

College History

Camosun College enrolled its first students in September 1971 when it opened as a two-year institution offering university transfer, vocational and upgrading courses to the residents of southern Vancouver Island.

The roots of the College reach back as far as 1914 when the Young Building was built as Victoria's first Normal School on part of a seven and a half acre plot belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company. The school's enrolment at that time was about 275.

During the second world war, the Young Building was converted into a military hospital. It was not until 1946 that the building was returned to its original function. This time, however, it was shared by the Normal School and by Victoria College, which became united in 1955.

In 1967 the Normal School and Victoria College moved to the site of the Gordon Head Campus of the University of Victoria and the Institute of Adult Studies was

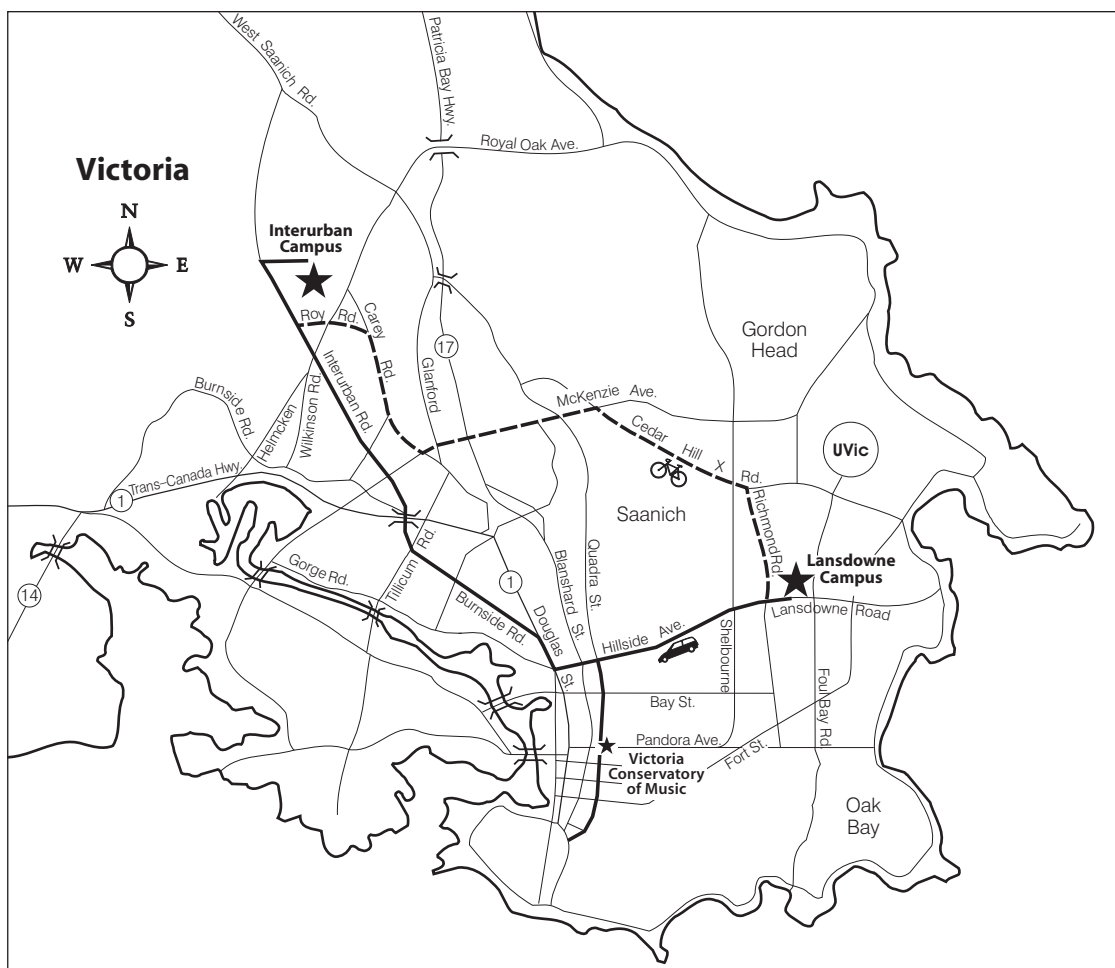
established by the Greater Victoria School Board. The Institute of Adult Studies made its home in the Ewing Building and became the first centre in Canada to offer daytime courses for adults wishing to upgrade to high school graduation.

From the inception of the Institute, local interest in a community college grew. On October 9, 1970 Victoria residents voted in favour of establishing a college, and soon plans for "Juan de Fuca" College were underway. The provincial government formally approved the college on October 27, 1970.

In 1971 the college councilors voted on a name change, and "Camosun" (pronounced Cam-O-sun) was chosen, as it was an early name for Victoria. It is originally a Lekwungen (Songhees) name for an area of Victoria where different waters meet and are transformed.

By September of 1971 the final steps toward the realization of a college were taken when Camosun (Lansdowne campus) and the BC Vocational School (Interurban campus) merged to become BC's ninth community college – Camosun College.

Today Camosun College celebrates 38 years of excellence in education and service to its community. Now one of the leading community colleges in the province, Camosun serves more than 8,600 students in credit and vocational programs and another 7,400 registrations in part-time continuing education courses. Camosun is also one of the 12 largest organizations in Victoria and it acts as an engine of economic growth. Altogether, the region annually receives \$816 million in income due to the past and present efforts of Camosun College.



Interurban Campus

4461 Interurban Road Victoria BC V9E 2C1

Located in Saanich, Interurban campus enjoys a rural country-like setting, while being only a short 15-minute drive from downtown. More than 4,000 students attend classes at Interurban campus, enrolled in trades, technology, business or access programs.

Conveniently close to Interurban Road, the Liz Ashton Campus Centre is the first point of entry for people seeking information about Camosun programs and services. The Liz Ashton Campus Centre houses Enrolment Services, the career resource centre, academic advising, counselling, student and alumni employment services, the bookstore, library, fitness centre, Student Society offices and a number of administrative offices, meeting rooms and classrooms. On the courtyard side of the building the attractive clock-tower faces a totem pole carved especially for Camosun by Richard Hunt, as part of the 1994 Commonwealth Games legacy.

Central to the campus sits the Helmut Huber Cook Training Centre, where the campus community enjoys nutritious and reasonably-priced meals for breakfast and lunch, prepared by students in the Professional Cook Foundation program. In the evening, part of the cafeteria is transformed into the Classroom Restaurant, where chefs-in-training provide a delightful gourmet dining experience.

On the north end of the campus, the Jack White and John Drysdale buildings house the offices of Continuing Education and Contract Training and most of Camosun's trades programs. Several entry level, apprenticeship, pre-employment and upgrading programs operate year-round, all providing an effective mix of in-class learning and hands-on shop work.

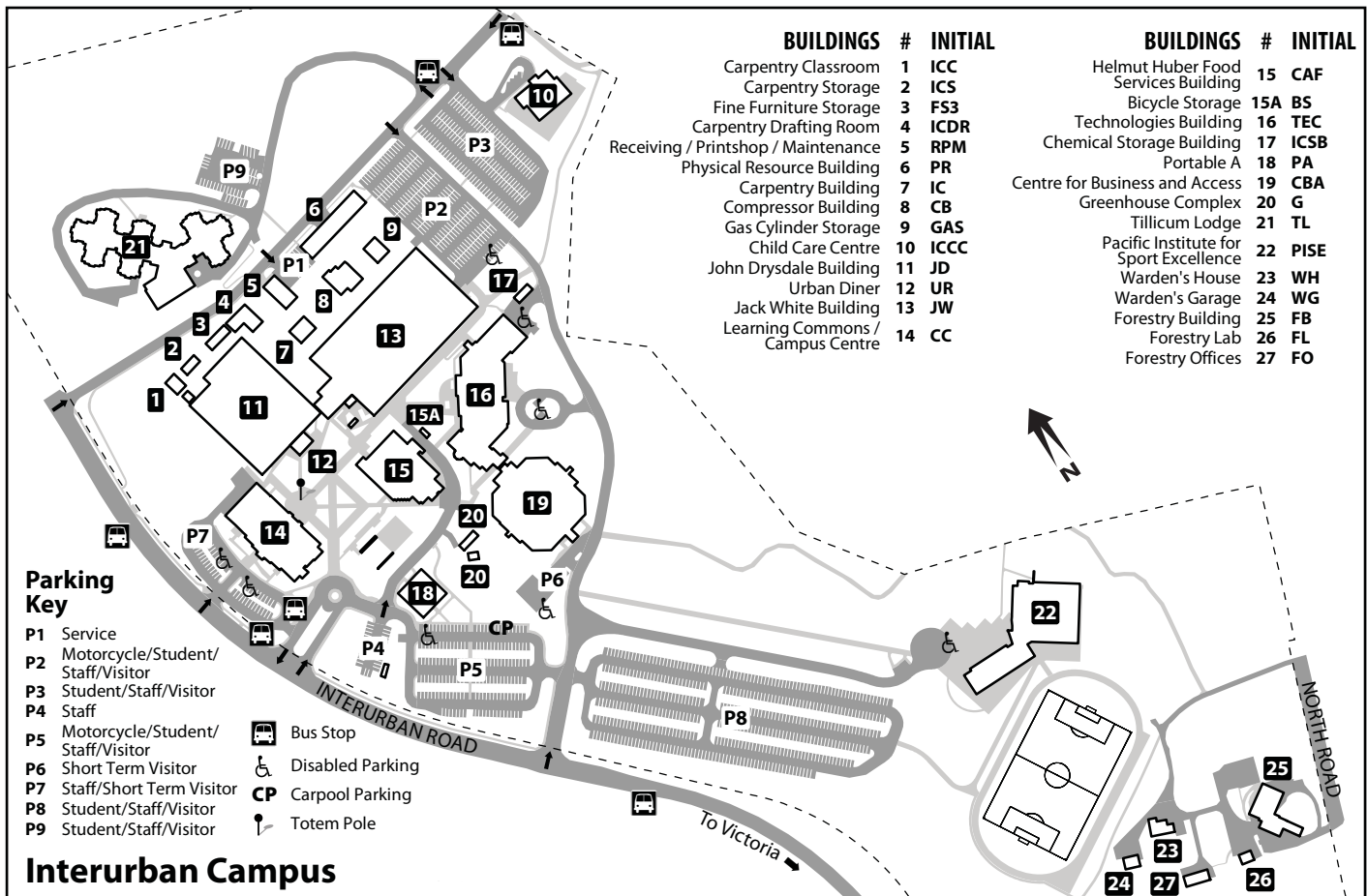
Atop the hill, overlooking the campus, you'll find the Technology Centre and the Centre for Business and Access.

Joined together in the middle, these buildings provide a welcoming atmosphere for students, with plant-filled atriums and interesting architecture.

In the campus Child Care Centre, infants, toddlers and preschoolers receive high quality daily care. The Centre is surrounded by natural woodland, fields and walking trails.

Behind the campus sits the new Vancouver Island Technology Park, providing easy access for Camosun faculty and students entering into partnerships with local industry and research projects.

Interurban's newest facility, the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence, a centre for academic and athletic excellence opened September 2008 on the south side of the campus. The centre is a unique blend of local and national-level sport education, leadership, research and athletic development under one roof.



Lansdowne Campus

3100 Foul Bay Road Victoria BC V8P 5J2

Lansdowne campus is located high on the corner of Lansdowne and Foul Bay Roads, offering spectacular views of Victoria and the Olympic mountains.

Each semester, Lansdowne campus has 4,500 students enrolled in university transfer, college preparatory and access programs as well as career programs in arts, science, business, health and human services.

The campus facilities are surrounded by scenic tree-lined grounds. The Alan Batey Library, opened in 1991, is located prominently in the centre of the campus.

The Dental Health Education Centre, opened in 1990, stands opposite the Library.

The newest facility on campus is the Wilna Thomas Building with its adjoining Cultural Centre.

The Isabel Dawson building is the centre for most student services including Enrolment Services, academic advising, financial aid, assessment, disability support services, counselling and the career resource centre.

The Fisher building houses the campus bookstore and cafeteria, as well as many classrooms, labs and offices for nursing, biology, physics, chemistry and other disciplines.

The Paul Building and Richmond House also provide space for classrooms, labs and offices. The Childcare Centre, at the Argyle House, provides high quality care for toddlers and preschoolers.

In the southeast corner of the campus the Dunlop House serves as a lovely heritage setting for the Hotel and Restaurant Management program's student-operated restaurant.

In striking contrast to all the facilities on campus, the 1914 Young Building with its famous clock tower and Italian Renaissance architecture, presides over the south-west corner of the campus. After two years of restoration and a comprehensive community fund raising campaign, the Young Building now stands as an historic landmark symbolizing community education and service. With its preserved heritage exterior and modernized interior, the Young Building is now prepared to serve the education and training needs of Victoria for another 100 years.

