



Meeting #148 of the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer

**October 4, 2023** (9:30am – 12:30pm)

Online & In-Person (BCIT Downtown Campus, 555 Seymour Street, Vancouver, BC)

## MINUTES

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### ATTENDEES:

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS:

FLEMING, Robert (Co-Chair)	BCCAT Executive Director
HAMILTON, Jim (Co-Chair)	Retired President, Okanagan College
AROCA, Willy A.	Asst. Dept. Head, School of Hospitality, Vancouver Community College
BIIN, Dianne	Director, Indigenous Education & Engagement, Selkirk College
CHENOWETH, John	Associate Vice-President Academic, Community Education, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
CRESPIN-MUELLER, Dorys	Executive Director, Integrated Planning & Effectiveness, Thompson Rivers University
DICK, Brian	Professor and Chair, Engineering, Vancouver Island University
DOMAE, Lisa	President & CEO, North Island College
KRAUSE, Gerda	Dean, Faculty of Science, Langara College
KUNKEL, Titi	Vice-President Academic, Students, & International, Coast Mountain College
McCREIDIE, KAREN	Executive Director, EducationPlannerBC
McGregor, Helen	Superintendent and CEO, Vancouver School District
MITCHELL, Zena	Vice-President, Students, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
RENNIE, Kriston	Dean, Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences & Humanities, University of Northern BC
SAINI, Sam	Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions and Student Recruitment & Advising, UBC
SOMERVILLE, Michelle	Educational Advisor, Student Services, Okanagan College
STYLES, Laureen	Vice-President Academic & Provost, Capilano University
WHITE, Lisa	PhD Candidate, Department of Educational Studies & Indigenous Education, UBC

**REGRETS:** *Dianne Biin, Lisa Domae, Helen McGregor and Karen McCredie.*

#### STAFF MEMBERS:

CHUN, Anabella	Committee & Technology Support Coordinator
DROPOL, Adina	Office Coordinator
HESLOP, Joanne	Student Transitions Project Manager
KUO, Irene	Pathways Coordinator
McQUARRIE, Fiona	Special Projects Officer
TIKINA, Anna	Director, Research & Admissions
TING, Elle	Research & Projects Officer
WINSEMANN, Mike	Director, Transfer & Technology
YORKSTON, Valerie	Executive Assistant to the Council & Communications Coordinator

#### GUESTS:

- MINISTRY OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION & FUTURE SKILLS: **Ben Ferrel** (Executive Director, Post-Secondary Digital Policy & Programs.)
- GUEST PRESENTERS: **Dr. George Veletsianos** (Canada Research Chair in Innovative Learning & Technology, School of Education and Technology, Royal Roads University); **Dr. Valerie Irvine** (Assistant Professor & Co-Director of the Technology Integration & Evaluation (TIE) Research Lab, University of Victoria); and **Dr. Nicole Johnson** (Executive Director at Canadian Digital Learning Research Association – CDLRA).

*NOTE: For definitions of acronyms used in these minutes, refer to this list of Common Acronyms used by BCCAT:*

<https://www.bccat.ca/pubs/Resources/CommonAcronyms2022.pdf>

# MINUTES

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## 1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS – Rob Fleming & Jim Hamilton (Co-Chairs)

We acknowledge that the BCCAT office is situated on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkwəyám (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwataʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## 2. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Rob Fleming noted that he has received informal notice of new Council appointments (and re-appointments), and expects to receive the formal letters shortly. We expect to be able to welcome new members at the December 2023 meeting.

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## 3. PROPOSED AGENDA

Rob Fleming noted that item 5.4.2 (TAC Terms of Reference) will be deferred to the December meeting.

→ **MOTION:** To approve the agenda with the presented changes. *G. Krause / L. Styles* **CARRIED.**

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## 4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (June 5, 2023)

→ **MOTION:** To approve the June 2023 Council meeting minutes as presented. *W. Aroca / G. Krause* **CARRIED.**

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## 5. COUNCIL BUSINESS

### 5.1. Provincial Issues and Developments

#### 5.1.1. Ministry Update

Ben Ferrel provided a brief update, noting that Nicola Lemmer (Assistant Deputy Minister, Post-Secondary Policy and Programs) has announced that she will be retiring. Nicola will be hard to replace as she has extensive skills and experience. Ben expressed his appreciation for Nicola, noting that it has been a pleasure to work with her, and the team.

**ACTION:** Rob Fleming will forward a letter of appreciation to Nicola Lemmer on behalf of the Council.

Ben also updated members regarding development of the “Find Your Path” tool (in collaboration with EPBC). It is expected to launch in November. This tool presents considerable options for ongoing progress, including potential streamlining applications and layering in student mobility. The team will also be looking at PLAR and skills training.

#### 5.1.2. Indigenous Education Update

John Chenoweth shared about a recent trip to Labrador to explore potential delivery of NVIT programs there. John was struck with the remarkable support and interconnectedness (with Starlink) for these remote communities and wondered how we might move closer to providing that kind of support for BC’s Indigenous communities. Rob Fleming and Ben Ferrel both discussed how BCCAT, the Ministry, and other groups (such as BCNet) may be brought together to look at these questions.

**ACTION:** Rob Fleming will follow up with Ben and John to explore the possibility of arranging a discussion opportunity with IAHLA and other groups.

#### 5.1.3. EducationPlannerBC (EPBC) Update

Ben provided an update on Karen McCredie’s behalf, noting recent developments, including:

- the recent launch of the refreshed EPBC site, with a refreshed design and upgraded functionality and user customization; and
- the upcoming launch of the Find Your Path tool. (See item 5.1.1 above).

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## 5.2. Executive Director Report

Rob Fleming provided updates on recent activities and developments, including the following:

### MINISTRY/GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

- Minister’s Town Hall (September 27) at the BCIT Aerospace campus – the event was lively and engaging, with the Minister addressing great questions from students. Key questions focused on the cost of living, quality assurance, and residency.
- Meeting with the Ministry Chief of Staff (Eric Peters) regarding the Fair Credential Recognition initiative. (See <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/engagement/foreign-credential-recognition/>.)
- Digital Services Strategy (developments regarding BCCAT’s TCS Pathways project, and a presentation at the Vice-Presidents’ Learning Group on September 27<sup>th</sup>.)
- Micro-Credentials Advisory Group Meeting and Follow Up

### BC TRANSFER SYSTEM – CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

- BC Transfer System (BCTS) Membership: Policy Development in relation to IAHLA schools
- BCTS membership applications received and anticipated
- BC Registrars Association (BCRA) meetings in August and October (focused on research priorities)
- BCTS policy renewal

### INTER-PROVINCIAL / INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- Transfer Credit System (TCS) Assignment and Licensing
- IP Assignment settled with CMB and Bayleaf
- Ontario Council on Articulation & Transfer (ONCAT) - Consultation from Ministry regarding licensing, TCS feasibility assessment, and ONCAT conference in November.
- Conference Board of Canada College Executive Group and Conference Oct 15-16

#### 5.2.1. Staff Report

The staff report was presented for information.

#### 5.2.2. Project & Activities Update

Rob reported that the projects are on track, overall, with one exception. We are now looking into moving the “Indigenizing BCCAT’s Research” project in-house, as we have had no submissions in response to the CFP.

## 5.3. Budget & Accountability

### 5.3.1. 2023-24 Budget Update

Rob provided a brief budget update.

### 5.3.2. Accountability Letter and Schedule

Members reviewed a letter from the Ministry outlining BCCAT’s mandate and accountability.

## 5.4. Council Policies

### 5.4.1. Operational/Formatting Updates

This item was presented for information only. Members were referred to recent updates to Council policies. The changes were made to address formatting or operational issues.

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#### 5.4.2. Updated TAC Terms of Reference

As noted in item 3 above, this item was deferred.

#### 5.4.3. BC Transfer System *Principles & Guidelines*

Members were referred to changes recommended by the Transfer & Articulation Committee. Changes were largely editorial and to improve clarity, including updating the language and omitting the last section (not pertaining to principles and guidelines). A section was added that focuses on roles and responsibilities.

→ **MOTION:** To approve the *Principles & Guidelines* as presented or amended.

**G. Krause / J. Chenoweth CARRIED.**

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## 6. ADMISSIONS

### 6.1. Admissions Committee (Last Meeting: September 22, 2023)

Zena Mitchell (Committee Chair) provided a few key points regarding the last committee meeting:

- The committee welcomed two new members: Pedro da Silva (Associate Superintendent, Vancouver School District) and Ed Benoit (Associate Vice-President, Academic, College of New Caledonia).
- A number of projects are underway.
  - *In process:* Increasing Availability of Transfer Data (ongoing); International Transfer Student Pathways (in data collection phase); Pathways from Upgrading Programs (submitted report under review).
  - *Nearing Completion (publication expected in fall/winter):* Course Outline Policies and Practices; Proactive Admissions Overview, and the Summer Melt

### 6.2. Admissions Projects

#### 6.2.1. EDI in Admissions for Students with Disabilities

Elle Ting noted that the committee approved the final report for this project, and it is expected to be published within the next month or two.

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## 7. RESEARCH

### 7.1. Research Committee (Next Meeting: Oct. 13, 2023)

Brian Dick (Committee Chair) noted the appointment of a new committee member: Tracy Carmichael (Director, Institutional Research, JIBC).

Brian also reported that the BC Transfer Student Profile & Performance project is expected for completion in spring 2024, and the Indigenizing BCCAT Research project is on hold.

### 7.2. 2023-24 Research Plan

Anna Tikina presented the 2023-24 Research Plan, outlining current projects and those for consideration in the longer term. <https://www.bccat.ca/resources/ResearchPlan2023.pdf>

### 7.3. Research Projects

#### 7.3.1. Survey of Mobile Students

A short gif presenting these survey findings is in process, and expected to be published shortly.  
<https://www.bccat.ca/publication/surveyofmobilestudents>

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### (7.3.2) Presentation: Online Delivery Trends

- by Dr. George Veletsianos (Royal Roads University), Dr. Valerie Irvine (University of Victoria), and Dr. Nicole Johnson (Canadian Digital Learning Research Association – CDLRA).

See the full report at <https://www.bccat.ca/publication/onlinedeliverytrends>

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## 8. TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

### 8.1. Transfer & Articulation Committee (TAC) (Last Meeting: September 29, 2023)

Sam Saini (Committee Chair) provided a brief update on the last meeting, Discussions at the meeting involved:

- Recommendations regarding revisions to the Principles & Guidelines
- TAC Terms of Reference, under review
- Best practices for the BCTS regarding membership applications, and potential review of the process going forward

### 8.2. Articulation Committees

One articulation committee was almost delisted due to inactivity, but interest in reviving the committee was expressed at the last moment. Some members of the Computing Science committee have expressed interest in forming a new committee to represent programs in digital design. Committees have now returned to pre-pandemic levels of activity, but it is clear that hybrid meetings are now the norm. Staff are encouraging meeting organizers to provide an online attendance option, to accommodate representatives who may not be comfortable attending in person.

### 8.3. TAC Projects

Fiona McQuarrie provided the following project updates:

- Professional certification and its effect on transfer – the literature review is now complete.
- EAL benchmarks – The project contractors are drafting revised benchmarks and are preparing to share them with institutions and articulation committee representatives for feedback.

### 8.4. 2023 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM): November 2-3, 2023

Registration for JAM is filling up fast, with only 5 more in-person spots available. Council members who wish to participate are invited, but encouraged to register quickly. This will be our second hybrid JAM. This event will be online (Nov. 2-3) and hybrid (Nov. 3; in-person at the Paradox Hotel Vancouver). See <https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam2023> for more information about the agenda sessions.

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## 9. TECHNOLOGIES/WEBSITES

### 9.1. Transfer Credit System (TCS) Update

#### 9.1.1. TCS Developments

Mike reported that the .Net 6 programming framework and enhancements related to the TCS dashboard are being updated and once that's complete, some previously tabled enhancements related to dashboard and interface will be implemented.

The TCS licensing agreement with the Ministry and Manitoba is now complete.

#### 9.1.2. TCS Suite

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Mike noted that there are no significant new developments regarding the TCS suite since the last Council meeting, aside from the 15 schools already participating in the process.

### 9.1.3. TCS Pathways

Jennifer Kook provided a brief update on the TCS Pathways Module. At the time, the team was working on the gap analysis between two programs, as well as on the design and development of the program pathway builder.

As it is a new system tool, she was hopeful to be able to show some of it at the December, 2023 meeting or at the March 2024 meeting.

## 9.2. BCCAT Website Update

Mike mentioned that the new and refreshed BCCAT website went live in June. See [www.bccat.ca](http://www.bccat.ca) to explore the enhanced site.

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## 10. COMMUNICATIONS

### 10.1. 2023 BCCAT Transfer Awards

→ **MOTION:** *To approve the recommendation of the BCCAT Transfer Awards Committee that **Stephanie Boychuk** be presented with the Rising Star Award, for conferral in fall 2023.*

***B. Dick / L. Styles CARRIED.***

Val confirmed the decision of Council (with members voting on the above motion by email) prior to the Council meeting, following review of the report and recommendation of the Awards Committee. Stephanie Boychuk (Instructor/Chair, Adult Basic Education, Vancouver Island University) was nominated by Dr. Jean Maltesen (Dean, Academic and Career Preparation, Vancouver Island University). The nomination sets out how Stephanie demonstrated extraordinary leadership of the ABE Steering Committee immediately upon her election to the committee. Through Stephanie's leadership, the committee got back on track after a period of significant challenges.

Following Council's decision, Val contacted Stephanie and Jean to relay the happy news and to begin planning for the Awards Ceremony. This will be held at the JAM 2023 Reception on the evening of November 2, 2023.

For further information, see <https://www.bccat.ca/about/awards>.

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## 11. INTER-PROVINCIAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### 11.1. Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions & Transfer (PCCAT)

Rob reported that he has stepped down from the PCCAT Conference Planning Committee, and Mike Winsemann has replaced him.

### 11.2. Groningen Declaration Network (GDN)

There was no news to report. Information on the network is available at: <https://www.groningendeclaration.org>.

### 11.3. Inter-Provincial Collaborations

Mike reported that BCCAT is working *together* with ONCAT regarding sharing TCS technologies. A feasibility assessment is underway, as well as consultations with the Ministry regarding licensing issues. The first step will involve a gap analysis.

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## 12. IN THE NEWS (for info only)

Rob Fleming shared some recent news items of interest: <https://mailchi.mp/4d3342615c35/gd0mdypkrv-6272099>

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## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business.

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## 14. NEXT MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT

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RESEARCH	Friday, October 13, 2023
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Monday, December 4, 2023</b>
ADMISSIONS	Friday, January 26, 2024
TAC	Friday, February 2, 2024
RESEARCH	Friday, February 9, 2024
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Monday, March 4, 2024</b>
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Monday, June 3, 2024</b>

