

**Overview:**

The UBC Vancouver Campus and NCAA Division II Membership: A Review of the Issues is now available for review. The report details the work that has been done since 2009 and reviews the issues as they presently stand.

This document provides a summary of the key issues detailed in the report along with an update on the meeting held with the CIS on March 14, 2011 and a summary of the issues raised to date during consultation.

For more information on the consultation process and to complete the feedback form please visit: <http://www.students.ubc.ca/ncaa/>.

Consultation timeline:

- April, 2008 - Review Committee established to consider implications of a move to NCAA Division II
- March 19, 2009 - After a public consultation the Review Committee released the Consideration Memorandum
- April 16, 2009 - UBC Exec announced that the decision is being deferred pending more information
- February, 2011 – UBC Vancouver Campus and NCAA Division II Membership: A Review of the Issues was released

Review of the Issues as they currently stand:

- The NCAA declined to waive the accreditation requirement
- Attempts to resolve issues with the CIS have been unrewarded. CIS has declined to engage on the question of relaxing restrictions on student financial support. CIS has resisted efforts to create tiers that would protect the high level of competition
- CIS prohibits dual membership with the CIS and NCAA
- Since the first consultation it appears likely that NAIA will merge with NCAA within the next five years
- The SFU experience

Points for Remaining in the CIS/NAIA:

- UBC student-athletes competing in the CIS would retain five years of eligibility, rather than four in the NCAA
- UBC is spared the expense and logistical challenges of seeking US accreditation
- UBC maintains traditional rivalries with Western Canadian universities other than SFU
- Sport specific impact of NCAA membership is significant for some sports
- UBC is a founding member of CIS; switching to NCAA may be perceived as undermining the organization
- NCAA membership requires student-athletes to write SATs
- It's easier to stay; transition is challenging



Points for Moving to NCAA Div II:

- UBC could match scholarship offerings from SFU and other NCAA schools
- Of the 29 sports in which UBC competes, NCAA offers 25; CIS offers 15
- The eight sports currently competing in the NAIA would be protected
- The long-standing rivalry with SFU would be retained
- Membership in a US-based league builds international engagement
- UBC's visibility will be heightened, both institutionally and for international student recruitment
- It would protect a high competitive standard for varsity athletes
- Creation of a BC Division could end UBC's traditional rivalries against large, like-minded universities in Western Canada

Update on Meeting with CIS Leadership:

- CIS is deeply concerned that UBC would leave the CIS, see UBC as an integral part of CIS and don't want to lose UBC to the NCAA Div II
- CIS intends to resume consideration of scholarship arrangements once President Oversight Committee is established
- Canada West Future Competitive Structure Committee recommended that once CIS has approved the formation of a second Regional Association in Western Canada, CWUAA will split into Canada West Region One and Region Two. Motion was passed at 2010 Canada West AGM. The intention would be to have the newest teams would move into Canada West Region 2.

Themes arising from consultation process to date:

- Caution raised on the amount of work required as part of the accreditation process
- Differential impacts by sport in all of the options for intercollegiate sport at UBC Vancouver
- Athletics will need to raise additional scholarship dollars which ever membership option is pursued
- Student governments have been clear that consultation needs to happen with the student athletes as key stakeholder group