



British Columbia / Alberta **Transfer System Protocol**¹

Approved by the Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer on January 25th 2007

Approved by the British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer on March 9th 2007

Purpose of the Protocol

The purpose of this agreement is to provide assurance to students that they will receive transfer credit for courses or programs they have successfully completed *where the content/outcomes are demonstrably equivalent to those offered at the institution to which they transfer.*

This protocol is undertaken by the British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT) and the Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer (ACAT) in lieu of formal articulation because it is unlikely that the volume of students transferring to institutions in the other province will justify the resources necessary to undertake a formal articulation on a course-to-course basis. Additionally, the mandates of BCCAT and ACAT have not traditionally extended to the provision of specific information on out-of-province transfer agreements. However, should the volume of student transfer justify formal articulation, or should institutions be desirous of doing so for particular reasons, this protocol does not preclude formal articulation between institutions across provincial boundaries.

The Protocol

- Given the desire of the governments of British Columbia and Alberta, as expressed in the memorandum of Understanding of April 28, 2006 to “improve the accessibility of the Province’s post-secondary programs, particularly but not solely to students from Alberta and British Columbia,” and their interest in “enhanced credit transfer between the Province’s systems;” and
- given the many similarities of the BC and Alberta post-secondary and transfer environments; and
- given the importance of ensuring that students are treated equitably as they move between public institutions that are members of the B.C. Transfer System and the Alberta Transfer System; and

¹ This document is based on the Pan-Canadian Protocol on the Transferability of University Credits (see www.cmec.ca/postsec/transferabilit.en.stm) and on BCCAT’s suggested template for a Transfer Protocol between institutions in the BC Transfer System.

- given the assurance of the academic quality of private degree-granting institutions which have undergone evaluation and been recommended for approval through the quality assessment processes of the BC Degree Quality Assessment Board and the Campus Alberta Quality Council; and
- given the need to reassure students that all relevant course work satisfactorily completed at an institution or in a program that is recognized for transfer credit in the BC Transfer Guide or the Alberta Transfer Guide will be considered for recognition of credit should they be granted admission at another institution, and within the residency requirements and other academic policies of each institution; and
- given the need to reassure students that the process of transferring to another institution in the B.C. or Alberta Transfer System will not result in undue additional costs or in the repetition of equivalent previous learning experiences and;
- given the inclusion of public colleges in the Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories in the BC and Alberta Transfer Systems:

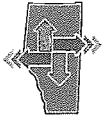
BCCAT and ACAT commit to encouraging all member institutions of the BC Transfer System, which includes Yukon College, and the Alberta Transfer System, which includes Nunavut Arctic College in Nunavut and Aurora College in the Northwest Territories, to ensure that relevant, appropriate and equivalent course work completed by British Columbia and Alberta students will be recognized and fully credited for the purposes of granting a credential provided that:

- the transfer student is deemed admissible and has been presented with an offer of admission;
- the transfer student has achieved a passing grade in his/her course[s] and has obtained grade levels that would normally be required of continuing students; and
- the credits earned are related to the program of study in which the transfer student will register, or the credits can be counted as electives for the program of study.

Academic Autonomy

In requesting member institutions of the BC and Alberta Transfer Systems to adhere to this protocol on the transferability of credits, BCCAT and ACAT agree that:

- the protocol in no way infringes on the academic autonomy of the institution;
- the protocol applies to transfer students who are deemed admissible by the institution. It does not reflect on the policies and practices used by the institutions in deciding upon the admissibility of students who apply for admission with advanced standing;
- the protocol is consistent with the integrity of institutional programs and the right of institutions to determine program design and delivery, to determine academic prerequisites, and to establish admission criteria, residency requirements, and certification requirements of academic achievement; and
- the protocol is consistent with both the BC and the Alberta Principles and Guidelines for Transfer and with the norms of each Transfer System as detailed in the BC Transfer Guide and the Alberta Transfer Guide.



Signatures

For the BC Council on Admissions & Transfer
(BCCAT):

Franklin Gelin

Dr. Franklin Gelin, Executive Director & Co-Chair

March 13, 2007

Date

For the Alberta Council on Admissions & Transfer
(ACAT):

Lucille Walter

Ms. Lucille Walter, Chair

March 16, 2007

Date

*This document is based on the Pan-Canadian Protocol on the Transferability of University Credits
(see www.cmec.ca/postsec/transferabilit.en.stm) and on BCCAT's suggested template for a Transfer Protocol
between institutions in the BC Transfer System.*