2021



Invest WindsorEssex and numerous local and industry partners announced the launch of Canada's first Automobility Hub at St. Clair College's Windsor Campus on Wednesday morning.

The Canadian Automobility Hub was coordinated by IWE to work with regional ecosystem partners, including all levels of government, local post-secondary institutions, program service providers and businesses, as well as binational private sector partners, to support and foster entrepreneurship and innovation in automobility.

St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are key partners in the Canadian Automobility Hub and provide the critical bridge between industry and research needed to establish an automobility ecosystem and ramp-up factory.

Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens says it was important to be at St. Clair College, with University of Windsor representatives on hand as well, because one of the keys to the plan is having education embedded into everything.

"At the end of the day this a war on talent around the world, and the transition that we're seeing in the automotive sector globally is going to require really smart people. People who know how to code, who know chemistry and battery technology, it is a transition and we want to be on the forefront of that and make sure that we cement our position as the automobility capital of Canada," he says.

Officials say the Canadian Automobility Hub has already begun to catalyze the growth of a next generation automobility cluster.

This project is one of many supported by FedDev Ontario, who recently awarded \$7.5 million to support 1,350 entrepreneurs and attract \$40 million in foreign direct investment in Windsor-Essex.

This funding is built on an initial \$5 million FedDev Ontario investment announced in September 2019.

InvestWindsorEssex has been critical to the success of this initiative and in securing German-based company PEM Motion, who is providing engineering consulting services and development solutions to help advance technology for vehicle batteries, fuel cells and electric motors right here in Windsor-Essex.

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Christoph Lienemann, Managing Director for PEM Motion North America, says they're looking forward to working with local innovative businesses and entrepreneurs to bring their products to market.

"What attracted us here to the region is of course the great university and college, the companies here, there are great global players. But also of course the proximity to Detroit with three headquarters there. So there's a lot of automotive already here in the blood, and we want to transfer that towards a more automobility focus," he says.

Locally, Windsor Mold Group brings 50 years of private sector experience in automotive manufacturing and innovation.

Together, PEM Motion, Windsor Mold Group and Integris form Automobility Enterprises Inc., the private sector company of the Canadian Automobility Hub.

The Canadian Automobility Hub contains all the machinery and resources necessary to manufacture mobility prototypes, and Lienemann says the key is thinking outside the box to meet the changing needs of industries.

"It cannot be so fixed and so automated. We need to be more flexible, using technologies like IOT or data analytics to just optimize the production better. So it will be much cleaner and less looking like a line but more flexible," he adds.

By building the Canadian Automobility Hub, officials say Windsor-Essex is attracting investment and creating long-term, high paying, high value tech jobs for the region for years to come.

To date, over 30 partnerships, more than 300 new jobs and nearly \$50 million in foreign direct investment has been secured through automobility support funding from FedDev Ontario.

Automotive Enterprises offering new manufacturing pathway to innovators and startups

Windsor Star - Nov 25, 2021



Peter Wawrow, St. Clair College's Director of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship is shown on Friday, September 17, 2021. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

The newly announced Canadian Automobility Hub is still taking shape in Windsor, but St. Clair College's director of research, innovation and entrepreneurship Peter Wawrow has already seen what it can be.

The model of collaboration between the German engineering and consulting firm PEM Motion and Aachen University (Germany) has created a flourishing ecosystem of micro manufacturing, innovation and startups that has transformed that city's economy.

"It was really the story of an automotive town, similar to Windsor, that was struggling and plants were closing up," Wawrow said.

With this method we'll address smaller production, around 10,000 vehicles per year

"We toured some of those facilities, where PEM took over and now they're part of the ramp up factory. Instead of large manufacturing organizations, you have a lot of small startups that are happening.

"It's really diversifying the economy there."



Peter Wawrow, St. Clair College's Director of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship is shown on Friday, September 17, 2021. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

PEM will be one of three companies, along with Windsor Mold Group and Ottawa-based Integris Software, that have formed Automobility Enterprises. It will be the private sector wing of the Canadian Automobility Hub that was announced Wednesday.

The research and development branch of the hub, Automobility Research, will be based at St. Clair College and will also involve the University of Windsor.

In its seven-year history, PEM Motion has been involved in the creation of two startup vehicle producers Street Scooter and e.Go.

"We're offering a concept that we've proven in Germany with e.Go and Street Scooter," said PEM Motion managing director Christoph Lienemann. "It's think big, start small.

"With this method we'll address smaller production, around 10,000 vehicles per year. We want to do that in Windsor, offering much quicker and cheaper industrialization than traditional large-scale production."



Christoph Lienemann, director of Canadian Automobility Enterprises, speaks at a press conference at St. Clair College announcing the formation of a new Automobility Hub, on Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021.

PEM avoids large, fixed costs like assembly lines and banks of automated robots. Its factories serve multiple customers, producing different products that don't require lengthy changeover periods.

"We need to be more flexible using technologies like the Internet of Things or data and other things to optimize production better," Lienemann said.

"It's much cleaner and looking less like a (assembly) line because we're more flexible. It's more free flowing."

The public-private concept has attracted talent and companies to Aachen which want to be close to such a centre of innovation.

"It's not a PEM thing, but a local innovation ecosystem, but we're a crucial part of it," Lienemann said.

"Now Ford has a research centre there with 200 employees. BMW is moving there and Siemans too."

In its seven years, PEM has grown with facilities in Europe, Mexico and California and has recently signed commitments in India and China.

Automobility Enterprises expects Windsor production to begin in 12 to 18 months.

"We're addressing three different kinds of clients," Lienemann said.

"One is automobility companies from Europe or Asia who want to address the North American market Media Releases

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"Others are startups who can't yet afford serious production, but who want to be quick.

"The third one is products which aren't strictly automotive — tractor, smaller scooters and special vehicles (mining, agriculture)."

Integris Software managing director Randy Zadra said global interest in the Windsor operation is already high. The Windsor plant will focus on building commercial delivery vehicles.

"Our first batch of vehicles will be 1,500," Zadra said.

"The North American market is behind Europe and Asia on EVs. There's lots of talk about what's coming, but we actually have a vehicle that's proven to show them."

Gary McNamara sees Automobility Hub as a great opportunity

AM800 CKLW - Sunday, November 28th 2021



As the first Automobility Hub in Canada makes its way to Windsor and Essex County, Essex County Warden Gary McNamara believes it as a great opportunity for the community.

The hub launched on Wednesday, (November 24) at St. Clair College and intends to promote and encourage high paying tech jobs, entrepreneurship and innovation in the automotive field.

McNamara says this is the future of the automotive industry.

"This use to be the automotive capital of Canada and now its the automobility capital. The potential is enormous and all of those partnerships, we've seen a lot of them here today, both the city and the county are 100 per cent on behind this project."

Mcnamara says this is a great learning tool for local schools.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for our centres of excellence like the University of Windsor and St. Clair College and to develop the next generation of engineers and technicians and bring in this electrification of vehicles to reality. Not only to our region but to our province and certainly to the country."

He says this will attract new people to the area.

"It creates a real buzz, not only here but in the region. Its about bringing investment into the region. There's an old saying, if you build it they will come and this is the reality, we are building it and they will come."

During the presentation representatives from Automobility Enterprises also showcased their electric e-commerce delivery van.

The S'Aints once again 'sleighing hunger' with benefit concert



The S'Aints band will carry on their annual holiday charity concert online this year. (source S'Aints band/Twitter)

CTV Windsor Web Writer - Nov. 30, 2021

The S'Aints are returning to the stage this holiday season with a benefit concert aimed at 'sleighing hunger.'

St. Clair College and the St. Clair College Alumni Association announced the return of the annual Christmas Concert featuring the S'Aints live at Ceasar's Colosseum Thursday, Dec. 23.

Over the last 10 years, the S'Aints have raised more than \$280,000 for food banks in Chatham and Windsor.

Members of the S'Aints include Jody Raffoul, Jeff Burrows, Kelly Hoppe, Kelly Howell, Wes Buckley, David Cyrenne, Marty Bak, Liz Robinson and Stephanie Baker.

Last year, many tuned from their living rooms as the concert had gone virtual due to COVID-19 restrictions. The annual benefit still raised \$80,000 for local groups.

Many local charities in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent will benefit from this year's concert which will help to provide food for the holiday season and into the New Year to those in need.

The concert is for all ages and tickets to the show are \$25. They can be purchased from the Colosseum box office or online through Ticketmaster.

Proof of Vaccination, government issued identification and masks are required to enter the casino and concert venue. The Caesar's website has a list of any other applicable COVID restrictions.

The S'Aints latest CD 'Calling All S'Aints' is currently available in retail outlets across Windsor and can also be purchased at the "meet and greet" table following the Christmas concert.

For more information visit sleighinghunger.com.

The S'Aints return with annual charity Christmas concert

Windsor Star - Dec 01, 2021



The S'Aints in a promotional photo for their Dec. 18, 2020 Sleighing Hunger charitable concert, viewable online via Sessions Live. Photo by St. Clair College /Windsor Star

Local super group The S'Aints are back in action "sleighing hunger" with the return of their annual charity Christmas concert.

The show is set for 8 p.m. on Dec. 23 in The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor.

The band lineup includes Jody Raffoul, The Tea Party's Jeff Burrows, former Big Sugar member Kelly Hoppe, Kelly Howell, Wes Buckley, David Cyrenne, Marty Bak, Liz Robinson and Stephanie Baker.

Tickets for the all ages show, available at the Colosseum box office or on-line through Ticketmaster, are \$25 each.

Fans will be able to buy the band's latest CD, Calling All S'Aints, at the meet and greet table after the concert. The CD is also available at various retail outlets in Windsor.

Concert proceeds will go to charities in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent to provide food to those in need over the holiday season.

The S'Aints have raised more than \$280,000 for food banks in Windsor and Chatham over the last 10 years.

Proof of Vaccination, government issued identification and masks are required to enter the casino and concert venue.

St. Clair College and the St. Clair College Alumni Association are presenting the concert with the support of LiUNA 625.

Full Board Minutes: January 25, 2022

As borders open, Windsor-Detroit connection becomes stronger than ever

With TELUS 5G available in the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel, travellers can tap into lightning-fast wireless connectivity with speeds up to 1.7 Gbps—even 23 metres below the Detroit River.

Windsor Star - Nov 30, 2021



The VR CAVE in Windsor is a specially designed visualization space that creates an immersive virtual environment for running simulations like virtual drive scenarios. This uses a simulator while wearing VR glasses strapped into VR headsets and sensors. PHOTO COURTESY OF INVEST WINDSORESSEX

Windsor and Detroit have always shared a strong connection.

So close are the two cities that they are often considered as one, despite the border in between. In the days before the coronavirus, approximately 12,000 vehicles passed daily through the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. It's amongst the busiest crossings in North America, as residents on both sides regularly headed to "the other side" to attend a baseball game, see friends and family, or try a new restaurant.

The cities also share a dominant industry, both acting as the automotive capitals of their respective countries. There is deep reliance on each other's expertise in the making of a vehicle. In fact, the average automotive part crosses the border six times before rolling off the assembly line.

Now that COVID restrictions between Canada and the U.S. have lifted, residents and businesses are eager to resume life as a bi-national community.

And with TELUS <u>5G</u> now available in the tunnel, travellers will discover that their connection is stronger than ever before.

The new wireless connectivity comes after two years of preparation in partnership with the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel Corporation, the body that owns the Canadian side of the tunnel. Construction of this innovative cell site began in early 2021. It was completed in July, enabling lightning-fast wireless connectivity with <u>speeds</u> up to 1.7 Gbps—even 23 metres (75 feet) under the Detroit River.

For drivers and passengers using the tunnel – including the many healthcare workers who've tirelessly made the crossing throughout the pandemic – it can mean a much greater sense of security and safety in case of an emergency. The powerful network connectivity also allows for uninterrupted music or podcast streaming and use of travel apps such as Waze and Google Maps.

It's one of several future-forward projects TELUS has undertaken in Windsor as the tech company remains on track to deploy its 5G coverage to 70 per cent of the Canadian population by the end of the year.

Turns out, the region is the perfect testing ground for the next-generation network.

"Every city has streets and sidewalks and pedestrians and stop lights," says Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens. "But the big advantage that we have is the international border crossing that we own."



With TELUS 5G, the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel offers Windsor the opportunity to lead at testing autonomous vehicles across an international border – something the city has been eager to take advantage of for years.

The Detroit-Windsor Tunnel offers Windsor the opportunity to lead at testing autonomous vehicles across an international border. That work has already $\underline{\text{begun}}$, and is expected to expand as network capacity increases. In the case of autonomous driving, vehicle-to-everything (V2X) communication – the car's interactions with other vehicles and infrastructure like streetlights and tolls – requires 5G. This is distinguished from previous wireless generations due to ultra-low latency, lightning-fast speeds, virtually endless data capacity, and stable connectivity.

The city has leapt in with an innovative project that will allow further testing of autonomous vehicles using virtual reality (VR) technology to create a "digital twin" of the Windsor-Detroit tunnel.

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The experience provides users with a risk-free opportunity to validate new technology in a 5G environment prior to deploying it in the Windsor Detroit tunnel. It does so by creating a virtual sandbox in which to test the most high-risk and complicated 5G use-cases: the movement of autonomous vehicles from one political jurisdiction to another, as well as from a network in one country to another.

"When you put the headset on, then you're moving into that virtual world," says Mayor Dilkens. "It's really interesting because the technology allows you to sit in a car, and you can get a feel for what the interior of a vehicle looks like and put your hands out like you're touching the steering wheel, all as you're sitting in this digitally created space."

Among the first involved was TELUS, which Stephen MacKenzie, President and CEO at Invest WindsorEssex, notes has been a strong partner for several years in the region when it comes to future-proofing the city via 5G wireless connectivity.

The partnership is part of a broader commitment by TELUS to the province. The company has also committed to expanding its 5G technology using current spectrum holdings to 24 communities across Ontario by the end of 2021. Since 2000, TELUS has invested \$53 billion in infrastructure and operations in the province, and they have committed an additional \$17 billion through 2024.



For drivers and passengers using the tunnel – including the many healthcare workers who've tirelessly made the crossing throughout the pandemic – 5G can mean a much greater sense of security and safety in case of an emergency. PHOTO BY VLADIMIR MUCIBABIC, SHUTTERSTOCK

Last year, TELUS announced a strategic partnership with <u>St. Clair</u> College and <u>UWindsor</u> to create a 5G Connected Campus, providing complementary connectivity to students, faculty, and researchers, and collaborating on research projects to further understanding and use cases of 5G technologies.

Working with Invest WindsorEssex, the City of Windsor, and TELUS, both post-secondary institutions are also able to utilize the digital twin of the tunnel. Once complete, UWindsor will use the digital twin for research into automotive cybersecurity, which is the focus of the university's SHIELD Automotive Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence.

Tom Schnekenburger, a data and mobility science project manager in a shared role between Invest WindsorEssex and the two postsecondary institutions, says cybersecurity in mobility is an under-discussed issue.

"It's one of the very specific niches that doesn't get talked about enough and it's the one that should be talked about most, because it could disrupt everything from food supply chains to getting to and from work," says Schnekenburger.

The end goal of the digital twin is to provide Windsor with cutting-edge autonomous testing capabilities in a unique border environment.

"We're very cognizant that the automotive industry is changing at a rapid pace," says MacKenzie. "With this project, and the partnership with TELUS, we become leaders of disruption and not victims of it. This strategy allows us to realize the significant economic benefits locally and transition our economy into the automobility space."

In a few years, Mayor Dilkens says he expects Windsor will have grown its expertise in virtual environments and automobility to the extent that more companies will turn their attention to the area for testing. They are proof that a border crossing can be managed safely and efficiently by automated vehicles, which also promises to put the region on the global map, as communities and countries make the leap into the future of transportation.

Says Dilkens: "Every advancement in 5G innovation brings us closer to making the first fully autonomous vehicle international border crossing a reality."

Recently added St. Clair College bus route could become permanent with council approval

'We are proposing to make permanent the 518X route as part of the Transit Windsor route enhancements'

CBC News · Dec 01, 2021



Automated passenger counters, coming at a cost of \$90,000, would allow for greater data collection on ridership and better analysis on performance and making changes to routes. (Dale Molnar)

A recently added bus route, the 518X, was the focal point of a transit announcement hosted by Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens and Transit Windsor executive director Tyson Cragg at Tecumseh Mall.

The site for the Wednesday news conference was chosen because it is one part of the limited-stop express route that runs from the mall to St. Clair College via Devonshire Mall. It came into operation in early September.

"We established the pilot project to reduce travel times between east Windsor and the college by over an hour each way," Dilkens said at the announcement.

"We are proposing to make permanent the 518X route as part of the Transit Windsor route enhancements for the coming year."



'Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, Transit Windsor has continue to grow and innovate,' said Tyson Cragg, executive director of Transit Windsor, at the announcement Wednesday. (Dale Molnar/CBC)

For the route to become permanent, however, the decision will need to be passed by council. It would be the first new transit service added in Windsor in decades, according to Cragg.

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Cragg said the route has seen 1,500 to 1,800 weekly riders, which would translate to 90,000 annually.

"Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, Transit Windsor has continue to grow and innovate," he said.

Saturday schedule

The announcement comes as the transit service is dealing with a personnel shortage having recently enacted its COVID-19 vaccination mandate.



Mayor Drew Dilkens at the announcement Wednesday. (Dale Molnar/CBC)

Transit Windsor has been working on an "enhanced Saturday schedule" since the mandate came into effect.

"Thankfully we've had a few people return after the mandate has gone into place. We're still missing a few of course," Cragg said.

"Beyond about Feb. 15 is where we'll really know where we stand, and at that point we'll re-evaluate where we're at, the number of people that have returned and determine from there what we need to recruit."

Other improvements

There are other proposed improvements to the transit system as a whole that would be implemented if the 2022 budget passes council.

Outside of fleet maintenance, one of the biggest investments would go toward the implementation of <u>the More</u> Than Transit master plan.

In total, \$760,000 has been earmarked for the plan in the proposed budget. That includes funding for things like "fare collection technology, customer amenities and terminals, and transit on demand," a release said.

Automated passenger counters, coming at a cost of \$90,000, would allow for greater data collection on ridership and better analysis on performance and making changes to routes.

Holy Family Catholic School students participating in esports program

Sydenham Current – December 2, 2021



St. Clair Catholic District School Board Photo

Grade 7 and 8 students at Holy Family Catholic School in Wallaceburg are participating in an innovative esports program through the North American Scholastic Esports Federation (NASEF).

St. Clair Catholic District School Board officials say NASEF's mission is to provide opportunities for all students to use esports as a platform to acquire critical communication, collaboration and problem-solving skills needed to thrive in work and in life.

Through the esports program, students are participating in competitive esports matches and tournaments in Rocket League®, Minecraft and Chess with other elementary schools across North America.

The program helps students to develop social-emotional skills and resiliency, digital citizenship and technological competence.

Holy Family Catholic School has also developed a partnership with esports programs at Ursuline College, Lambton College and St. Clair College.

Students are collaborating virtually with esports athletes from all three schools.

In addition, the school is working in partnership with Esports Canada to explore the possibility of creating an Ontario Esports League.

"I want to thank our Grade 7/8 teacher Dan Rolo for his great work with this program," says Mark Bernard, Principal of Holy Family Catholic School, in a media release.

"Dan is one of 30 representatives from 15 countries to be selected as a NASEF Scholastic Fellow – the organization's only representative in all of Ontario and one of only two in Canada We are thankful for his passion and expertise in this area."

As borders open, Windsor-Detroit connection becomes stronger than ever

National Post - Dec 03, 2021



The VR CAVE in Windsor is a specially designed visualization space that creates an immersive virtual environment for running simulations like virtual drive scenarios. This uses a simulator while wearing VR glasses strapped into VR headsets and sensors. PHOTO COURTESY OF INVEST WINDSORESSEX

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Driving into a digital world

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For drivers and passengers using the tunnel – including the many healthcare workers who've tirelessly made the crossing throughout the pandemic – 5G can mean a much greater sense of security and safety in case of an emergency. PHOTO BY VLADIMIR MUCIBABIC, SHUTTERSTOCK

Future of transportation

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S'Aints annual Christmas concert returning to Caesar's Colosseum

AM800 - Sunday, December 5th 2021



The S'Aints band will carry on their annual holiday charity concert online this year. (source S'Aints band/Twitter)

This holiday season will see the return of the annual Christmas Concert featuring the S'Aints live at Caesar's Colosseum.

St. Clair College and the St. Clair College Alumni Association, as well as LiUNA 625, are presenting the show which will take place on Thursday, December 23, beginning at 8 p.m.

Jeffs Burrows, drummer for the Tea Party and part of the S'Aints, says they're all excited to be back this year and that it couldn't be possible without community partners.

"Without these partners, this can't even happen. Especially this year, and the beautiful part about it is that we are once again being able to raise significant funds for the foodbanks in our area directly and Chatham-Kent with outreach for hunger."

Over the last ten years, the S'Aints have been "sleighing hunger" by raising over \$280,000 for food banks in Windsor and Chatham.

Burrows says we're really blessed to have so many talented people in Windsor and Essex, and being able to put on a live holiday show again will mean a lot to many.

"When you see out in the audience little ones as young as three or four years old with big smiles on their faces, and then someone right behind them 83 or 84 years old with a big a smile on their face as well. It's something you don't get to experience, or not many people get to experience, doing something that they love and being able to raise funds like this."

As in past years, many local charities will benefit, providing food in the holiday season and into the New Year to those in need.

Concert tickets for the all ages show are \$25 each, and Burrows says the S'Aints latest CD and tickets to the show can now be found online.

"We have our website called sleighinghunger.com, but when you're spelling sleighing it's as if you're sleighing in the snow. You can order the CDs really anywhere in Canada or worldwide, and just so everyone knows, the box office is officially open again. So people can go directly there and if people buy bulk tickets they'll save a lot on fees and so on."

Proof of vaccination, government issued identification and masks will be required to enter the casino and concert venue.

Institute collaborates with St. Clair to support foreign-trained dentists

Windsor Star - 8 Dec 2021

A former Windsor resident has helped shape an innovative collaboration with St. Clair College that will assist foreign-trained dentists in establishing themselves in Canada.

Marwan Al Rayes, a graduate of Forster Secondary and University of Windsor, is now a practicing dentist in Milton and the co-founder of a dental training institute known as Prep Doctors.

The new collaboration with Prep Doctors will see the college offer a two-year Dental Business Diploma and Equivalency Program.

"Dentistry is the only healthcare profession that has a strong integration between business and health care," the 37-year-old Al Rayes said. "St. Clair will make the business program more specialized to dentistry and that's where we saw a need and an opportunity."

Prep Doctors' instructors will prepare internationally trained dentists as they work their way through equivalency exams demanded by the National Dental Examining Board of Canada.

"Many of them become entrepreneurs and start their own business so we give them the business side," said Jim Marsh, the college's dean of the Zekelman School of Business. "We offer courses in accounting, human resources, Canadian law and Canadian marketing."

There's also a course in Canadian culture and how to interact with patients.

"Our role is to try and help them succeed in a Canadian business context," Marsh said.

Foreign-trained dentists must first take an Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge exam. Then they can attend two years at a university dental program or sign on with Prep Doctors and continue working their way through the NDEB exam process.

Al Rayes and co-founder Firas Abu Saleh established Prep Doctors in 2011 after witnessing the lack of supports for those interested in testing the exam process.

"We started with the internationally trained education program for licensed dentists because there was a big deficiency in that area," Al Rayes said. "We help them integrate into the Canadian market because the thing I noticed is their approach to dentistry is very different from Canada's. If it's not well understood, that's where a dentist can go wrong from an ethical perspective."

The instruction offered also satisfies Al Rayes' personal "passion for teaching" that stretches back to his Forster days where he tutored others and from his time as a teaching assistant at Uwindsor. He continued with private tutoring at University of Toronto.

This new partnership also allows Prep Doctors to tap into the college's vast experience with recruiting international students.

"We know that process well," said Marsh. "So we can assist on that front. Up to now, I believe Prep Doctors primarily or exclusively has gotten students who are already in the country and looking to become qualified. We can expand that by marketing the program outside of Canada. Since I hear we need dentists, I think it's kind of a win-win."

The college's first intake of 20 students happens in January with plans for 50 students in September.
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Suicide prevention training offered at St. Clair

Windsor Star - 9 Dec 2021



Jenny-lee Almeida, manager of student mental health at St. Clair College, said a newly-offered two-day suicide prevention training course at the college's campuses is similar to other programs as suicide first aid and similar to CPR training for a moment of crisis.

Lyndi-colleen Morgan lost two classmates to suicide during her time as a student at St. Clair College.

Now as a student residence manager for the college, she was quick to sign up for two suicide prevention programs offered on campus for the first time.

"I lost two classmates and we didn't even know they were struggling," Morgan said. "We had no idea. This training gives you some key indicators to look for. I've already used some of the tools here inside the residence and outside of the residence."

In anticipation of the added stress and anxiety building for students, staff and faculty as they return to campus while the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the college beefed up its mental health services before the fall semester began.

Jenny-lee Almeida was seconded from the Canadian Mental Health Association to serve as the college's manager of student mental health and wellness, and another CMHA counsellor was also brought on board.

The suicide prevention programs Almeida oversees are offered at both the Windsor and Chatham campuses.

Almost 70 members of the campus community signed up for a three-hour seminar known as safetalk. The participants learned about the stigma and barriers that hold people back from talking about suicide and they learned how to spot someone struggling and how to ask questions.

"For me, I've got my friends and my mom," Almeida said. "I thought, 'why don't we train students because they talk to each other.' We wanted to focus on adding supports during a time where a lot of students are here at the college and having a connection is so important."

Full Board Minutes: January 25, 2022

There were 30 people who took the more in-depth, two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) where they learned the critical skills necessary to offer medical care.

Almeida said students in programs such as Police Foundations, Child and Youth Worker, Personal Support Worker and Nursing took the course as well as members of the college's security and residence staff.

It's the same evidence-based, standardized training offered to first responders and armed forces personnel, and is often mandated by various agencies and institutions.

"I've never trained individual general members of the public before until St. Clair hosted and offered it for themselves," she said.

She describes the two-day program as suicide first aid and similar to CPR training for a moment of crisis.

"If we have a mental health crisis, now we have 30 people on this campus someone can bring a student to for help and we are all speaking the same language for that student."

Director of Student Services Art Barron said the college wanted to be proactive rather than reactive to surging needs.

"No alarm bells were going off but we could see the stress level of students and staff was rising," Barron said. "We decided to be proactive and use some of our provincial funding for COVID relief and invest it in training. The nice thing is this kind of training gives an ordinary person who cares about other people, it gives them the tools to have that conversation and check in on others."

Ryan Peebles first took the ASIST training after finishing school 20 years ago.

As the general manager of the college's Student Representative Council, he was eager to refresh his skill set.

"We work heavily with our student population and the SRC is in the front of students' minds all the time. When a student comes into the offices you never know if they're having a great day or a terrible day."

He said the training helps you ask the right questions.

The college is in the process of developing a long-term mental health strategy, that will include a mental-health survey.

PHOTOS: Opening Weekend For Annual Music Theatre Students Christmas Show

WindsoriteDOTca News - Friday December 10th, 2021



Music Theatre Performance students are enjoying their opening weekend for their St. Clair Christmas show, an annual feature.

Music Theatre Performance is a three-year conservatory-style Advanced Diploma program at St. Clair College which prepares emerging talents for careers in the entertainment industry. After not being able to perform last year, program coordinator Katherine Kaszas says the Happy Holidays performance is a long-awaited opportunity for graduating students to show off their creative skills and give the audience at Chrysler Theatre a truly unique experience.

"The annual Christmas show – this year entitled Happy Holidays show has become a Windsor tradition and it's something that we started as an opportunity for graduating students to devise and create a show of their own. It is something they build themselves out of nothing," Kaszas said.

Students start with a general Holiday theme, time period and place. Then they invent characters and narratives, all of which are told within the body of the song. Through that presentation style there is a character journey and story for each of the graduates.

Performances continue December 11th, 16th, 17th and 18th. Learn more and purchase tickets here.



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St. Benedict QB Ethan Eveleigh exits on high note

Waterloo Region The Record - Fri., Dec. 10, 2021

CAMBRIDGE — In the summer months, he's a sure-handed receiver with the Cambridge Lions of the Ontario Provincial Football League. Come fall, he's a dual-threat quarterback with the St. Benedict Saints of the District 8 Athletic Association.

Ethan Eveleigh excels in both roles but has been recognized for his achievements in the latter, winning the Father Mike Award as the most valuable player of the D8 senior boys league. The fifth-year student capped his high school career by leading the Saints to the District 8 championship with a 14-13 win over the previously undefeated Resurrection Phoenix in the championship game.

Eveleigh threw a pair of touchdown strikes to Mason Holman in the final to avenge a 17-6 regular-season loss to Resurrection.

"Ethan had a tremendous year for the Saints and was a big reason why we were able to capture the District 8 Championship," said Saints head coach Joe Vale.

"When called upon, Ethan was able to sit in the pocket and deliver efficient throws to receivers and running backs all over the field. However, when a play broke down, it was Ethan's quickness and mobility that made him extremely successful. The fact that Ethan was able to move from the receiver position to quarterback says a lot about his athleticism and football IQ."

Eveleigh, 18, said the award was the icing on the cake to a remarkable season.

"It was a really good unit, and there are a few other guys who could have won the award," said the six-foot-one, 180-pound Eveleigh.

"We are also really close, probably one of the closest teams that I've ever had. Everyone was friends with everyone, and no one got down on each other, just a really good team."

Eveleigh had discussions with college and university scouts throughout the season but has yet to make a decision on life after high school. He would be "very interested" in playing at the U Sports level and has also discussed the possibility of playing for the St. Clair College Fratmen of the Ontario Football Conference.

Eveleigh, who has played baseball and soccer in the past, started his football journey with the Lions at age 12 and has been in love with the sport from the start. His only experience at quarterback prior to this year came during Grade 11 at St. Benedict and the previous season with the Lions.

"It was a little bit weird training this summer, going back and forth between receiver and quarterback," he said.

Eveleigh is joined on the District 8 first-team all-star unit by Eric Laffin, Caleb Hamilton and Bryn Palin of St. Benedict; Cole Henry, Damien Plauszta, Tyler Putzu and Robbie Moligian-Brown of Resurrection; Ryan Ramos and Luca Romano of St. Mary's; and Ryan Wolf and Zach Brown of St. David.

College faculty vote to strike in Ontario



The entrance to St. Clair College's main campus in Windsor. Photo taken August 22, 2019. CTV Windsor News Reporter - Dec. 12, 2021 Windsor, Ont. -

Teachers, counsellors and librarians voted 59.4 per cent in favour of a strike, to back contract demands.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) represents 15,000 faculty.

The College Employer Council (CEC) bargains as the employer for all 24 colleges in Ontario.

The contract for academic staff, which covers full and partial load teachers, counsellors and librarians, expired in September 2021.

In a statement on their website, the CEC says just 68 per cent of staff cast a ballot in the strike vote.

"Even though only 40 per cent of the entire bargaining unit have expressed their support for a strike, the CAAT-A team now has their strike mandate," the statement reads.

"I hope this strike vote will be the CEC's incentive to start negotiating for real," writes OPSEU Bargaining Team Chair JP Hornick in a statement.

"All of faculty's demands are extremely low- or no-cost to the employer. Due to Bill 124, we're not bargaining compensation. So our focus is on what's needed to support students in classrooms and online, and on their mental health and academic needs."

Ontario college faculty vote in favour of a strike



(AM800 file photo)

After three days of virtual voting, teachers, counsellors and librarians at the province's colleges voted 59.4 per cent in favour of a strike, to back contract demands.

The contract for academic staff, which covers full and partial load teachers, counsellors and librarians, expired in September 2021.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) represents 15,000 faculty, while the College Employer Council (CEC) bargains as the employer for all 24 colleges in Ontario.

Speaking on AM800's The Morning Drive, OPSEU Bargaining Team Chair JP Hornick says over two thirds of their faculty came out in favour of labour action.

"Not necessarily a strike to start out with. We're trying to build pressure not so much on the students but on the administrators where it belongs. Because the faculty demands are actually designed to support students in their learning and the employer has refused to consider them."

In a statement on their website, the CEC says just 68 per cent of staff cast a ballot in the strike vote.

"Even though only 40 per cent of the entire bargaining unit have expressed their support for a strike, the CAAT-A team now has their strike mandate," the statement reads.

Hornick says if a strike becomes necessary, it's going to be because the employer continues to refuse to actually negotiate.

"We have an offer out there for voluntary interest arbitration. The employer has a path actually to avoid labour disruption altogether but at every stage of this process and what's been really frustrating is that every time we've offered de-escalation they've gone down the road of trying to ramp it up."

CEC says that during the pandemic, the Colleges have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to labour stability for faculty.

Faculty have not been laid off and new full-time positions have been filled, and they're urging the CAAT-A team not to jeopardize student learning during the winter semester.

Hornick says there are a number of outstanding issues at play, including workload improvement.

"We have preparation and evaluation factors that haven't changed since 1985 despite online learning, despite universal design and learning that's intended to support supports. Literally at the maximum we're given five minutes per week per student to evaluate their work."

Hornick says they've also proposed creating a workload task force that has a dispute resolution mechanism included, because they've had four of these task forces since 1985, all headed by the employer and none of them have managed to make changes to support students in classes.

Hornick hopes that this strike vote will be the CEC's incentive to start negotiating for real.

Ontario college faculty give notice of possible labour action

AM800 CKLW – December 13, 2021



(AM800 file photo)

The union representing thousands of Ontario college faculty members says it has given notice of possible labour action that could start as early as this weekend.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union says it gave the College Employer Council five days' notice that its members could begin working to rule.

OPSEU says members voted 59 per cent in favour of a strike mandate over the weekend.

The union says it issued the notice after the council, which represents college employers in the province, announced it would impose employment conditions on faculty.

The council, meanwhile, says it announced the changes last week before the strike vote took place.

It says the conditions taking effect Monday are meant to improve working conditions for employees, and include a wage increase.

Windsor EV manufacturing gains micro plant with macro ambitions

Electric Autonomy Canada – December 14, 2021



Automobility Enterprises is establishing a micro manufactory in Windsor Ontario, their work on converting vehicles to electric has already begun.

Automobility Enterprises, a division of the newly launched Canadian Automobility Hub, plans to draw on local and global partners to meet an emerging demand for specialty, small series EV production runs

When Christoph Lienemann was in California a couple years ago helping lay the groundwork for the creation of the California Mobility Center (CMC), the North America managing director of German engineering services firm PEM Motion noticed a plethora of machines in an agricultural field.

The harvesting machines, with their outstretched arms and storage compartments, bolted around the field and grabbed a series of almond trees one at a time. After shaking the tree, hundreds upon hundreds of almonds would fall to the ground, and the driver would vacuum the fallen nuts into the vehicle.

Watching from afar, Lienemann — introduced last month as one of four directors of Automobility Enterprises, a new, Windsor, Ont.-based electric vehicle micro manufacturing company — realized a flexible manufacturing hub could bolster the harvesting fleet, but with electric vehicles.

That insight helped inspire the Ramp-Up Factory, a micro manufacturing facility, which opened in July at the CMC, to help early-stage electric mobility companies commercialized their technologies.

Model for success

Now Automobility Enterprises, a division of the new <u>Canadian Automobility Hub</u>, also unveiled last month, wants to use the same manufacturing model to build its own commercial success in Windsor.

The company will be housed downtown in a building owned by Windsor Mold, partners in the venture with <u>PEM</u> Motion and Integris Software of Ottawa, and is expected to be fully operational next year.

The rest of the hub, meanwhile, which opened last month at Windsor's St. Clair College, will serve as a one-stop shop for EV manufacturing, innovation, and research. Partners in the hub include Invest WindsorEssex, the University of Windsor and St. Clair College, along with PEM Motion, <u>Windsor Mold</u> and Integris.

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"My first time in Windsor was 2019," Lienemann says. "I was introduced to the Invest WindsorEssex team, told them about this idea, and they really liked it as they also wanted to make Windsor a bit more focused on future technologies like electric vehicles."

Automobility Enterprises' Windsor micro plant will be focused on manufacturing zero-emission EVs, like <u>fleet</u> operators and commercial vehicles, that require the production of 5,000 to 10,000 units or less.

The company's first business contract has already been signed. The micro manufacturer will help convert two vehicles from an electricity distribution company in Windsor, ENWIN Utilities, from gas to electric.

Local connections

Though PEM Motion is a key partner in the facility, Lienemann says local connections will play a large role in the facility having its own autonomy.

"It's never a PEM facility," Lienemann says. "We want to be a partner, bring knowledge and lessons learned from Aachem [Germany, PEM's headquarters] to the ideas, but we want to build something local with the partners and create an ecosystem there."

The micro plant will be run by a team of four directors including Karl Anton, a former manufacturing director for Ford now with PEM Motion, Integris' managing director Randy Zadra, who has experience working for the National Research Council of Canada, Windsor Mold's Dave Mastronardi, and Lienemann. The board is still looking to hire a general manager.

As a micro manufacturer, rather than competing on volume, Automobility Enterprises can be more flexible, expend less capital, and address the needs of new, unique customers more quickly.

"I think we can be much quicker with the industrialization of products in the ramp-up, so that's a huge advantage for startups if they're more tied to the market and want to be quick," he says.

"There's Ford, Volkswagen, which go in the one thousand, one million [automobile] volumes, that's not our competition."

Strong manufacturing history

Lienemann admits there are challenges to navigate with a micro manufacturer; specifically, attracting orders from bigger clients and building up manufacturing talent in the Windsor region's growing EV industry.

However, he is excited at the prospect of growing Automobility Enterprises in Windsor, as the region's strong history in automobile manufacturing played a significant role in opening a plant in the area.

"Windsor's led the automotive industry in Canada since 1904, that was the year Henry Ford and Gordon Morton McGregor set up the first Ford manufacturing facility here in Windsor," says Stephen MacKenzie, president and CEO of Invest WindsorEssex.

With two OEMs, 85 to 90 parts companies, and roughly 350 machine tool and die and mold businesses still in the region, MacKenzie adds, the micro plant will build on Windsor's automotive manufacturing history by adapting to an industry that's rapidly shifting towards zero-emission vehicles and green technology.

He also believes the micro plant's ability to cater to specific niches is a significant boon to the business.

"Many OEMs are not set up, and it's not of interest to them, for a 20,000 or 10,000 run," MacKenzie says. "But with these niche micro factories, ramp-up factories, we can produce white label vehicles for fleets that their main product is a delivery vehicle."

Amazing ecosystem

Lienemann's immediate goals with the micro plant, once it's up and running, will be to complete its work for ENWIN, hire more talent, and secure more contracts. As the business scales up, Lienemann says its aim is to score contracts for 1,000 or 2,000 vehicles.

In the long run, however, he hopes to establish an ecosystem that fosters future technology development — through research and development — between companies in the region similar to that in Aachen. "Windsor is really an automotive and manufacturing region with a huge history in both, so we wanted to leverage this amazing ecosystem which is already there."

Full Board Minutes: January 25, 2022

Fanshawe College shifting to online studies amid Omicron concerns

Canada.com - Dec 16, 2021



The college said Thursday it will shift more classes online in January and require staff to work at home where possible to try to slow the spread of the more contagious COVID-19 Omicron variant.

London-based Fanshawe College will move to online studies in the new year amid the growing threat of the COVID-19 Omicron variant.

Fanshawe said Thursday it also will extend the holiday break for students that starts Dec. 24. The winter semester will now begin Monday Jan. 10, instead of Jan. 5.

The end date for classes of April 22, 2022, remains the same.

Winter semester orientation week activities also will move online, the college said.

"The health and safety of Fanshawe students, staff and the community remain our top priority," said Michele Beaudoin, vice-president of student services.

"Based on public health recommendations to slow the spread of COVID-19, the college is changing some plans for the winter 2022 semester, including a shift to more online classes and a requirement for staff to work remotely wherever possible."

Blended programs will offer more online content, with in-person teaching and lab activity available as needed, the college said.

More changes, such as restrictions on access to athletic facilities, may follow, the college added. Fanshawe has satellite campuses across the region, in Woodstock, Simcoe and St. Thomas.

Western University said Tuesday it was moving some final exams online as a "precautionary measure" in the face of Omicron's rapid growth in the London area.

At St. Clair College in Windsor, with a satellite campus in Chatham, there are no plans to change course, vice-president Waseem Habash said.

Ninety per cent of students studied in person during the fall semester, he said. Exams finished this week and domestic students will return to class Jan. 10.

"We're honestly not changing our plans until we are directed so," Habash said. "If direction is given, we will adjust."

Sarnia's Lambton College did not respond to requests for comment. Full Board Minutes:
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St. Clair College, UWindsor adjust plans for winter semester

Windsor Star - Dec 17, 2021



The St. Clair College campus in Windsor is shown in this January 2021 file photo.

The University of Windsor announced a shift to virtual online learning for at least the first two weeks of the winter term due to concerns over the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

University officials announced several measures Friday including a two-week delay to the start of January classes.

"Unfortunately, the pandemic continues to evolve rapidly and there are still many unknowns about the COVID Omicron variant," said an online statement from UWindsor President Robert Gordon and interim Provost Patti Weir. "As part of our ongoing commitment to the health and safety of our campus community, we are taking swift and proactive steps to respond to the next potential COVID-19 threat that is Omicron."

The statement defined the new measures as "temporary adjustments" to the plan for a gradual return to campus for the winter term.

The university also announced that exams will continue to be held in person. The last of fall exams wrap up early next week and the library and campus study spaces remain open until Dec. 22.

After the holiday break, the first day of class will be Jan. 17 instead of Jan. 6. There are exceptions for undergraduate students in nursing and education which require a Jan. 3 start to accommodate clinical requirements.

"We've pushed things back to give people some breathing space and time to get that third booster shot," said Jess Dixon, a professor of kinesiology and the chair of the university's return to campus action group.

Dixon said the university was able to continue with in-person exams because of a cautious approach that saw a limited return of just 25 per cent of the student body on campus last fall. Exams are conducted with 20 students or less and all of them are spaced two metres apart.

Other universities, such as Western in London, made a quick pivot to an online exam schedule this week.

The UWindsor campus closes for the holidays from Dec. 23 to Jan. 5, an extension of two days.

At this time, Dixon said the university will not make a booster vaccine a requirement for being on campus but that could change if the Ontario government alters the definition of fully vaccinated to include a third shot.

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"We adapted the definition of full vaccinated that's being used by the ministry," Dixon said. "We will adapt as they adapt."

As for the immediate future of varsity athletics, Dixon said the board of directors for Ontario University Athletics was meeting Friday.

While some Ontario universities have closed their athletic facilities until the end of January, UWindsor plans to keep its facilities open with stringent safety protocols and capacity restrictions.

"We're going to try and do our best to allow those things to remain open with restrictions," Dixon said.

The online statement said formal and informal university in-person gatherings should be postponed and meetings should be held virtually.

The two-week delay in starting the winter term will also push the last day of classes back two weeks but a condensed exam schedule will ensure all programs are done by the end of April.

Dixon said reading week will remain in place for Feb. 20.

Restrictions for students living in residence were "forthcoming," according to Dixon, but he added there are no plans right now to close residences.

St. Clair College announced that the first semester of programs primarily populated by international students will be delivered online since current COVID-19 travel restrictions don't allow those students into Canada.

Waseem Habash, the college's vice president of academics, posted details about the winter 2022 term on the school website, noting that admission statistics show there are 24 programs where international students make up the majority of each class.

Habash said the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship recently announced additional measures to support international students by allowing them to complete their entire program online from abroad and still be eligible for a post-graduate work permit.

"As a result of this new development, the college has decided that all Winter 2022 first semester courses will be delivered online," Habash said, noting there were four exceptions to that delivery model.

Due to the nature of their content, the first semester for Electrical Techniques, English for Academic Purposes, Personal Support Worker and Pre-Health Sciences Pathway to Advanced Diplomas and Degrees will be held in person.

The college had previously announced that students in a second to sixth semester of a program will continue to attend face-to-face classes for the winter term. The majority of St. Clair students returned to in-person learning for the fall semester.

Thursday, Fanshawe College in London, announced it was switching more programs to online learning for its winter term in the face of rising case counts and an Omicron variant outbreak in that city. The college also extended the holiday break by five days and encouraged staff to work remotely whenever possible.

"No changes at this time," Habash wrote in a Friday email when asked if similar pivots were planned at St. Clair.

St. Clair Makes Changes To Winter Semester

windsoriteDOTca News Staff - Sunday December 19th, 2021



St. Clair College announced Sunday that will temporary pause in-person gathering on campuses, until vaccinations (particularly boosters) and other control methods help to bring this current outbreak under control.

For all returning post-secondary students, classes will be delayed one week and commence on January 17th, 2022; however, in-person classes and labs will be delayed until January 24th, 2022.

At this time, March Break will continue as planned and the Winter semester will end on April 29th, 2022.

For all first year, first semester post-secondary students, your start date will also commence on January 17th, 2022. All programs will continue to remain online for the entire semester, with the exception of the first semester courses in the following four programs due to the nature of their delivery:

- Electrical Techniques (T947)
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
- Personal Support Worker (H932 and K933)
- Pre-Health Sciences Pathway to Advanced Diplomas and Degrees (C904)

"We ask all of you to please review the College's policies to ensure that you continue your efforts in following the health and safety protocols while on campus. As a reminder, we are advising all staff and students that if you are feeling unwell, to please stay home. Thank you for your efforts and we look forward to seeing you all safely back on campus on January 24th, 2022, read a joint statement by Patricia France, President and Waseem Habash Vice President, Academic.

St. Clair College pushes back in-person classes in January due to pandemic

College anticipating Jan. 24 in-person return

CBC News · Dec 20, 2021



St. Clair College told students that they will now virtually begin classes on Jan. 17 — a week later than expected. The return to in-person learning is scheduled for Jan. 24. (Submitted by St. Clair College)

St. Clair College is pushing back the start of its in-person classes in January due to COVID-19.

In a news release sent out to student and staff Sunday, the college said it is delaying classes by one week and students will begin virtually on Jan. 17. The plan, according to the school, is to be back to in-person learning on Jan. 24.

The college said the delay is due to the new Omicron variant's "high degree of transmissibility" and that it is waiting on vaccinations, boosters and other control methods to "help bring this current outbreak under control."

All placements, the school said, will continue as scheduled, unless students are told otherwise. As well, all staff will upload their teaching materials online.

First semester post-secondary students will remain online for the entire semester, except for the following four programs:

- Electrical Techniques.
- English for Academic Purposes.
- Personal Support Worker.
- Pre-Health Sciences Pathway to Advanced Diplomas and Degrees.

March Break is expected to run as planned and the winter semester will end on April 29.

Last week, the University of Windsor also delayed the start of in-person classes in the new year. It told students the earliest they could possibly be <u>back on campus is Jan. 31</u>.

UPDATE: University of Windsor and St. Clair College making changes in 2022



Photo courtesy of the University of Windsor. Blackburn News - December 18, 2021

The University of Windsor and St. Clair College are making temporary adjustments for next semester in response to the threat of the Omicron variant.

"Any formal or informal University in-person gatherings should be postponed, and meetings should be held virtually where possible starting immediately," a letter from Rob Gordon, the university's president read.

In-person exams, for the current semester, will continue as scheduled.

According to the university, the holiday break has been extended to Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Employees are being asked to work remotely from that date, if possible.

The start date for the winter semester has been changed to Monday, January 17, 2022.

Classes will be held virtually, except for some previously planned practicums and clinical rotations.

"On-campus classes, activities, and work for students, faculty, and staff in the Winter term will resume as soon as it is possible to do so. We will provide at least two weeks' notice regarding the return to campus," the university said.

The University of Windsor said it is working in collaboration with local and provincial health authorities and will follow their direction in regards to opening back up to in-person learning.

At St. Clair, the winter semester will start on January 17, and the first week will be online. Spokesman John Fairley said the hope to is to return to face-to-face learning on January 24.

"At this time, the March break (reading week) will continue as planned and the Winter semester will end on April 29th, 2022," wrote Fairley.

More information is available at the UWindsor website.

Western University, Fanshawe College, and Lambton College have recently taken similar steps.

St. Clair College postpones classes amid virus surge

Windsor Star - Dec 20, 2021



Windsor, Windsor, Ontario. April 27, 2020. Front entrance at St. Clair College's main campus Monday.

St. Clair College is the latest post-secondary institution to postpone the start of its winter semester and move classes online amid a surge of COVID-19 cases across the country driven by the Omicron variant.

St. Clair College president Patricia France and academic vice-president Waseem Habash announced Monday the college will delay in-person classes by two weeks, and delay the start of the winter semester by one week.

St. Clair College postpones classes amid virus surge

Classes will be delayed one week and start January 17, though in-person classes and labs will start January 24. All classes in the week in between will be held online, recorded and posted to an online teaching platform.

"The St. Clair website will continue to be updated regularly as information becomes available," the statement said. "We ask all of you to please review the College's policies to ensure that you continue your efforts in following the health and safety protocols while on campus."

Officials attributed the shift specifically to the outbreak of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

"Its high degree of transmissibility merits a temporary pause in our in-person gathering on campuses, until vaccinations (particularly boosters) and other control methods help to bring this current outbreak under control," officials said.

March break is set to proceed as scheduled, and the college noted placements will continue as planned unless otherwise noted. The winter semester is set to end April 29.

Most programs for first year, first semester students will be online the entire semester, with few exceptions based on how programs are delivered. Students were notified in early December, officials said.

Officials reminded all staff and students to stay home if they are unwell.

The St. Clair website will continue to be updated regularly as information becomes available. We ask all of you to please review the college's policies to ensure that you continue your efforts in following the health and safety protocols while on campus.

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College delays start of winter semester

AM800 CKLW - Monday, December 20, 2021



Photo courtesy: St. Clair College

Due to the Omicron variant of COVID-19 and new provincial health restrictions, St. Clair College is delaying the start of the winter session by one week.

The first week of classes will now begin Monday, January 17th and will be held online.

The college has announced face-to-face in-person classes will resume Monday, January 24th.

The March Break will continue as planned, and the winter semester will end April 29th.

College teams with Geopogo to create virtual reality model of city, equip students with new skills

Windsor Star - Dec 20, 2021



St. Clair College research assistants, Kaitlyn Cotey, and Brian Gernon, left, are pictured in the virtual reality cave at the Automobility and Innovation Centre where a 3D twinning of the city of Windsor is projected onto the screen, on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

The virtual world is becoming a reality for St. Clair College students who are partnering with the augmented reality design and construction firm Geopogo.

The Silicon Valley-based company joined the college and Invest WindsorEssex in building a 3D model of Windsor (designwindsor.com) that went live at the Automobility and Innovation Centre's virtual reality cave in mid-November. The college will also incorporate the software and technology provided into several programs.

In addition, Geopogo plans to establish an office in Windsor in 2022.

"I've never seen something like this before in terms of the scope," said St. Clair College's director of innovation, research and entrepreneurship, Peter Wawrow.

"The entire city and Detroit has been modelled. Having that is a huge benefit to urban and transit planters, manufacturing.

"The fact that it will be available for anyone to download is a huge benefit, as well."

Wawrow said the timing of Geopogo's creative director and St. Clair graduate, Mike Hoppe, reaching out with the concept was fortuitous.

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen the growth of virtual reality explode.

"We've been working on some virtual-type of projects already with manufacturing and the VR Cave," Wawrow said. "The pandemic really solidified the virtual world is here to stay.

"When you look at the programs we have, architecture, construction, civil engineering technologies, manufacturing, interior design, getting them into the 3D world is a good next step.

"Expanding the college's capacity and capability in the 3D world is beneficial for many of our students and helps the region build the skill sets required for the future."

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Wawrow said it's too early to tell whether the partnership is going to require any additional investment by the college beyond having the necessary software and computer capacity.

The college's digital twinning team has worked with their counterparts at the Automobility and Innovation Centre to install the basic platform for use at Canada's largest publicly accessible virtual reality cave. The process has now begun to scan buildings and their surroundings to create detailed, 3D images for input into the model.

"When I was in the architecture program (at St. Clair College) we had always dreamt of the concept of a full 3D model of the city and we could never achieve it and that was only 10 years ago or less," Hoppe said.

"Now we have entire regions done. What we're moving into as I explore my relationships with St. Clair's digital twin team and Invest WindsorEssex, is a complete 1:1 scale of the entirety of the city — all buildings, mapped, textured, terrains, heights, topography, weather simulations."



St. Clair College research assistants, Kaitlyn Cotey, and Brian Gernon, left, are pictured in the virtual reality cave at the Automobility and Innovation Centre where a 3D twinning of the city of Windsor is projected onto the screen, on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

Invest WindsorEssex's Senior Manager of the Automobility and Innovation-Simulation Team Ed Dawson said the attraction for the local economic development organization was twofold.

It adds an innovative tool for regional planning and development and is part of an attempt by Invest WindsorEssex's to lure Geopogo to Windsor to diversify the local economy.

"We've shown them the resources and support we can offer by getting it into the VR Cave to give a real platform to launch this model," Dawson said.

"They know they have an ecosystem behind them."

Dawson said the value to local planners, companies and citizens is the tool lets you envision a project, propose changes to existing infrastructure and the impact those changes will have without the expense and at a much quicker pace.

"You'll be able to envision anywhere in Windsor," Dawson said.

"In developing new projects, it allows people to actually visualize it, so it's much easier to understand what is being proposed and what it will look like."

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Hoppe said the program will help planners and residents build the city they really want because of its ability to be inclusive. He wants to be part of that process by returning to his hometown.

"The plan is to open a Geopogo office in Windsor next year," said Hoppe, who still has family in town.

"Vancouver and Toronto want us to go there. I'm from Windsor and I have direct input in this decision.

"I want to build Windsor by getting companies like Geopogo to come to Windsor.

"It's not just the auto industry that's going to transform the city. We must open new channels to the future economy."

The 3D modelling includes Detroit, making it useful for the cross-border autonomous vehicle initiatives between Ontario and Michigan. The program is also being tested out by select architects on both sides of the border and a Detroit developer.

By making the software available for anyone to download onto their computer, Hoppe said it will give residents a voice in urban and transit planning as the city tries to re-design its core.

"We create these things to give anybody the opportunity to explore and express their design visions through civic projects," said Hoppe, who began his quest to build a digital twin of the city during his early days at the Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator before heading west.

"We can create and gamify tools that are traditionally highly focused software suites and give the public the tools to say, 'This is my proposal for how I think the Celestial Beacon should be or where on the riverfront it should be.'

"I know a new community transit group has formed and they'll have the opportunity to simulate bus patterns. They could do bus maps, move bus stops and show the simulated effects and outcomes."

Hoppe has also chatted with officials from the Ambassador and Gordie Howe Bridges about getting 3D scans of their infrastructure to incorporate into the model.

"We can simulate regional traffic and traffic outcomes," Hoppe said. "We can see the future of our region 10 years out.

"For students in architecture and engineering, we have an opportunity to give them an incredibly powerful tool."

Sleighing Hunger benefit concert cancelled over COVID-19 concerns

Event was to be held Thursday in support of Windsor-Essex food banks

CBC News · Dec 20, 2021



The annual Sleighing Hunger benefit concert, featuring the S'Aints, has been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Donations in support of Windsor-Essex food banks can still be made through the event's website.

Windsor's annual Sleighing Hunger benefit concert has been cancelled for 2021, but organizers hope donations will keep coming through regardless.

The concert — which would have featured the S'Aints and raised funds for local food banks — was to take place Thursday at Caesars Windsor, but the venue cancelled the show, as well as other December events, due to new COVID-19 restrictions.

"It's a mixed bag of emotions," S'Aints drummer Jeff Burrows told CBC Radio's *Afternoon Drive* on Monday. "I do understand what needs to be done, and I do understand what each and every one of us should be doing in order to prevent further spread, further shutdowns, further lockdowns, further deaths."

"It's unfortunate, but I get it."

This isn't the first year Sleighing Hunger has been affected by COVID-19; the virus meant last year's event had to take place virtually.

Burrows said St. Clair College, which he called "essentially the executive producer" of the Sleighing Hunger show, the college's alumni association, and (Labourers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) Local 625, were also involved in the fundraising end of Sleighing Hunger.

"They've been combining their efforts to pay for this, pay for that, and to get the whole fundraising aspect of it started, even before we hit the stage," he said. The collaboration has meant Sleighing Hunger has already donated \$10,000 to Outreach for Hunger in Chatham, and \$15,000 to the Windsor-Essex County Food Bank Association.

In addition, the S'Aints are donating proceeds from CD sales to area food banks, Burrows said. And while tickets purchases are being refunded, Burrows said he hoped people who had purchased tickets will consider donating those refunds directly to Sleighing Hunger.

"When you're chugging along, making \$75,000 a year, hoping to better it this year, it's pretty frustrating to just be stalled almost immediately," Burrows said. "But that's the way it is lately."

St. Clair College delays start of Winter semester by a week



The entrance to St. Clair College's main campus in Windsor. Photo taken August 22, 2019.

CTVNewsWindsor.ca - Dec. 21, 2021

London, Ont. - St. Clair College is delaying the start of its winter semester by one week, due to the Omicron variant.

The first week of classes will begin Monday January 17, 2022 and will be held online.

In-person classes will resume Monday January 24, 2022.

OCAA Delays Start To Winter Season

Chatham-Kent Sports Network - <u>December 22, 2021</u>



the St. Clair Saints - Photo by CKSN.ca

The Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) has announced a two week delay of the start to their winter season, which will be "reevaluated as per the trajectory of the pandemic."

The OCAA governs college sport in Ontario, including competition by area schools such as St. Clair College, Fanshawe College, and Lambton College.

According to an OCAA news release,

"This decision was made based on a number of factors including the higher transmission rate of the new Omicron variant of COVID-19 and in response to the request from Ontario Public Health to reduce interactions and impose additional measures."

Impacted sports include badminton, basketball, curling, indoor soccer and volleyball.

New training opportunities will help address labour shortage: McNaughton

Businesses in virtually every sector across the province are struggling to find enough workers, a problem that Ontario's labour minister has made a priority over the past year.

Chatham Daily News - Dec 22, 2021



Windsor resident Cynthia Urbano, 44, is fulfilling her dream of being a mechanic thanks to a women in trades program she took at St. Clair College. She is seen here Wednesday working at Team Truck Centres Windsor, which provided her a substantial pay increase. Photo by Handout

Businesses in virtually every sector across the province are struggling to find enough workers, a problem that Ontario's labour minister has made a priority over the past year.

"By far, the biggest concern employers have is the labour shortage," said Monte McNaughton, the MPP for Lambton–Kent–Middlesex. "They're having a hard time attracting and retaining workers in their businesses."

When the pandemic struck, Ontario had 200,000 jobs going unfilled daily, a number that has since jumped to 316,000 jobs. That need is delivering a \$25-billion hit to the economy annually, McNaughton said.

The bulk of his ministry's work over the past year has been focused on filling labour shortages by investing heavily in the promotion of skilled trades to attract younger workers and target underrepresented sectors of the population, such as Indigenous people.

Providing access to training is critical to addressing the labour shortage, McNaughton said, which is why the ministry extended this opportunity to Ontario residents on social assistance, including Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program.

"This is a priority for me going forward is to help the almost one-million people on social assistance get training for in-demand jobs in their own communities."

Provincial training programs have been undergoing a transformation over the past year, creating a new model to help meet the demand for jobs, McNaughton said.

One of the biggest changes was the Second Career program, which provides up to \$28,000 for someone to be retrained. This program wasn't previously offered to social assistance recipients, but that changed with the Ford government, McNaughton said.

"I believe that governments of all stripes for the past 20 years or more have basically left people on social assistance without ever helping them get off and provide the necessary training to help them build better their lives for themselves and their families" McNaughton said.

There were some statistics that McNaughton found sobering. Only one per cent of people on social assistance find work, the minister said, while one in four people on Ontario Works remain in the program for five years. For those who do live Ontario Works, nearly half need to return to social assistance within a year, he added.

"I want to give people confidence, pride and stability that a meaningful career offers them and their families," McNaughton said. "We can't leave people behind. We owe it to these workers and their families to do better. This means doing things differently."

Windsor resident Cynthia Urbano wasn't on social assistance, but the 44-year-old single mother of four took advantage of a women in trades training program offered through St. Clair College to fulfil her dream of becoming a mechanic.

In her final year of the truck and coach technician pre-apprenticeship program, she has already landed a well-paying job with Team Truck Centre Windsor.

She had spent years working as a medical secretary and then as a personal support worker but, for years, had wanted to become a mechanic.

"Health care was not something I wanted to pursue. It was just available," Urbano said.

After being accepted into the program, "I put all my eggs in one basket, sold my house to downsize, went to the college and it's been a great experience since," she said.

Urbano said her 19-year-old daughter and 16-year-old son are now considering entering the skilled trades.

She has already touted the benefits of apprenticeships to her children, noting there are plenty of job opportunities and no student debt when finished. The provincial government also provides grants of up to \$1,000 to help newly employed apprentices purchase needed tools.

Urbano credited the pre-apprenticeship program with providing her the opportunity to show a male-dominated industry her strengths.

She added she has "not only become a better woman, but a better parent with the ability support herself and her four children as a single mom."

McNaughton said there are also examples of Ontarians moving from social assistance to manufacturing jobs with pensions and benefits. There are also in-demand job opportunities in other sectors, including heavy equipment operation, social work and health care field, McNaughton added.

The 700 Employment Ontario locations across the province are there to help people find the training and job opportunities that are right for them, McNaughton said.

He said the provincial government is even buying work boots and transit passes, or helping people earn a driver's licence or write a resumé, to remove any barriers to getting a job.

McNaughton said Ontario is the first jurisdiction in North America to embrace this new approach to help lift people out of social assistance and get them into meaningful jobs.

"It's all hands on deck to fill the labour shortage, but most important just to give people more pride."

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Bruhlman Sets The Tone With A Decade Of Anthems

Chatham-Kent Sports Network - January 3, 2022



In the moments prior to puck drop, a familiar electricity fills the arena.

The starting lineup stands on their respective bluelines, and the anthem singer steps to the ice to complete a rendition of "O Canada."

At Chatham's Memorial Arena, prior to Chatham Maroons games, for the last ten years that moment has been produced, and song sung by Chatham's Alexis Bruhlman. For Bruhlman, it's been a family affair since she was born, including her great grandfather, who owned the team in the 1980s.

"My family has always had strong ties with the Chatham Maroons," Bruhlman explained. "I've always always had a passion for singing. I used to compete for years before I even began with the Maroons. They were looking for a new national anthem singer and asked if I would want to sing. And they've kept me around ever since."

That was a decade ago, when Bruhlman first started singing for the Chatham Maroons at age nine.

She still clearly remembers that first anthem.

"This tiny little nine-year-old on the ice with these huge hockey players was very intimidating. But I had my whole family in the crowd, and all of the fans cheering when I was done. I remember feeling on top of the world."

"Singing for the Maroons has always been so special to me, it's something that not many people can say that they've done. The Maroons family has always treated me like one of their own, and it's been an honour to be a part of this team for a decade now."

Now studying to be a paramedic at St. Clair College, and working for Zimmer Air Service in Blenheim, Bruhlman has sung prior to hundreds of Maroons games, regular season and playoffs, but she still gets nervous, and still enjoys the Eparameters:

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"I still get nervous from time to time, especially when there are events or awards before the game. I always want to perform my best and start the game off on a good note. Everyone in that arena have always cheered me on from day one, making these past ten years so special to me."

In December, the Maroons recognized Bruhlman's ten years of service with the organization. She believes in giving back, and plans to continue singing and setting the tone for Chatham Maroons games for the foreseeable future.

"It's become a tradition for me, every Sunday night I get to sing for our Chatham Maroons. The maroons volunteer with so many other organizations within Chatham Kent, and I think it's important to see young people volunteer in the community as well."

The next time you attend a Chatham Maroons game, and are asked to please rise and remove your hat for the singing of our national anthem, be sure to add extra applause for Chatham's Alexis Bruhlman.

St. Clair president proud of college's accomplishments in 2021

AM800 CKLW - Monday, January 3rd 2022



Photo courtesy: St. Clair College

Looking back at 2021, the president of St. Clair College says she's grateful for all the hard work her staff has done as COVID-19 continues to challenge the education sector.

Patti France says, thanks to a successful vaccine roll out, St. Clair was one of the only post-secondary institutions in the province to offer in-person classes for the fall semester.

She says keeping the college open was a team effort.

"So very thankful for the efforts of our staff and our students and following the safety protocols that were in place throughout the fall semester, and they truly went above and beyond the call of duty," she continued. "These efforts allowed us to successfully complete the semester on campus."

France says enrollment was at an all-time high despite the pandemic.

"We had record enrollment, not by much, but we did. We have over 14,000 students, including the students in our Toronto campus, and we're looking forward to continuing that enrollment trend in January."

France says the pandemic didn't hold the college back in 2021 as it opened several new facilities such as the Sports Park and a new residence for students.

The coming year will see the completion of more projects including a state-of-the-art E-sports arena, the Zekelman Centre of Business and Information Technology and the transformation of the college's Cabana Rd. entrance.

Windsor Regional prepared to resurrect field hospital to increase bed capacity

Windsor Star - Jan 06, 2022



Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj is seen inside the field hospital built inside the St. Clair College SportPlex. Photo by Nick Brancaccio /Windsor Star

Windsor Regional Hospital officials are dusting off plans for resurrecting the field hospital at St. Clair College as 'the crunch weeks' of the cresting wave of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 looms this month.

With the hospital's two campuses already approaching 85 per cent bed occupancy, there's a fear the explosion of cases expected in the next 14 days could overwhelm the system.

"We've had preliminary discussions with the college and, if we need to do that, the field hospital could be up and fully running in seven to 10 days," Windsor Regional's CEO David Musyj said. "We don't want to do that if we don't need to.

"There's also an issue of will we have the human resources to do that and what type of patients go in there."

The hospital has tripled scheduled each shift's position to ensure there are backups in the case of employee illness. Currently there are 363 staff members isolating due to close contact or infected with COVID-19 among the hospital's 4,800 employees.



Windsor Regional Hospital's field hospital at the St. Clair College SportsPlex is shown on Friday, April 17, 2020.

Chief of Staff Dr. Wassim Saad this wave of Omicron presents different challenges than the first two variants.

In the pandemic's first year, preserving ICU beds was the concern, but now it's ward beds.

Currently there are six patients in the Intensive Care Unit and 44 patients overall in hospital due to COVID.

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There are seven critical care, 11 surgical, 17 medical and four pediatric beds currently open, along with some family birthing and mental health beds.

"I don't expect our critical case capacity will be overloaded," Saad said. "It's more the medical beds we're focused on."

Windsor Regional's Chief Nursing Executive and COO Karen Riddell said the need for a field hospital will be dictated by load balancing of beds.

Riddell said all hospitals assess their bed occupancy and staffing levels two or three times daily. During COVID, patients have been moved around the region and province to help maintain that load balance.

"When there's no capacity to move patients around the city, region or province, that's when we'll have to pull the trigger (to open the field hospital)," Riddell said.

Musyj said a field hospital would be for recovering patients, not acute care. He's also optimistic the lessons learned from the first three waves plus, the impact of vaccines and other supporting medicines will prevent that need from developing.

Hotel Dieu-Grace Healthcare also provides a back-up scenario for non-acute care beds.

"We haven't seen the full impact of Omicron yet," Musyj said.

"The crunch weeks are going to be January 10 and 17 based on forecasts. Unfortunately, they are going to be a very difficult time for our healthcare system."

Musyj said he expects the next four to six weeks to be rough for health care, but based on experiences reported elsewhere, the variant could peter out as rapidly as it arrived.

"Because it moves so quickly, it's possible it'll be over more quickly," Musyj said. "By mid-February or the end of February things could stabilize."

University, college sports teams frustrated over being shut down

Windsor Star - Jan 06, 2022



Ron Sequin, vice-president of student services at St. Clair College, pictured on Thursday, January 6, 2021, is lobbying to allow university and college athletes to compete as elite sports teams which will at least allow them to continue practicing.

Thousands of university and college athletes across Ontario, including those at University of Windsor and St. Clair College, are among those shut down from even staging practices due to the latest COVID-19 restrictions announced by the provincial government on Monday.

Their angst has been further triggered by a government exemption granted to professional sports teams and those deemed as having "elite amateur" status, but failed to include athletes playing for schools under the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) and Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA).

Among those allowed by the government to carry on are athletes training for the Olympics and Paralympics or playing for teams in junior hockey leagues, junior lacrosse, OSBA basketball and U-18 Elite baseball.

The OUA previously agreed to shut down any games until Jan. 24 before the latest restrictions, but now over 6,000 winter-sport athletes at its 20 member universities across Ontario are "frustrated" at not receiving any consideration of also being exempt and considered "elite," said Gord Grace, president for the OUA.

"They simply reverted back to last summer when they made the list on elite status," he said. "We were not on that original list. There was no process at all, they just brought that list back out.

"All we are asking is to allow our athletes to continue training, so that once these restrictions come off, they can start playing games right away. Without that ability, they are going to need a ramp-up period to get some training done and that will further delay the start of their seasons."

Grace, a former athletic director at the University of Windsor, is among those within the university and college athletic ranks who quickly launched a lobbying effort after Monday's announcement directed at Lisa MacLeod, the province's minister of heritage, sport and tourism.

He believes the issue is at least being taken under consideration.

"Right away, we began reaching out to the ministry," Grace said. "We have had a number of conversations with their staff people. We can only hope they are listening.

Full Board Minutes: January 25, 2022

"We certainly understand the difficulties due to the Omicron variant, how it's very contagious and we don't want to be a further burden on the health system. But during the fall we already have shown we could do training and play games in a very responsible manner. All we are asking is for our athletes to at least be allowed to train."

More than 100 athletes at St. Clair College who participate on their men's and women's basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer teams are among those also dismayed over not only having their games put on hold, but also having their team practices being shut down, said Ron Sequin, the college's vice-president of student services.

"We finished 17 fall sports without issues," he said. "With all the protocols and mitigation things we have in place we believe can allow these athletes to remain active safely, so that they can be ready (to resume games right away) whenever the (virus) numbers go down.

"Otherwise, it's very difficult at this level to just start up a season without preparing for it."

Seguin fails to understand why Ontario's university and college athletes are being denied the ability to train, especially when considering they would be doing so inside facilities which belong to and are under the control of each school — and are not public entities such as those used by junior hockey or pro teams.

"In the college world we all own are facilities, which is unique," he said. "Everything is under our control. We have already had safety protocols that have been in place for two years now. We have our own trainers and medical personnel. Everything that happens daily would be right under our nose if we can get the nod to be put on that elite list."

For athletes involved in winter sports at St. Clair and 24 other colleges across the province under the OCAA, they are facing the dreaded possibility their entire season will once again be cancelled for the second straight year.

"It's the unknown for them," Seguin said. "For them, it's 'my goodness, could things be cancelled two years in a row' and 'are we ever going to get out of this?'

"Being on the elite list doesn't get rid of all the testing or other safety protocols, but for them to have to sit and wait for the second straight year — and as we move closer to February worry if their sport will be cancelled again — is very frustrating for these student athletes."

Windsor Regional expecting capacity increase in coming weeks



Windsor Regional Hospital Ouellette Campus in Windsor, Ont., on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2021. (

CTV Windsor News - Jan. 7, 2022

Omicron is spreading rapidly across the province, and in Windsor-Essex the numbers aren't expected to peak until mid January, according to Windsor Regional Hospital.

"The weeks we have to be concerned about are definitely January 10th and January 17th for sure," says CEO David Musyj.

During Thursday's board meeting, Musyj said the healthcare system is about to face difficult times.

Waste water results from the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research at the University of Windsor show a dramatic rise of the Omicron variant at the end of last year.

"Basically not until almost New Year's Eve and January," says Musyj.

This time around, COVID-19 is expected to impact medical bed capacity and not the ICU at the hospital.

"If you had lets say 100 patients admitted with Delta, about 60 to 70 would be on the regular medical wards and about 30-40 would be ICU. Whereas with Omicron that ratio is closer to 90 to 10," says Dr. Wassim Saad, Chief of Staff.

44 patients are in hospital with COVID-19, including six in ICU.

Windsor Regional is currently operating at 85 per cent capacity.

"We gotta get bed occupancy to a level so we can handle what's gonna be coming and the estimates of what the province is estimating in addition to what we currently have is being able to add additional beds," says Musyj.

The hospital continues to speak with St. Clair College about the possibility of field hospital, if needed.

"The issue is gonna be aside from the health Human Resources to be able to run it, is what type of patients can go into it? It does not have diagnostic imaging, it's not meant for an acute care patient."

Critical care capacity not expected to be overwhelmed by Omicron, says WRH

Most critical time expected in next two weeks

CBC News · Jan 06, 2022



Windsor Regional Hospital is less concerned about overwhelming critical care beds while keeping a closer eye on how fast regular medical beds fill up. (Chris Ensing/CBC)

As the Omicron variant of COVID-19 spreads rapidly in the community, Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) doesn't believe the virus will overrun its critical care capacity.

Instead, the hospital's chief of staff is keeping a closer eye on regular hospital beds because Omicron has shown to be milder compared to the Delta variant. Following Thursday's board meeting, Dr. Wassim Saad said preliminary data shows for every 100 patients admitted to hospital with the Omicron variant, roughly 90 would occupy a regular bed and less than 10 would take up space in the ICU.

"I don't expect our critical care capacity to be overwhelmed or even come close to it with this wave," said Saad. "We're more worried about medical beds."

Saad also predicts that in four to six weeks the pandemic may be done.

"Everybody will either have been vaccinated, proved to be immune or unfortunately succumbed to the disease," said Saad. "But ultimately that's how you reach herd immunity."



Dr. Wassim Saad is chief of staff at Windsor Regional Hospital. (Amy Dodge/CBC)

Most critical time is next two weeks

Even with some light at the end of the tunnel, senior leadership at Windsor Regional Hospital said the most critical time period will be the next two weeks.

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"Staff is tired," said hospital CEO David Musyj. "As we get to this point, it's [staff being] nervous bordering on exhaustion."



Windsor Regional Hospital CEO David Musyj said the most critical time for COVID in Windsor-Essex is over the next two weeks. (Amy Dodge/CBC)

"We haven't seen the full impact of Omicron in our community and definitely not in the hospitals for another couple of weeks," he added.

Right now, there are 44 people at Windsor Regional Hospital with COVID-19 and 37 of them are being treated primarily for the disease. Six of those people are in the ICU, all being primarily treated for COVID-19. Five of them are unvaccinated and one is partially vaccinated.

Field hospital not necessary right now

There are ongoing discussions about the need for a field hospital in Windsor-Essex, which was previously at St. Clair College's sports complex. It would take 10 days to get it up and running. Right now, officials say there isn't a need as hospital occupancy is sitting at less than 85 per cent.

"We have a little bit of room, but this room can evaporate and unfortunately with the projections it's going to evaporate very quickly," said Musyj.

When looking at whether a field hospital is necessary, Chief Nursing Executive Karen Riddell said look at hospital capacity locally, in the southwest region and across the province.

If there's no capacity to move patients around, "we'll see that coming and that's when we'll probably have to pull the trigger" on activating the field hospital, she said.



Chief Nursing Executive Karen Riddell said they will activate the field hospital only if it's not possible to transfer patients anywhere else in Ontario. (Katerina Georgieva/CBC)

363 employees off work for COVID-related reasons

Another aspect that's complicating the situation is staff being off work for COVID-related reasons. As of Thursday, 363 hospital staff — or 7.5 per cent of the total 4,800 employees — couldn't report to work because they either tested positive for COVID or were a close contact with someone who did.

The number has been slowly increasing over the last week or so. On December 29, roughly 71 staff were off work due to COVID and on Monday that number was 221.

Musyj said they will not be recalling staff who were fired after refusing the COVID-19 vaccine. Roughly 50 hospital staff lost their jobs in October for not complying with the hospital policy.

"We have replaced them and then some since then," said Musyj. "If they want to re-apply, they can, but as vaccinated staff."

Vaccination coverage low in Windsor's COVID hot spots and among young adults

Windsor-Essex has lower vaccine rates for younger populations compared to province

CBC News · Jan 07, 2022



Ontario's Science Table has shared data showing that vaccination is key to reducing the risk of COVID-19 illnesses that require hospitalization. (Mary Altaffer/The Associated Press)

Students from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are spearheading a project aimed at discovering what young adults in Windsor-Essex consider to be the biggest factors in their decisions around COVID-19 vaccinations.

The <u>project</u> has so far found positive conversations about the benefits of vaccination along with increased access to transportation and availability of vaccines are key parts of a young adults decision process.

It's information that could be key for Windsor-Essex as the community sees rapid spread of the infectious Omicron variant with the health unit reporting lower vaccination rates for young adults and areas that are COVID-19 hot spots.

Provincial and national two dose vaccine coverage rates for people 18 to 29 currently sit at 82 per cent, about 7 percentage points higher than the coverage in Windsor-Essex.

"We noticed that with the younger student population the mindset is that we're healthy and if we get COVID we'll be fine," said Nellie Bordignon, a fourth year health and biomedical science student at the University of Windsor working with the team.

"Frankly, that's not true necessarily for everyone."



Why young adults in Windsor-Essex might be hesitant to get vaccinated

Unvaccinated walk-ins welcomed at mass vaccination clinics

The Ontario Science Table has shared data that shows while vaccinations may not prevent the spread of the Omicron variant, <u>data shows that two doses continue to offer over 90 per cent protection against hospitalization</u> and intensive care unit admission.

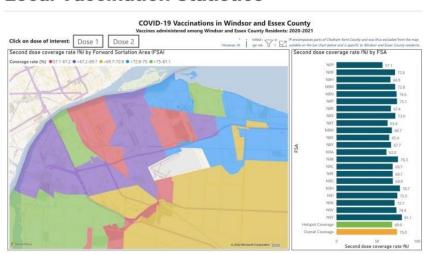
Omicron is being blamed for a surge in hospitalizations that are currently higher than any other point during the pandemic.

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit also tracks vaccination rates by Forward Sortation Address (FSA) which are the first three digits of a postal code.

Early on in the pandemic, the N9A postal code in Windsor's downtown was identified by the province as a hot-spot for COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations.

It currently has the lowest two dose vaccination rate of any FSA in Windsor-Essex at 62 per cent.

Local Vaccination Statistics



The rate of vaccination for Windsor-Essex mapped by the first three digits of a postal code as of January 7, 2022. (WECHU)

WECHU has prioritized the area with pop-up clinics throughout the pandemic and continues to offer vaccinations through mobile clinics, including one at Water World on Thursday.

The health unit said that the three mass vaccination sites in Windsor-Essex will also accept walk-ins for those who are not vaccinated.

"Any one who needs their first or second dose should be able to get that right away," said WECHU CEO Nicole Dupuis.

Tips for talking about vaccinations

The Students Igniting Vaccine Confidence Program has focused outreach efforts on digital webinars and social media campaigns targeting younger adults.

Ruta said they noticed a mistrust in government and mainstream media.

"Having information given to them from the government, they weren't necessarily going to trust or even listen to that information," she said.

"By having a more conversational approach between students to other students, they were more willing to listen to the information that we were trying to give them to combat those misconceptions.

Another key point was meeting people with empathy, said Nellie Bordignon, a fourth-year student of health and biomedical science.

"I think the thing we emphasize was that we're on your side, no matter what," she said.

"It's mainly acknowledging the fact that when we get vaccinated, it's a community effort to return to that student life in the universe you once all knew."

Some St. Clair College students petition school for online option amid Omicron surge

The college is expecting to resume in-person classes Jan. 24

CBC News · Jan 14, 2022



Right now, St. Clair College says the first week of classes starting Jan. 17 will be online and in-person classes will resume Jan. 24. But, not all students say they feel safe to go back. (Submitted by St. Clair College)

Some St. Clair College students are petitioning the school's administration to offer optional online classes for the winter semester, citing concerns over the spread of Omicron.

An online petition, signed by about 1,500 students as of Thursday evening, asks that St. Clair College consider an online option for students who are worried about resuming in-person classes on Jan. 24. The request comes ahead of the college's winter semester, which is expected to go online for the first week only, starting Jan. 17.

It also comes as cases and hospitalizations of COVID-19 in Windsor-Essex continue to surge.

"It feels like St. Clair is doing the bare minimum," said Nicholas Vennettilli, who created the petition and is in his third year of the school's computer systems technology networking program.

He said he initially started the petition for his program only, but then it got shared and started receiving hundreds more signatures.

"The purpose of the petition is that we want the college to accommodate us as students for what we want ... I know lots of students want in-person learning and I know a lot of the programs need in-person learning ... but we want a choice for every student to have either in-person or online and that's what we're trying to fight for," Vennettilli said.

We believe that coming to the college is safe, we've got a lot of protocols in place.

- St. Clair College

He added that safety measures in the fall semester were "inadequate," as his classes were often in small rooms where about 40 students were sitting "shoulder-[to]-shoulder."

CBC News spoke with two of Vennettilli's peers who also raised concerns about not being able to properly physically distance in their program's classrooms.

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But John Fairley, the college's vice president of communications and community relations, told CBC News that the school has put safety measures in place to protect students, including masking and distancing.

At this time, Fairley said the college has no plans to make any schedule changes and that administration is "confident" students will be returning in person on Jan. 24.

He added that he has seen the online petition that is circulating.

"I think that we have been able to meet the students where they're at, and maybe not all of them ... [but] this has not come to us that there's this amount of people that are saying 'look we don't want to come back.' We've got more people saying they're glad to be back," he said.

"We believe that coming to the college is safe; we've got a lot of protocols in place."

He said the school hasn't had any major outbreaks since it began in-person learning in the fall and said he's "surprised" that students who attended then now suddenly don't want to be in class.



Student Steve Plancher says they haven't been given options and as COVID-19 continues to spread, he says students should have a choice. (Jennifer La Grassa/CBC)

Fairley also added that learning materials are available online, so students could use those if they didn't want to attend in-person.

But, Vennettilli said while the slide deck of the lecture may be available online, teachers in his program don't post additional notes or a recording of them going through the slides.

'We haven't got many options'

Steve Plancher is in the same program as Vennettilli and he said the college needs to do more to make students feel safe, such as smaller class sizes or rotating the students who attend in-person learning so that there can be more physical distance.

"Since the whole pandemic started, we haven't got many options, we've just been following what the admissions [office] tells us, the health unit tells us ... so we just been following all the officials, what they tell us," Plancher said.

First-year nursing student Jenna Burk told CBC News that she agrees students should have the option.



Nursing student Jenna Burk agrees that students should have an option, but wants to see her program continue inperson. (Jennifer La Grassa/CBC)

Since she's in a program that requires hands-on learning, Burk said she would prefer to stay in-person at this time, but said she understands how it may not be necessary for everyone.

She said she worries that if the college goes online, it will force all programs to do so, which could jeopardize her education.

"If we go online, chances are it's not going to be, 'oh some students can do it in person, others can't,' it'll be we're online, period," she said.

Burk also said she has found that her classes were following all safety measures and she feels comfortable going to class.

Fairley said the school will re-evaluate their plans if there's new guidance from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.

Blue Monday sheds light on seasonal disorders

Windsor Star - Jan 14, 2022



Shubham Sharma, student representative council president at St. Clair College, is shown at the main campus on Thursday, January 13, 2022. Photo by Dan Janisse /Windsor Star

Challenges at this time of year may be hard, especially during the pandemic, but patience while going through difficulties can improve mental health, a St. Clair College student leader says.

"Be patient," says student representative council president Shubham Sharma. "Sometimes you have to go through the worst to get the best," Sharma said. "Give time some time."

Sharma said many students struggle with mental health-issues or face anxiety over things like assignment deadlines or financial problems. And the the COVID-19 pandemic, and especially being isolated from friends, has added to the stress.

"Luckily St. Clair College is doing in-person classes (now) which gives students a chance to meet other students or classmates and talk," Sharma said. "I don't think COVID-19 has made anything better.

"Students are still struggling with the transformation from online to in-person learning."



Ewelina Horochowik,a mental health educator at Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County, is pictured at outside her home on Wednesday. Photo by Dax Melmer /Windsor Star

Ewelina Horochowik, mental-health educator at the Windsor office of CMHA, says the term Blue Monday, which is usually recognized as the third Monday of January, is a misnomer.

"Technically it doesn't mean that anyone is going to feel more depressed or sad because it's that day of the year," Horoch bull Board Minutes: Media Releases

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Factors such as financial pressures and bills adding up, a lack of personal connections after the holidays and days of cold weather and grey skies can lead to negative feelings for some people.

"So Blue Monday, in terms of feeling more depressed, that's a myth. But it's a great opportunity to kind of normalize or talk about our mental health and what could help when we are feeling kind of low."



Shubham Sharma, student representative council president at St. Clair College is shown at the main campus on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022. Photo by Dan Janisse /jpg

Horochowik said some people do experience what's called seasonal affective disorder during the winter months. A type of depression, it could be due to hormone fluctuations, poor sleeping or eating habits or the fact that its cold and dark and people are not getting enough vitamin D or sunlight.

"They say about five per cent of the population could potentially be diagnosed with seasonal affective disorder but up to 15 per cent of people do struggle in the winter with their mood, with their motivation and just overall not feeling the greatest," she said.

Horochowik agreed the pandemic has added to the struggle.

"Another thing is, a lot of people are experiencing right now this type of grief at the loss of things that they were expecting or that they won't be able to do," she said. "And experiencing or mourning those things is normal.

"Everyone's just fatigued with all of this and feeling more burnt out or less resilient."

Horochowik said implementing coping strategies such as seeing friends and family as much as possible, creating a budget, getting enough sleep, eating well, taking breaks, setting goals or making future plans, can all help.

"Talk about your experiences, connect with people, (that) helps keep people resilient," she said. "It is a bit harder to feel connected. You have to make an extra effort to try as much as possible."

Anyone needing mental health supports, which are more accessible virtually or over the phone due to COVID-19 restrictions, can call the community crisis line at 519-973-4435.

St. Clair College has partnered with the Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County branch to organize a number of mental health initiatives including a Facebook Live open discussion titled Blue Monday is a Myth, that will offer tips for managing seasonal affective disorder and COVID-19 anxiety.

Monday's event, from noon to 1 p.m., is open to anyone who would like to participate and can be found on the CMHAWECB Facebook page.

Online learning extended one week for most classes at St. Clair College

AM800 CKLW - Monday, January 17th 2022



(AM800 file photo)

A change of plans at St. Clair College for students returning to the classroom.

Classes are being conducted online the week of January 17, but that's now been extended to include the week of January 24 for most students.

According to a statement from the college, the decision was made based on consultation with the local health unit.

Students are asked to visit their program web page as the majority of programs will be online, but some may be hybrid or in-person.

The statement goes on to say the college will be keeping a close eye on the situation as further changes may need to be made.

If all goes to plan, students will resume in-person classes on January 31.

St. Clair College extends online learning for another week



The entrance to St. Clair College's main campus in Windsor. Photo taken August 22, 2019. CTV Windsor - Jan. 17, 2022

St. Clair College is delaying its return to in-person instruction for an additional week.

Students returned to the classroom virtually after the holidays on Monday with intentions to resume in-person lessons the following week.

The college announced it would instead be extending online learning to include the week of Jan. 24 as well.

In an <u>update to students</u>, St. Clair College said it would be involving "Emergency Alternative Delivery Plans" based on current information regarding the pandemic.

"Like all of you, we do remain concerned about the pandemic. And we assure you that we will revise our plans if public health authorities advise us to do so," the update said.

The college plans to resume in-person classes for everyone on Jan. 31.