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## **2. CMNS 262 Intercultural Communication**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Because it draws upon and is influenced by theories and practices from around the world, including indigenous ideas about teaching and learning that greatly respect the individual journey, this course is different from many others in content, design, deliverables (what students will produce), and assessment or grading. Most importantly, students need to understand that as they engage with the materials, conversations, exercises, and assignments, they may experience both academic and personal growth as they move through individual journeys together. The course will offer students greater depths of understanding about lived realities behind often-used words and phrases such as multicultural, intercultural, diversity, and inclusive. In the safe and supportive climate of the class, students will be invited to share as much or as little as they wish in the process of looking at themselves and other people in deep ways. Further they can expect to engage with sensitive and often challenging issues.

**2. THER 125**

## **Trades and Apprenticeship**

### **Revised courses:**

#### **1. RIT 100 Foundational Skills for Residential Insulators**

##### **Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - hours have been reduced slightly to accommodate the BC Micro-Credential Framework guidelines. Consultation with SME and development team confirms there will be no compromise to curriculum or competencies for learners.

During extensive consultation with employers, subject matter experts, industry stakeholders and suppliers, foundational skills were highlighted as a key component for this micro-credential. This course includes a variety of soft skills that are essential to productive employees. Based on previous workforce development projects, employer feedback highlighted their appreciation for the inclusion of soft skills and essential skills to ensure learners were well-rounded potential employees.

Internally Trades and Apprenticeship has been consulted and is support of this new program and its related courses. All consultation information is in the overall program proposal.

#### **2. RIT 101 Health and Safety in insulation Work**

##### **Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - hours have been reduced slightly to accommodate the BC Micro-Credential Framework guidelines. Consultation with SME and development team confirms there will be no compromise to curriculum or competencies for learners.

Safety is critical in all realms of trades related work but it is crucial for residential insulators to have a safety first mindset. During consultation, industry stakeholders and employers identified a number of safety components that would be required in this micro-credential. Safety is emphasized throughout the whole micro-credential as well, but this course will provide a strong safety mindset for learners.

Internally Trades and Apprenticeship has been consulted and is support of this new program and its related courses. All consultation information is in the overall program proposal.

#### **3. RIT 102 Building Science Fundamentals and the Building Envelope**

##### **Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - hours have been adjusted slightly to accommodate the BC Micro-Credential Framework guidelines. Consultation with SME and development team confirms there will be no compromise to curriculum or competencies for learners.

Changes in the industry including targeted building envelop improvements, higher performing products and new approaches make it important to have the knowledge of building science and building codes. This content was deemed important to include in this

micro-credential by employers and industry subject matter experts. The movement to insulation being a more technical job facilitates the need to include building science and building envelope information. Consultation with employers, industry stakeholders and subject matter experts facilitated the inclusion of the building science and building envelope topics. Insulators need to have a fundamental understanding of these topic areas to be effective installers. Installation is moving to be a very technical occupation and this course supports the knowledge needed to enhance the employability of graduates.

Internally Trades and Apprenticeship has been consulted and is support of this new program and its related courses. All consultation information is in the overall program proposal.

#### **4. RIT 103 Application of Insulation in Residential / Multi-Family Construction**

##### **Proposal Rationale**

##### **PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE**

## **6. RIT 105 Spray Foam Application**

### **Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - hours have been reduced slightly to accommodate the BC Micro-Credential Framework guidelines. Consultation with SME and development team confirms there will be no compromise to curriculum or competencies for learners.

Spray foam application is used in a myriad of insulation applications. Many times spray foam and other types of insulation are used together. Including spray foam application as a course in this micro-credential will enhance the employability of the learner but also provide industry employers with a more well-rounded employee.

Internally Trades and Apprenticeship has been consulted and is support of this new program and its related courses. All consultation information is in the overall program proposal.

## **7. RIT 106 Insulation Workshops**

### **Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - hours have been reduced slightly to accommodate the BC

Micro-Credential Framework guidelines. Consultation with SME and development team confirms

there will be no compromise to curriculum or competencies for learners.

There is a variety of other content that would benefit learners in this micro-credential and this workshop course allows inclusion of additional content that doesn't necessarily fit under

## **2. PCIT 100 Cybersecurity Fundamentals**

### **Proposal Rationale**

This course provides the foundational skills and concepts that learners will need to have as a basis for future courses within the micro-credential. Through consultation, this course is deemed important as it provides baseline of fundamental concepts that the learners will require for overall success. Additionally as learners will potentially have a wide variety of background and experience, this course provides the opportunity for prior learning discussion to set the pace for the course and gets all learners to a consistent minimum skillset.

## **3. PCIT 101 Security Audits and Assessments**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Security audits and assessments are the first step to establishing an organizational cybersecurity framework. Content of this course serves as the first vital step in creating a comprehensive action plan that moves an organization from its current state to its desired state in the realm of cybersecurity. Through consultation, this content was deemed a critical element of the overall micro-credential.

## **4. PCIT 102 Client and Server Security**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Client and server (endpoint) security is an industry accepted cybersecurity domain from which cybersecurity specialists assess and evaluate critical vulnerabilities and create remediation plans to properly defend a network. Through consultation, this course serves as logical grouping of cybersecurity tactics, skills, and techniques that learners will employ in industry.

## **5. PCIT 103 Internetwork Security**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Internetwork security is another industry accepted cybersecurity domain from which cybersecurity specialists assess and evaluate critical vulnerabilities and create remediation plans to properly defend a network. Through consultation, this course serves as logical grouping of cybersecurity tactics, skills, and techniques that learners will employ in industry.

## **6. PCIT 104 Cybersecurity Capstone**

### **Proposal Rationale**

The capstone course provides learners an opportunity to apply the skills, tactics, and concepts to a real-world setting, ideally in an environment in which the learner currently works. Through consultation, this course serves as a logical application of the cumulative learning acquired over the previous courses. Should learners not have access to an organizational environment, real-life case studies will be provided for them to utilize.

## **7. ICT 228 Scaling Infrastructure & Services**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Discussions with the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) for the Infrastructure & Computing Technology diploma program identified an emerging topic set that was not being covered by the existing coursework, specifically the scaling of local computing infrastructure into a cloud workspace. This new course is a response to that lack of content. It is developed to integrate into the existing program and contains appropriate bridge topics to bring the students from their existing work in the program to the new material.

Also identified by the committee is the reduction of the need for training in one of the historical mainstays of the program. To allow for the addition of a new course to the program flow, both the PAC and the department found that the necessary training in network routing and switching could be consolidated from three courses (ICT 117, 137, and 217) into two courses (we will maintain ICT 117 and 137). Over time, these courses have been a place where other emerging topics got placed and this revision will refocus them onto their intended purpose. Those other emerging topics (such as infrastructure security) have grown to have their own courses and do not need to be part of the network routing and switching courses any longer.

### **Revised courses:**

#### **1. ICT 212 Cybersecurity Analysis**

### **Proposal Rationale**

Security training continues to gain importance for workers in the IT sector. The addition of





## **Trades and Apprenticeship**

### **Revised program:**

#### **1. Residential Insulation Technician Proposal Rationale**

PROGRAM REVISION RATIONALE - The BC Framework for Micro-credentials lists the maximum hours being 288 for micro-credentials in the province. We have revised the RIT micro-credential to fit within the framework. Consultation with the SME and the development team ensures that the credential can be reduced without compromising the curriculum or competencies for learners.

In 2017, Okanagan College was approached by Community Futures North Okanagan regarding local insulation employers who were having difficulty finding qualified and trained employees. CFNO connected Continuing Studies with local employers in the North Okanagan and CS developed a package of courses to train individuals with little or no experience to become qualified residential insulators. This workforce development opportunity ended up with three successful Project Based Labour Market Training Programs funded through the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. As a result, Okanagan College became recognized regionally, provincially and even nationally for its Residential Insulation Training. Employers from across the country and Pacific Northwest USA contacted Continuing Studies looking for students of RIT. These projects were offered through a Continuing Studies and Trades & Apprenticeship collaboration and each cohort had solid success including 90-100% employment rates.

Since 2017, it was identified that there is no formal program anywhere in Canada or the Pacific Northwest to prepare people for careers in residential insulation installation. There is a Heat and Frost formal trade and while there are transferable skills, this trade is very different from residential insulation installation.

Changing building codes, commitment to net-zero building and new insulation requirements have created renewed growth in the insulation industry, not only for new builds but also for renovations and retrofits. However, many contractors are unable to take advantage of these opportunities due to a severe lack of qualified staff. There is also a movement in the industry



This micro-credential will provide learners with practical skills that can be immediately put into practice at the organizations where they work. The target demographic for this micro-credential is IT professionals with one to three years of experience and a working knowledge of foundational cybersecurity concepts. This learning will be scenario based, expanding on best practices in working enterprise environments. This learning will assist IT professionals to take their skills to a higher level and secure career progression opportunities. While there are a variety of cybersecurity credentials in the industry, many learning opportunities are focused on providing the information directly to obtain the credential and others are very much vendor specific product training. This micro-credential will focus on applied, real-life learning where learners can immediately put their learning to use with their own organizations or customers.

OC offers a diploma in Infrastructure and Computing Technology (ICT) and a diploma and degree in Computer Information Systems. ICT does include cybersecurity in its program, however course material is delivered at a foundational level that caters to the capabilities of the learners (who generally have no industry experience) in the diploma. We understand that COSC/CIS is proposing as post baccalaureate diploma in cybersecurity programming focused on learners with underlying degrees in Computer Information Systems, science, or engineering. As such, PCIT will not duplicate content for this realm as the target learners are significantly different. CSCT will work in collaboration with both of these departments to ensure there is not direct duplication of content.

PCIT also fills a need vocalized by local community stakeholders (as identified by the letters of support) as well as the ICT program advisory committee. Many organizations want their IT staff and consultants to have a higher-level and practical knowledge of cybersecurity to enhance the protection of their enterprises.

This micro-credential will be offered online, part-time with evening and weekend options to enhance the accessibility for working professionals. OC will also not have any specific admission requirements other than experience in the IT industry to ensure learners can upskill and immediately apply their knowledge.

Cybersecurity is an emerging career and the average wage for cybersecurity professionals in Canada is \$92,608 annually (with the range being \$76,850 to \$130,000). Post Covid, the number of cyberattacks increased by 63% resulting in the exposure of 37 billion records (representing a 141% increase over 2019). Statscan reported that roughly one out of five small businesses were impacted by cybersecurity incidents. Currently, studies show that one in six cybersecurity jobs go unfilled in Canada.

External consultation includes:

\* local employers from a variety of sectors