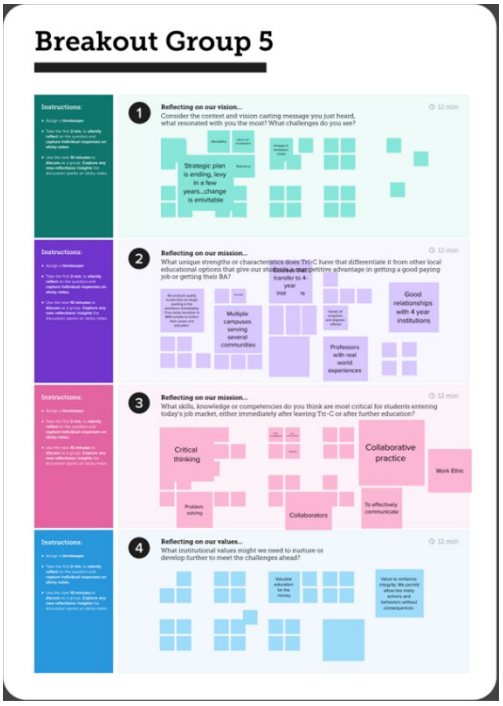
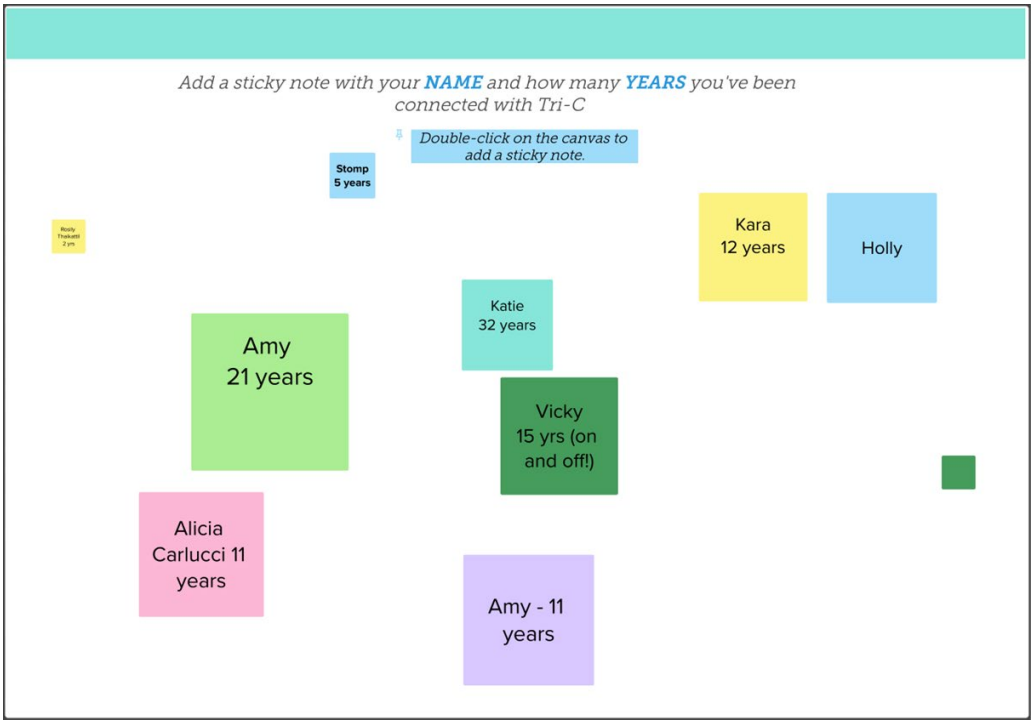
Listening Session Summary
Faculty
Tuesday, February 18, 2025





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Question 1

Reflecting on our Vision: Consider the context and vision casting message you just heard, what resonated with you the most? What challenges do you see?

Summary

The organization faces numerous challenges including legal changes, levy campaigns, enrollment issues, and adapting to changing industry needs.

Collaborative efforts with faculty, staff, and students are essential for meaningful connections and community support.

Strategic planning, integration of credit and non-credit programs, and clear communication of relevance to stakeholders are crucial. There is a need to quickly develop and implement a tangible plan to maintain academic strength and adapt to workforce needs.

Transparency, affordability, and return on investment are key focus areas.

Embracing AI technology and addressing cultural challenges for immigrant students are also important considerations.

Responses

Academic Adaptation Challenges
Individual experience in excelling academic excellence
Question: How do we adapt while maintaining academic strength?
Thought: Tri-c has been adapting to our changing student population routinely over the years.
Enhancing Collaborative Engagement
Communicating relevance to all stakeholders in a way in which they see themselves and their work embedded in the strategic plan
Community needs to know our value/ benefit as do we.
Engage in meaningful connection to engage, support, and resource
integration of credit and noncredit - including faculty and staff from both sides of house to discuss and collaborate
resonated: collaborative efforts with faculty staff and students
Transform how we serve the community, partners and students.
Navigating Organizational Challenges
Challenge: amount of time and energy needed from everyone over the next five years to participate in levy, strat plan, etc.
challenges: enrollment
Challenges: state and federal legal changes
changes in workplace needs
Industry and professions will be changing all the more quickly over the next few years - there are a lot of unknowns.
Levies are challenging
Lots of work ahead - accreditation & levy campaign
There are challenges to enrollment ahead.
Unique challenges now and in the future... past practice won't work

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Other

affordability
Augment capabilities with continuous use of AI technology
Build as a community
Relevancy
return on investment
The cultural climate is not friendly to immigrants who make up a portion of our student population.
We need to be more transparent about what we do on the academic side, not just the workforce side.

Planning and Preparedness

Be ready for accreditation
Is there already a plan, or direction in place?
Project what employers will need.

Strategic Planning Focus

Need to take action.
Plans can be scaffolded, but something tangible should be in place soon.
Resonated: scaffolded approach to 5 year plan
Strategic plan is ending, levy in a few years…change is inevitable
We need to have a plan in place quickly.

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Question 2

Reflecting on our Mission: What unique strengths or characteristics does Tri-C have that differentiate it from other local educational options that give our students a competitive advantage in getting a good paying job or getting their BA?

Summary

The institution provides extensive student services, including personalized support, hand-holding from application through graduation, and strong community and industry connections. It offers accessible education across multiple campuses with affordable, transferable courses, and strong relationships with four-year institutions.

The institution supports diverse student populations and faculty, with passionate professors who have real-world experience and prioritize teaching. Various programs and degrees, flexible instruction modes, and increased online presence cater to students of all ages and needs, ensuring financial stability and a good return on investment.

Responses

Community-Centric Education
Bridging the industry and community needs
building connections here and with the community
community partners
Meeting student needs at first contact and match with the courses offered here with mapping technology
strong community support
Cost-Effective Education
Affordable
Low cost
return on investment
various locations, easily accessible
Diversity and Inclusion
diverse student populations
Diversity in faculty/staff backgrounds
diversity in student populations
Empowering Nursing Students
Awesome student services
lots of hand holding for students from application through graduation
Most students are serious about their education.
No adjustment to life in a residential college
Personalized support for students
Students of all ages
We produce quality nurses that can begin working in the workforce immediately. They easily transition to BSN schools to further their career and education.
Experiential Learning
engagement with employees and faculty
Passionate professors
Professors with real world experiences

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Financial Sustainability
Affordable
cost effective
financial stability
Flexible Learning Options
many different modes of instruction
Multiple campuses serving several communities
open enrollment
Other
Increased online presense
Knowledgeable and caring staff
Large enough to be an excellent academic option, yet not overwhelming for students
Professors who teach as their primary responsibility
transferrable classes/ curriculum
Variety of programs and degrees offered
wide variety of credit and non credit offerings
Seamless Academic Transfer
Courses that transfer to 4-year institutions
Fully transferable - academic plans that integrate with many colleges
Good relationships with 4 year institutions
Location accessibility and 4 campuses
Providing roadmaps to the students Accessibility to resources in all campuses
strong student services - transfer center, career center and tutoring

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Question 3

Reflecting on our Mission: What skills, knowledge or competencies do you think are most critical for students entering today's job market, either immediately after leaving Tri-C or after further education?

Summary

Emphasize fostering a supportive and diverse environment that values integrity, respect, and professionalism.

Focus on personal and academic development through clear educational pathways and career counseling. Promote student involvement, community integration, and the use of new technology while maintaining affordability and academic standards.

Celebrate achievements and uphold minimum technology requirements for online classes.

Responses

Critical Thinking Skills
Ability to critical thinking and application
Ability to evaluate own strengths
ability to self reflect
Critical thinking
think critically
Cultural and Information Literacy
cultural literacy
cultural sensitivity
Information land cultural literacy
Digital Literacy Skills
AI knowledge and appropriate use
Computer skills
economic literacy
Information literacy
math skills
Effective Professional Communication
Collaborative practice
Collaborators
communication
communication - professional
How to sift through information and effective communication
multigenerational communication and respect
oral and written communication
Oral communication
professional communication
professionalism
Effective Time Management
time management

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Other
evaluate information
how to attend a zoom meeting
how to multitask
How to write an email
independence
interview skill
Listening
multi-generaltional awareness
social media skills
Well versatile with using technology
Work Ethic

Proactive Job Search Skills
Advocate for themselves
advocate for yourself
be adaptable
be proactive
job search resources - alum for life
know how to ask for help
meet deadlines
Owning responsibility
Self-initiative Work! Don't wait to be asked.
take accountability for work and actions

Problem-Solving and Decision-Making
decision making
motivation
problem solving

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Question 4

Reflecting on our Values: What institutional values might we need to nurture or develop further to meet the challenges ahead?

Summary

Emphasize fostering a supportive and diverse environment that values integrity, respect, and professionalism.

Focus on personal and academic development through clear educational pathways and career counseling. Promote student involvement, community integration, and the use of new technology while maintaining affordability and academic standards.

Celebrate achievements and uphold minimum technology requirements for online classes.

Responses

Academic and Career Engagement
academics - see the big picture
career exploration and development
emphasize student involvement in and with institutional goals
make the educational path clear
Diversity and Inclusion Advocacy
cultural sensitivity
diversity
diversity - consideration
Foster supportive environment
Recognize and celebrate wins and demonstration of excellence, respect, and support of diversity
Value to enhance: integrity. We permit/allow too many actions and behaviors without consequences.
Values of integrity, diversity must be upheld
Other
electronic textbook issues
keep affordability
more in person classes
respect for students, faculty, and staff
Personal Development and Professionalism
confidence!
independence
personal dedication and motivation
personal presentation
professionalism
Screening the capabilities and aspiration at the first contact
social media skills
stay nurturing
Student Career Development
academic standards
counsel students to enter the right career path

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more community integration with students
Valuable education for the money
Technology Integration in Education
minimum technology requirements before taking online classes
universal AI expectations
working with new technology

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Strategies to Thrive

What strategies should Tri-C consider to do more than meet the challenges ahead, but thrive?

Summary

Be adaptable and find new ways to reach changing student populations by advertising more than traditional college programs. Develop student mapping needs and aspirations and be willing to try new approaches.

See Tri-C as an adaptable resource, keep class sizes small, and focus on being a teaching/learning college with more evening classes. Maintain full-time faculty positions, encourage in-person instruction, and hire more full-time faculty for a better faculty-to-student ratio.

Proactively reach the community with programming, integrate workforce and academic sides, and offer classes in various modalities and times.

Responses

Adaptability and Resource Optimization
be adaptable
be willing to try something new even if it may not work
Have only one weblink with links
see Tri-C as and always adaptable resource
Enhancing College Programs and Community Outreach
advertise more than traditional college programs
Be more proactive about reaching the community with community programing
Continue to run classes in a variety of modalities and times
Develop student mapping needs and aspirations that shows there path forward
encourage in person instruction
find new ways to reach out to changing student populations
focus on being a "teaching/learning" college
focused goals
Hire more full time faculty to keep a better full time faculty to student ratio
Keep class sizes small
keep full time faculty positions
offer more evening classes
work to integrate workforce and academic sides