

October 2005 Status Report

October has been another busy month for the BCeSIS iGroup. Much of the focus of this month has been geared towards the first wave of schools, which are scheduled to go-live at the end of January.

1. The first major task of this month was to find and hire a trainer. Finding the right trainer is critical in enabling the BCeSIS iGroup to proceed with BCeSIS. With the first wave's training scheduled for early December this was a priority. We have been in contact with somebody from one of our BCeSIS iGroup schools who looks to be the ideal candidate. Once we have finalized the details of employment look for an announcement about our new trainer.
2. The second major event of this month was the move to the STAGE1 DB for four of our schools. These schools' staff had already received training in May/June and were ready to starting testing the setup of their schools. This is a very exciting step because it brings us closer to bringing the first iGroup school into production with BCeSIS. The lessons that are learnt by these four schools will be invaluable in helping the rest of BCeSIS iGroup schools implement faster and easier, by avoiding past mistakes.
3. Finally there were a number of minor website enhancements. The most major of these was the addition of the BCeSIS introduction videos to the site. These video were recorded in front of a live audience during a two day overview session in Richmond, BC and can be used to explain to your stakeholders what BCeSIS is all about.

November looks to be an exciting month as we put together some of the final plans and strategies that will allow us to put schools into production in the coming months. We will be looking at BCeSIS iGroup district security, conversion processes, and helpdesk services. Finally, continue to check the website (www.bcesisigroup.ca) for regular updates and announcements, and feel free to email me (andrewsmit@bcesisigroup.ca) if you have any concerns or questions.

Thank-you

Andrew Smit
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