

ASDT Update

2nd Quarter 2016/2017



Fall initiatives and the ASDT Program

By Barry Coulson, Sector Executive Lead, ASDT

With so much that has already taken place over the past few months, last summer seems a distant memory, although I can clearly recall how busy we were with the ASDT Program! Autumn provides a great opportunity to showcase several of the sector collaboration initiatives focused on administrative efficiencies and, by extension, student achievement and success.

Top of mind was the initiation of the Finance Centre of Expertise (CoE), which is further highlighted in this *Update*. The sector-led Finance CoE has identified four early priority initiatives, with business cases for each currently in development. In addition, we are shaping and sharing a Cash Management Strategy for the sector that will provide a framework to guide the focus of many finance opportunities. More details about the Finance CoE can be found on page 3.

I'm very pleased to announce the release of the ASDT 2015/16 Progress Report (see page 2), which reports financial benefits through collaborative initiatives of \$36.64 million for the fiscal year. I hope you will take some time to read through the report and find out more about the value of working together, as demonstrated through the various initiatives and partnerships that are showcased.

As always, I welcome your thoughts, questions or ideas to help us move forward and respond to sector needs.



By working together, we rise together

By Dennis Silva, Chief Procurement Officer

Watching collaboration within the sector continue over these past few months, it has been gratifying to see synergistic relationships in which members are engaged in the process, see value in working together and, in turn, creating value.

Connecting with the sector continued to be a key focus in the second quarter. At the BC Joint Procurement Exchanges July 20-21, 2016, our members were updated on our joint procurement initiatives and activities. Our first Travel Common Category Group (CCG) kicked off in July, with a leadership group of five representatives to help guide and grow the program, and to support UNIGLOBE in delivering benefits to the sector. A new sector-wide master agreement for supply of Cylinder Gases was awarded to Praxair Canada Inc., with an August 23, 2016 kick off attended by nearly 50 cross-functional stakeholders.

Working groups have been focused on a wide range of procurements such as Multi-Functional Devices, Server Hardware, Fire Extinguisher Testing, Customs Brokerage Services and Trades Equipment. The Office Supplies Working Group reconvened in August. Around the same time, the Trades Equipment Joint Procurement Initiative moved into the tender phase, with three Request for Quotes (RFQs) posted for Electrical, Welding, and Automotive Service Technician programs. Dell Canada was one of the two successful proponents for the Server Hardware RFP announced to our members (with the second to be announced soon).

In September, the BCNETSource annual planning process kicked off with the issuance of an Operational Planning Survey to all procurement offices to assist in determining the sector's joint procurement priorities for FY17/18. The contributions and commitment made by the sector's procurement leadership to actively engage and co-create strategies are critical in building common solutions..

ASDT 2015/16 Progress Report showcases the value of collaboration

The newly released 2015/16 Progress Report for the ASDT Collaboration Program showcases the value of collaboration throughout the sector, which includes financial benefits of \$36.64 million for the fiscal year.

With the title of 'Working Together, Delivering Value,' the Progress Report is organized around three key themes:

- Planning for Success
- Delivering Value
- Enhancing Engagement and Partnerships

Each theme includes examples of activities and outcomes, further illustrated by features of specific collaborative initiatives and acknowledging the groups, organizations and partnerships that contributed to those initiatives.

Financial benefits for 2015/16 (sector savings and cost avoidance) are summarized by opportunity type and broken down by individual collaborative initiative. The majority of benefits (\$30.03 million) are attributed to BCNET-led opportunities.

SFU Document Solutions generously provided graphics, layout, printing and production support for the 2015/16 Progress Report.

Working Together
Delivering Value

ASDT
2015/2016
Progress Report



New finance opportunities get the green light for business cases

Since its official launch this past summer, the new Finance Centre of Expertise (CoE) has applied its knowledge of sector opportunities and financial priorities to support a 2016/17 Work Plan, which includes a list of four early opportunity initiatives. Each of these initiatives provides an opportunity to streamline processes and/or provide cost savings through collaborative arrangements for participating institutions.

The four short-term opportunities were derived from the CoE’s analysis of more than 30 potential opportunities identified through the 2015 Partnership Forum and other sector input. The ASDT Steering Committee approved the Finance CoE 2016/17 Work Plan at its September meeting.

The four opportunities that were approved for business case development are tuition fee payments by international students, payment of tuition refunds, vendor payment methods, and actuarial services.

Finance CoE Membership (As at Oct. 24, 2016)

Name	Title	Institution	Sector Association
Steven Bao	Assistant Director, Financial Services	BCIT	BCAIU
Jamie Choi	Director of Finance	VCC	BCC
Sue Fleck	Director of Finance	NIC	BCC
Carri Lawrence	Director, Finance Operations	UBCO	RUCBC
Paul Manhas	Associate VP Finance	TRU	RUCBC
Jessica Subin	Manager, Accounting	RRU	RUCBC
Chris Worsley	Director of Finance	DOUG	BCC
Barry Coulson	Sector Executive Lead	ASDT	N/A

New TRU UPS courier services agreement available to the sector

BC’s public post-secondary institutions now have the option to access more economical and enhanced domestic and international courier services through a new agreement with UPS established by Thompson Rivers University (TRU).

For further information, please contact BCNETSource at bcnetsource-mailbox@bc.net or visit the BCNET wiki. BCNETSource will be sending out a survey on behalf of UPS to gauge participation interest.

The two-year contract (with options for extensions), formalized in September 2016, includes a clause that enables any BC public post-secondary institution to participate under the terms of the agreement, upon request.

The new agreement was procured directly by and for TRU, which was seeking an effective and efficient domestic and international courier and delivery service in support of TRU’s distance learning programs.

“The approach taken by TRU is another great example of collaboration within the sector that leverages a procurement solution to deliver value to the sector,” said Dennis Silva, Chief Procurement Officer, BCNETSource.

This update is distributed to:

- PSI Presidents
- VPs of Finance and Administration
- Directors of Finance (FinWizards)
- Directors of Facilities (FDBC)
- Procurement Professionals
- ASDT Steering Committee
- BCNETSource Services Committee
- BCAIU, RUCBC, and BCC Presidents
- ASDT Leads and Teams
- BCCampus
- Post Secondary Employers’ Association
- BCNET
- BC ELN
- Ministry of Advanced Education
- Ministry of Education