

Minutes
Teleconference
Inspire Program Committee Taskforce
March 4, 2019
10:00 – 11:00 AM

Present:

Board: Jason Jung, Dennis Innis, Sean Horton, Kelly Betts

Staff: Elaine Allan, Michelle Skelly

Discussion Items for Monday March 4 - Taskforce

Connection to Skills BC Vision

Impact of the program

Funding Questions – (Elaine – discuss Honda Canada application)

Purpose

To give board members some input on the Inspire Program.

Good for board and staff to talk about the program and give the board an opportunity to give the program some good consideration to the program.

Operations (2017 to Present)

Thank you to Michelle for supporting this program over the years has been terrific.

Kelly appreciated the opportunity to review the program at this stage as she was the person who championed it initially.

Amber Papou had a hard time getting industry to get on board with this.

Gov't BC – provided \$100,000 to develop it into a pilot in 2014.

Then Ministry of Ed took it on but then stopped funding 2015 – stopped funding outside projects.

SCBC was also involved with “Discover Skills BC” Kelly had been involved with this and lumped them all together. The funds came into the college and Kelly dispersed the funds to SCBC from Camosun and “TTBC”.

Funding ended in 2017.

Elaine couldn't find any paper trail of money dogeared for Inspire from Industry when she started with SCBC May 2017.

Elaine's Comments

When I joined the organization, Rene, Amber and Michelle had been delivering the Inspire Program.

Michelle took over the program hiring and supervising contractors, province-wide, to expand the Inspire Program.

Michelle has done an excellent job getting the program delivered to the regions, rural and remote, as well as the urban areas.

Stanley Dewalt

- Electrical circuit – challenge – they supply the supplies for this competition as well
- 2-year commitment for Inspire program
- Also supply the competitions with tools
- Supply some of the other Skills MO's

Sponsorship

Elaine is actively out getting sponsorship from Industry. Currently discussing opportunity with Honda Canada

Regions

Inspire Program is currently in 10 regions but could be in all 13 if we get more funding for the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year.

Michelle – Presentation Details

Most presenters have a trades background.

Can do onwards of 4 classrooms per day.

If we get 1 registration for a school, we try and push to get up to 4 classes for the day. This cuts down on travel and costs and ups the numbers.

Different schools ask for different grades. Grade 6 to Grade 10

The agenda has been changed many times – but why not use the program to push our competitions.

Now show the 3-minute national video clip – exciting!

Introduction gives a briefing on SCBC.

Talk about the opportunities in the trade and technology careers

Then show 3-minute video clip “What’s the World Without Trade Skills” – impactful. Shows what would happen if all the trades people of the world disappeared. Shows how the world would fall apart.

Then move into the Inspire PPT

Ben and Kelly tweaked it for SIP

Michelle showed it in Cranbrook last week and they loved it. Debunks the myth: not for women, not skilled labour, don't make any money, etc.

Then shows a wide variety of Trades and Tech that you can get into.

Block of wood to screw in screws, wiring challenge, piping challenges.

Talk about courses in schools and how they relate to the trade and technology careers.

We have the SCBC alumni video.

Survey provided to teachers at the end of the program.

Always get glowing responses – can you stay longer?

Bus subsidies from 2018 Provincials reflect correlation that SCBC has regional and provincial competitions.

Before the teachers didn't know anything about SCBC competitions but because the presenters talk about them, and mention how teachers can apply for bus subsidies, etc. their awareness is starting to grow.

Maybe the budget needs to be realigned to be more connected to the marketing and promotion of the competitions?

How does this help with the SCBC Mission, Vision?

Kelly reviewed the Strat Plan, Mission and Vision statement.

Welcomed the board to provide input on where they would like to see the Inspire Program going forward.

Dennis, Sean and Jason – Comments?

Decisions for program will need to be dependent on money.

Hard to make decisions until we know about the funding.

If we have the funding, we may be able to steam forward.

Program sounds awesome!

The younger students benefit when we provide alternatives to university to Grades 7, 8, and 9.

By high school some students have made decisions about their futures, so if they could be better informed, would help open people's eyes to skilled work and training.

VCC participants in the Delta Trades Day – focuses on Grades 7, 8 and 9.

The move it to the younger age to exposing them to skills.

Need to consider ways to balance trades and technology - Technologize our programs to attract Technology Sponsors

Need to bring Skills BC back to the fore front of the Inspire Program – perhaps a name change?

Perhaps consider 2 major Industry sponsors for the Skills BC In School Presentations (Trades and Technology)

Skills BC In School Presentations – Marketing arm of Skills BC

When we were talking to Amber years ago, we all thought this was a good idea.

When met with Michelle to go over presentation learned more about the presentation and don't have many negative things to say.

It gets to 2 very important audiences – teachers and students and indirectly to the parents. The parents are hearing a bit about it from the kids.

Would like to see some adjustments to the program to ensure that all aspects of the trades and tech careers are presented.

Hard to do in only an hour.

Hard to do on a limited budget.

The type of presenters that we have – need more trainers that have technology backgrounds.

But, think the programs completely fit into the Vision and Mission.

Also a bit staggering that no one has stepped up to sponsor it.

Other Comments - Michelle

- The bus subsidies and the link to the competitions, this is an important idea to communicate to the government.
- Impact is that the reach of the Inspire Program is now a feeder program to the competitions.
- For SCBC the Inspire Program has the potential to really drive up numbers for the competitions. The SIP will more than double the number of competitors in the SIP Regional competitions.
- SCBC staff could pull the regional competition registrations and comparing the rise in competitor numbers from year to year and make a link to the Inspire Program growing the participation in the Skills competitions.
- Would be great to get money to grow it. To expand it we will need more funds. To grow program would be a full-time job for a SCBC staff.
- Could create more competition areas ie. Sumo Robots, create more video footage.

March 12, 2019 Board Meeting

Statements and Questions to Consider:

Program Overview: Inspire program has provided face to face engagement (promotion of Trades and Technology skills) with Youth in BC and increased participation in skills competitions and as a result has become a marketing tool for Skills BC. Funding sources to date has come from Government; Stanley Dewalt and Skills BC General Revenue.

Cancellation Implications: What would be the impact of cutting this program as a feeder program to the competitions and Skills BC reputation? What would be the impact for teachers who are now used to having Inspire programs to check the “Career” checkboxes?

Costs: Program costs approximately \$100,000 a year – additional funds would be needed to expand the program beyond its current form

Key Questions for Board Discussion:

- Do we see the Inspire program as part of our Core Activity?
- Are we willing to accept the impacts of ending the program?
- Is Skills BC prepared to support the Inspire program for the 2019/20 school year without a sponsor? Drawing down on Skills BC financial reserves?
- Are there other unexplored funding sources and or delivery models?