

The logo for the Administrative Systems Consortium (ASC) consists of the letters 'A', 'S', and 'C' in a large, light blue, sans-serif font. The letters are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide. The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, creating a modern and professional aesthetic.

Administrative Systems Consortium
What, Why and How

Put your devices on vibrate/silent



Shared Services

- ▶ BC's Post secondary institutions have a long history of working within a shared services framework.
- ▶ The Administrative Systems Consortium (ASC) represents one of many existing shared services

The ASC In a NutShell



- ▶ The ASC is a legal entity and constituted as a Not for profit society.
- ▶ A group of nine institutions using the Colleague Enterprise System
- ▶ Camosun and NIC are standalone with COTR, CNC, ECUAD, NWCC, NLC, and NVIT participating in a shared environment
- ▶ Shared Ellucian licensing
- ▶ Use Ellucian and OA Solutions for software support
- ▶ Administrative support currently provided by BCNET

The Cloud Before the Storm

- ▶ Of the nine ASC members, seven utilize a shared infrastructure currently hosted at Camosun connected through PLNET.
- ▶ Each has a separate instance on one of two servers.
- ▶ ability to share customizations and processes
- ▶ Conducted hardware refresh with costs shared amongst the participating institutions.
- ▶ Further enhancements planned

A Brief History

- ▶ CASD cooperative effort to maintain a common student system known as SRS which is still in use at VIU and Selkirk
- ▶ CASD conducted the RFP for a common commercial ERP resulting in the selection of both Banner and College as one size did not fit all.

A Brief History Continued...

- ▶ CASD became CEISS, which was primarily Ministry funded.
- ▶ Responsible for projects, implementation, support and hosting of Colleague for participating institution.
- ▶ In 2004, as a result of a core review, funding for CEISS was eliminated and the Colleague institutions faced challenging decisions

The start of the ASC in its current form

- ▶ There were four main things that happened as a result of the cut to funding a support from the Ministry:
 - ▶ The ASC was formed as a legal entity
 - ▶ CEISS Analysts joined OA Solutions and a contract was established with the ASC
 - ▶ Hosted servers were moved to Camosun
 - ▶ HEITBC was engaged to provide administrative and logistical support

What are the benefits...

- ▶ Savings through common procurement and licensing
- ▶ Reduced staffing and support requirements at individual institutions
- ▶ Common processes
- ▶ Collaboration and information sharing at various levels through user groups
- ▶ Less duplication of effort: implementation of new products, patching and upgrades
- ▶ Estimated cost saving of \$500,000 per institute yearly once implemented
- ▶ Fostered an environment of collaboration and comradely among the member schools



What are the challenges...

- ▶ Contractors
- ▶ Collaboration takes an investment of time and effort
- ▶ Institution specific processes may require unique customizations that aren't used or needed at every institution

These challenges are outweighed by the benefits many times over

Opportunities and Moving Forward

- ▶ Contractors

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Opportunities and moving forward

▶ Contractors

▶ Getting consensus

▶ Common processes

User Groups

- ▶ CFUG
- ▶ HRPUG
- ▶ SMUG
- ▶ IRCUG



Note from Diana Black

I assumed the role of Acting Director of Finance and Integrated Systems in November of 2013. Cathy Carson had accepted a new role at the Justice Institute, and as things go, by the time I was able to come to work, she was already on her way out. She did take a few minutes during our hours together to bring me up to speed on her experience with the ASC and how important she felt it is for NVIT. The importance of the ASC to NVIT has continuously been reinforced to me over the past 5 months of operations. Important in normal operations, but critical in times of transition, the ASC has allowed NVIT to rely on the IT expertise of Camosun, CNC, and the list goes on. This has been particularly crucial for NVIT given my inexperience with Colleague and the Advanced Education sector. The ASC group and OA solutions is well established and accessible when questions arise for myself or my staff. The regular training sessions are important in involving all levels of users in training and also in feedback on processes and areas for improvement.

Letter - Cont.

The quality I most appreciate, and find effective about the group, is the balance around the table in terms of skills, experience and personalities. Perhaps as a result of several years of working together, differing needs and opinions are expected, respected and accommodated to reach common gain as a group. I enjoy this group. I appreciate the continuity they have provided for NVIT and I look forward to continuing to work together in this effective and important Consortium.

Best Regards,
Diane Black
Director of Finance and Integrated Systems, NVIT

Questions to the Audience

- ▶ Is there anything other ASC members would like to add?