

NEWS AND VIEWS

Upcoming Events

Save the date! On Feb 25th at lunch time Lindsey Fiebig will be doing a session on Student code of conduct as it relates to faculty! This has long been an issue when students bully or act inappropriately with faculty either online or in person.

She would like this to be a little bit informal but for people to bring scenarios with them so she could work through the process and how to deal with situations case by case!

Union News

The Mount Royal Faculty Association hosted a panel discussion this month regarding the impacts of Alberta's Bill 2 on Labour Rights. The discussion can be viewed using the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/GdFNmOoYbAc>

Red Deer Polytechnic has ratified a new CBA with the standard 12% salary increase.

University of Lethbridge The Alberta Government has appointed a formal mediator.

NAIT 83% voted in favour of a strike mandate. (These results are unofficial pending verification by the Alberta Labour Relations Board)

PAC: Wise and Well

To view previous wise and well or Tea Talk session log in to the BVCFA website with your BVC email:

[Click here!](#)

If you have ideas for a wise and well session email us at pac@bvcfa.com

BVCFA Executive Updates**Presidents Message- Matt Kriz**

It's a new year and a new term and at times like this our thoughts often turn to... workload. All of you have heard us talk about workload many times before, about Article 16 (Workload Assignment, which you should look at if you haven't had the chance), and about how if anyone is finding their workload unmanageable to come to us with specifics. For this year I still want to talk about workload, but with the new wrinkle of it being AI-generated workload.

If you're teaching a course this term, probably any course, you know what I'm talking about. If you're a Program Chair and you received an email that appears to be 2000 words long (my record so far is 2600), you know what I'm talking about. If you work in Learning Design... well you definitely know what I'm talking about. And this is without even talking about academic integrity letters and meetings and so forth. If you listen to the boosters you are told that AI is the future and it's inevitable and that it will save us time and solve... everything if we just give it time, but from our perspective as post-secondary faculty it's mostly just making our jobs more difficult and more time-consuming.

Why am I talking about this? Because thus far we've received minimal guidance and support from the college on how to deal with any of it. We're told to use Copilot and that we can teach students to use it too, and we're told about "ethical AI use," but it's much harder to determine what that means and we're concerned that students are using AI in place of learning, which doesn't seem very ethical. We've asked to discuss all of this with the college executive, and it's scheduled for our meeting with them in February, but we need to hear from you. Specifically, is AI use—either by students or because you yourself have been directed/encouraged to use it—adding to your workload? If so, please tell us how. If not, please let us know and we can use your experience to help others. We are asking the college for guardrails around all of this, but we need you to help us set them.



We site:



<https://bvcfa.com>

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VP Operations and Labour Update – Kristy Calles

Supporting Faculty When Working With Challenging Students

Over the past few years, I've had many conversations with faculty and program chairs about navigating challenging student interactions. The mental toll of being disrespected or treated poorly by students can be significant – especially when situations escalate to aggressive behaviour or bullying.

In December 2025, I learned that our own Lindsey Fiebig (Counsellor Chair and Registered Psychologist) has developed a BVC Faculty Mental Health Toolkit offering practical guidance and resources for faculty. The toolkit includes support for setting boundaries, choosing healthier assignment deadlines, and understanding meaningful self-care.

While the toolkit doesn't replace formal processes such as the Learner Code of Conduct (which remain essential), it provides valuable perspective and tools to support faculty wellbeing and promote a culture of understanding. If you've submitted a Learner Code of Conduct report that didn't move forward, you can still meet with your PC and/or AD to discuss next steps and appropriate student interactions.

Lastly, we'll be hosting a Wise and Well session in February on this topic, with Lindsey presenting on real scenarios brought forward by faculty, so we can talk through them together as a group. More information to come – we hope to see you there! A big thank you to Charlotte Beaubier (VP of Professional Affairs) for coordinating this session.

Chat soon,
Kristy

Campus Mental Health Plan: Together in Wellness

BVC Faculty Mental Health Toolkit



VP Communication Update – Dara Taylor

Our most recent meeting with the BVC Executive team was on January 22. The topic that we brought to the table was the addition of Chinook Learning to our campus. We raised concerns about competition, and future plans for SFL. Despite being given detailed notes regarding Agenda items ahead of the meeting, the Executive did not provide direct answers to specific questions, such as whether chinook is teaching an identical demographic to ours, and whether they are teaching the same classes. The response from the Executive focused on their intent to use Chinook as a funnel into our professional programs, and an emphasis that SFL is currently exceeding its enrollment targets.

We welcome Chinook Learning staff and students to our campus, and believe that it's important that we do not direct concerns toward them specifically, as they were not involved in this decision or direction. We will be bringing specific follow-up questions to our next meeting with BVC Executive.