MINUTES

Present:	Fergus Raphael (Chair), Mathew Lynch, Cal Koskowich, Nicole Geske, Obed Maurice
Students:	David, Elin, Jacqueline, Lee, Sylvin
Faculty/Staff:	Rita Halma, Stephen Graham, Terry Allred, Shoja Mazidi
Regrets:	Dennis Sheppard, Candace Lewko, Barry Robinson, David English, Nathan Sailer, Jake Waiboer, Christian Loew
Recorder:	Stephanie Gabrielson

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
   Welcome and introductions were made around the table.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**
   - The agenda was approved as distributed.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**
   - The minutes of the March 2015 advisory meeting were approved as circulated

4. **College-wide Updates**
   Rita gave a brief overview of the college-wide update on Dennis's behalf.

   - The Strategic planning process took a pause over the summer and started up again October 1st.
   - Phase one of the trades and technology building project is now complete; the grand opening was held on September 30th. Progress on phase two continues.
   - Enrollment for the School of Business was up significantly over the summer, however the conversion rate from applications to registered students was down.
   - The College launched the new online pilot program Business Risk Management on October 1st. This program has a series of courses which are broken down into modules for students to take. Each module has an outcome and is set to be completed in one month.

5. **Student Feedback**
   - Elin first year student, shared that she thought the program is well organized and very engaging.
   - Jaqueline first year student feel the program is good this far. She see a lot of value in the computer maintenance course, as it gives you the basic understanding that students need.
   - Lee first year student shared that students have struggled in the C++ class with basic programming concepts. Suggest having more time at the start of the course to cover the concepts more in-depth.
   - David second year student, feels that more homework assignments need to be assigned in order for students to really get practice on what they are learning.
   - Sylvan second year student, find that business courses should be optional, some students are only here for the computer courses and not interested in the business side.; A lot of the course are for future university transfer and members re assure the students that most employers are looking for students to have some business fundamentals.

6.   Program Updates
- Curriculum-
A handout was circulated to members showing the new layout to the program for students who started in fall 2015. One of the changes was going from three to two programing courses. CIT 2268 was an elective, and is now a core course, students need the background to be successful in the program.
A handout was circulated to show the prerequisites to courses.

- Enrollment-
45 students were admitted into the program for fall, with several on the waitlist. 12 students are accepted for winter, with several on the waitlist as well.

- Program capacity - members were asked their thoughts on increasing the program intakes. As of right now the IT field in Lethbridge is a "buyers' Market", students need to look outside of Lethbridge for potential jobs.

- Practicum placements-
Members were asked how they felt if practicums were offered in the fall as well as winter. Many found this to be a great idea, as they would be able to take on more students throughout the year. Possibly having a blocked time (Friday afternoons) over the semester could be an option.

- Student events- Two groups of students will be going to the ACM Programming Competition 14 November in Edmonton, coached by Stephen Graham.

- Members were asked to send us information of upcoming events, so we can share with students.

- Alumni award nominations-
Members were asked to forward any names of graduates to us.

7.   Other
- Suggestion to look into funding to update the computer hardware equipment so that it is consistent with the textbook.

8.   Membership – new member suggestions
- Suggestion to bring Rene Barlow on as a committee member.
- Members are requested to connect with other individuals within the community to expand the membership list.

9.   Marketing
- Members suggested to make a connection with YQL and Economic Development Lethbridge, to promote the success of our students.

10.   Next Meeting Date & Time
- The next meeting date is set for 6:00 pm on March 15, 2016.