



Public Consultation – Bathurst

Highlights

April 24, 2007

Presentation by the Mayor of Bathurst, Steven Brunet

Mayor Brunet emphasized the importance of CCNB – Bathurst for the region. He hoped the Bathurst Campus could offer more training in English, without, however, losing its status as a Francophone college. The mayor believes the Bathurst campus should be designated the headquarters for New Brunswick's Francophone community college network. This recommendation was also formulated by La Fondation du Collège de Bathurst Inc. and Enterprise Chaleur.

Presentation by Lorio Roy and Jacques Roy of La Fondation du Collège de Bathurst Inc.

(Full text on the Commission's website – In French.)

La Fondation du Collège de Bathurst Inc. expressed the wish that a higher value be placed on post-secondary education and that it be given more recognition, particularly with respect to the type of training currently being offered by the New Brunswick Community Colleges. The Fondation has issued a series of recommendations, which include:

Student Financial Assistance

That the current format of student loans be fundamentally revised.

Centre of Excellence

That the Bathurst Campus be designated the headquarters of the CCNB, operating a provincial centre of excellence in the following sectors: training in the mining sector; training, applied research, and innovation in the information technology sector; training and certification of newcomers; training, applied research, and innovation in the metals sector.

Governance

That the institutions of the community college network become independent and self-sufficient organizations, managed by an elected board of directors representing the population served.

Partnership between the universities and the colleges

That a gateway between the community colleges and the universities be formalized in order to facilitate the partnership, which would make it easier for students to transfer from one institution to the other while encouraging a more efficient use of resources.

Presentation by Donald Hammond, Executive Director, Enterprise Chaleur

(Full text on the Commission's website – In French.)

Mr. Hammond reiterated the vital role of CCNB – Bathurst in the community's economic development. He believes a community college should be firmly anchored in its community, that is, attuned to the community's needs so as to better address its human resource development needs. Consequently, a college must have a certain amount of independence and/or flexibility in its capacity to meet specific needs in a particular economic activity sector.

The Executive Director of Enterprise Chaleur believes the universities and colleges must aim for complementarity rather than duplication. For Mr. Hammond, the success of the initiatives for diversification and economic growth in the Chaleur region rests partly on New Brunswick's capacity to develop a workforce that meets the expectations and needs of industry. Enterprise Chaleur is proposing that CCNB – Bathurst be designated as the Francophone college regional training centre for New Brunswick.