

Heritage Christian Online School

**“Quality Educational Choices
with Christian Values.”**



Heritage Christian Online School is in its second year, having started in the fall of 2004. Last year we started with 430 students immediately becoming the largest Distributed Learning School in the Independent School Branch. We attribute the successful start to effectively meeting the needs of home school families and distance learners in the Province and building an excellent team of educators. Our growth as a school has continued through this year adding another 320 students bringing our enrollment over 750 students. We are now the second largest DL Program in the Province of either independent or public schools.

Our mandate in HCOS is to provide a Christian approach to the BC Educational Program for both home school families and distance learners. We have three program choices: the Individualized Option which allows families to use standard home school curriculum. In this program we provide a teacher to support and guide the parent through the process and assess the student's progress. The teacher also ensures that the student is on track to meet the Provincial Learning Outcomes. The second choice for students in Grade 5 and up is the Online Option. Students go to school over the internet using our Online Courses. These courses are supervised by a teacher over the internet where both instruction and assessment takes advantage of modern technology. The third program is the Integrated Option where students do a combination of the individualized and online courses.

Changes in the 05/06 School Year

This year we applied a number of changes that has facilitated growth and further influence as a school. We enlarged our Administrative team. We delegated the teacher support and supervision of the Individualized Program to Janet Rainbow. We established a specific Graduation Program with staff (Chris & Karen McGrath) that manages the unique needs of Grade 10-12 students. We added consistent help to Suzanne Johnson in our office with Trudy Hiebert. Steve Therrien, our technology supervisor, upgraded our online database for student administration. We added www.BCOnlineschool.ca to our program to allow other schools to take advantage of our Online Courses and teachers. So far eight independent schools are using our courses and teachers. This year we will host the first annual BC Christian Home Educators Conference (www.bcconvention.ca) on April 21st and 22nd where we anticipate up to 1000 people coming to KCC.

Vision for the Future

We have started talking with the Ministry of Education about taking HCOS to jurisdictions outside of BC. We are presently looking at opportunities in two Spanish speaking countries, other Provinces and some of our Northwestern neighboring states. We continue to write quality online courses and are now leading the way in course development and delivery in the Province. We can only see continued growth of our enrolment for the next couple of years.

A big thank you to the staff of HCOS for a very successful year.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Greg Bitgood

HCS School Superintendent