

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

FLEMING, Robert (Co-Chair)	BCCAT Executive Director
GRAEME, Angus (Co-Chair)	Retired President, Selkirk College
AROCA, Willy A.	Assistant Dept. Head, School of Hospitality, Vancouver Community College
BIIN, Dianne	Director, Indigenous Education & Engagement, Selkirk College
CHENOWETH, John	President & CEO, NVIT
DOMAE, Lisa	President & CEO, North Island College
HULBERT, Avery	Faculty Instructor/Program Coordinator, College of the Rockies
KIRKEY, Jennifer	College Instructor, Faculty of Science, Douglas College
KUNKEL, Titi	Vice-President Academic, Students, and International, Coast Mountain College
McCREDIE, Karen	Executive Director, EducationPlannerBC
McGREGOR, Helen	Superintendent & CEO, Vancouver School District
McKEOWN, Stephanie	Chief Institutional Research Officer, UBC
McMILLAN, Grant	University Registrar, Trinity Western University
MITCHELL, Zena	Vice-President, Students, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
SAINI, Sam	Associate Registrar & Director of Undergraduate Admissions & Student Recruitment, UBC
SIEDLACZEK, Kathy	Dean, Academic Planning & Quality Assurance, BCIT
SOMERVILLE, Michelle	Education Planning Advisor, Recruitment and Enrolment Management, Okanagan College
WHITE, Lisa	PhD Candidate, Dept. of Educational Studies & Indigenous Education, UBC
WIEBE, Sunita	Director, Academic Quality Assurance, Langara College

REGRETS: *Laureen Styles*

STAFF MEMBERS:

DROPOL, Adina	Office Coordinator
CHUN, Anabella	Committee & Technology Support Coordinator
HESLOP, Joanne	Student Transitions Project Manager
KOOK, Jennifer	Associate Director, Member Services & Engagement
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	Communications Coordinator

GUESTS:

FERRELL, Ben	Executive Director, Post- Secondary Digital Policy & Programs, PSFS
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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

1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS – R. Fleming & A. Graeme (Co-Chairs)

We acknowledge that we are gathering on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkwey̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

2. PROPOSED AGENDA – A. Graeme

The proposed agenda was approved, with the following minor changes: Avery Hulbert to be listed as member of the Council and a new item to be added under the Transfer & Articulation section, 7.3 JAM Update.

MOTION: To approve the proposed agenda as presented. H. McGregor / G. McMillan CARRIED

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (Mar 10, 2025)

The March 2025 minutes were approved, with minor changes: Avery Hulbert was listed as Council member at the meeting, and item 4.1.2 under Council business was changed to “Indigenous Education Update”.

MOTION: To approve the proposed agenda as presented. J. Chenoweth / M. Somerville CARRIED

4. COUNCIL BUSINESS

4.1 Provincial Issues and Developments

4.1.1 Ministry Update – B. Ferrell

Ben provided a brief update, noting the following:

- In the mandate letter from the Premier, there is reference to an expenditure review in preparation for the next few years. The government is working on forecasting what future revenue will look like in the face of uncertainty and working to identify opportunities to preserve the quality of programs.
- The primary focus is on strategic planning. Government-elected officials are currently reviewing expenditures and will provide direction on moving forward by mid-summer.

4.1.2 Indigenous Update – D. Biin & J. Chenoweth

- Dianne attended the Indigenous Articulation Committee, and they are in the process of changing the committee’s name.
 - Across the system, institutions are creating space for mental wellness. However, there is a reduction in Indigenous Language program offerings and there is a need for institutions to work together with IAHLA institutions to create opportunities for collaboration and support student enrollment.
 - John highlighted that Indigenous language work is needed as there is a state of crisis across the country. Indigenous Elders are getting older, and primary language and cultural teachings are at risk of extinction. Communities are trying to re-learn their languages.
 - NVIT is working to provide community resources for language preservation; every school has a responsibility to help. NVIT is also working with UNBC to obtain funding for a degree-granting pathway in Indigenous language fluency in their region.
 - As a call to action in terms of supporting language revitalization and learning recognition, BCCAT can provide support in its areas of responsibility and BCcampus can support accessibility through virtual learning resources and training.
 - The scope of the conversation on Indigenous language revitalization is much broader than BCCAT’s mandate, so there is need for conversations with different groups and at different venues.
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4.1.3 EducationPlannerBC Update – K. McCredie

- Karen reported the EPBC Annual Report was published
- EPBC is currently wrapping up another engagement session which was very successful, reaching an audience of over 4K parents.
- International applications are down by 20%.
- There are lots of online activities. Among some new additions are the “Find your Fit” introductory sessions for middle years students. There is a lot of excitement from schools and requests for participation.
- In terms of its initiative related to Microcredentials, EPBC is looking into how to display information and enhance student supports.
- Trades Training registration and waitlisting initiative to support trades programs.
- With regards to future MyCreds integration, EPBC is assessing approaches to facilitate documents and data movement from across Canada and beyond as a portal for BC institutions.

4.2 Executive Director Report – R. Fleming

Rob provided some highlights of recent activities and developments at BCCAT.

4.2.1 Key Activities & Developments

CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

- In relation to Nursing programs, BCCAT led a series of conversations with the LPN to BSN innovation pathways working group about pathways building. The group is looking to map laddering pathways opportunities. Working sessions to follow later in the summer.
- Council requests for appointments and re-appointments have been submitted to CABRO (Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office).
- Rob will consult with the DQAB secretariat around BCCAT’s membership policy review, when ready. Committee meetings are ongoing and have included IAC, TAC, and the Ministry. Consultation with the IAHLA board will also be arranged, likely in the fall.
- BCCAT and TRU have been meeting regularly to develop TCS functionality to support documentation and publication of Microcredential assessment for credit. A service contract will be developed for further workflow exploration in the coming months.
- Meetings with Northern Consortium Consultants on Student Pathway development initiatives and priorities.

INTER-PROVINCIAL/INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- Staff have attended the ACAT Annual Pathways meeting via Zoom.
- Staff attended the GDN and PCCAT conference at the end of May, online and in-person. Sessions are now available online.
- Transfer Credit Frameworks workshop with CIGan
- Panel session – Canadian Military, Vet and Family Connected Campus Consortium (CMVF3C) focussed on enhancing recognition/transfer for military training and learning through PLAR.

ARTICULATION

- Articulation season is almost completed with good engagement (more than 40 articulation committee meetings)

4.2.2 Staff Report

The staff report was presented for information.

4.2.3 Project & Activities Update

The projects were on track.

4.3 BCCAT Budget

4.3.1 Final FYE 2025 Budget Report

Rob walked the members through the final fiscal year end consolidations document.

MOTION: To approve the 2024-25 Draft Budget Estimations. W. Aroca / J. Kirkey CARRIED

4.3.2 Ministry Base Funding Letter

The Ministry Base Funding letter was included in the agenda package for reference.

4.3.3 FY26 Q1 Update

Rob walked the Council members through the first quarter budget document.

4.4 Membership Policy Review Update

4.4.1 Draft Revised Policy Information Note & Draft Policy

The Membership Policy Review Committee was formed to improve and update the policy. Feedback was received from articulation committees and TAC. The Policy was separated from the Procedures. The plan is to submit a draft Policy and Procedures document for discussion at the October or December Council meeting after consultations with the Ministry, DQAB and the IAHLA Board in the Fall.

5. ADMISSIONS

5.1 Admissions Committee – Z. Mitchell (Chair) (Last Meeting: January 24, 2025)

Zena reported that the Admissions committee last met on January 24. The minutes from that meeting will be included in the October package. Next Committee meeting will be held in September.

In terms of membership changes, Fred Jacklin has stepped down due to retirement, and Zena's term will be ending in October, after 7 years on the committee. The committee will be looking for an additional new member over the summer.

5.2 Admissions Projects – A Tikina

For the current projects on the go for the 2024/25 fiscal year, Anna highlighted two of them:

- The *Students' Affordability Considerations for Post-Secondary Access* project is currently in the data analysis stage.
- The *Policies and Practices of Course Syllabi Distribution at BC Post-Secondary Institutions* project has been completed and the report is in the publication stage. A preview of the report was included in the agenda package as well.

For the current projects for the 2025/26 fiscal year, *The Value Proposition for Post-Secondary Education* project will be done in-house and the *Review of Admissions Models at BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions* project will be contracted out.

5.2.1 Course Syllabi Distribution: Policies & Practices – E. Ting

Elle reported that the project focussed on the timing of syllabi distribution and its influence on student engagement and retention at BC PSIs. Changes were recommended to separate the concept of decolonization from the wider

concept of EDI. The project will be published soon. Dianne and Lisa suggested splitting references to EDI and decolonization in the report, and the changes will be incorporated.

6. RESEARCH

6.1 Research Committee – S. McKeown (Chair) (Last Meeting: February 7, 2025)

Stephanie reported that the last committee meeting took place on February 7 and it was online. The minutes will be included at the October Council meeting.

Dianne Biin, Director, Indigenous Education & Engagement (Selkirk College) has completed her term as a committee member, and Stephanie has decided to continue as committee member and Chair for an additional 3-year term. The committee will be looking to recruit a new member in the summer.

6.2 Research Projects – A. Tikina

Among the 2024/25 projects, the *Delivery Preferences and Overview of Student Surveys and Institutional Responses*, led by CHASI UFV, was completed. The *Exploring Inter-Provincial Student Mobility* project, led by HESA, was close to completion.

The current 2025/26 research projects are *Laddering Short Post-Secondary Programs: Policies and Perspectives*, which will be contracted out, and *Administering Three-Year Degrees: A Review of Drivers, Policies and Practices*, which will be conducted in-house.

The Contemporary Issues project *Authentic Models for Inclusion* project is almost complete. The draft was received and was being reviewed at BCCAT.

Work began on the new Contemporary Issues project *Transferring Accommodations in an Institutional Setting: Challenges and Opportunities*. The contract for *Advancing Cross-Discipline Credit Recognition Pathways in BC* project is still being prepared.

6.2.1 Delivery Preferences: Student Surveys and Institutional Responses – A. Tikina

Anna noted that the *Delivery Preferences and Overview of Student Surveys and Institutional Responses*, led by CHASI UFV, was completed. The contractors developed an online dashboard, which will be added to the BCCAT website shortly.

7. TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

7.1 Transfer & Articulation Committee – S. Saini (Chair) (Last Meeting: May 23, 2025)

Sam reported the last TAC meeting was held on May 23. The committee minutes from the meeting on January 21 were included in the Council package. The committee welcomed another new member – Emily Gadzala, Student Advisor, Faculty of Environment (UNBC).

The committee requested that BCCAT staff create a summary of the 2024 report updating the alignments between EAP Levels 1-4 learning outcomes and the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLBs), which is intended for use by registrars, academic advisors, institutional staff, and other PS system participants who may not be familiar with the two frameworks or their applications.

TAC received a proposal from the EAL articulation committee for funding the development of an EAP Level 5 course. The committee reviewed the proposal and returned it to the project proponents with suggestions for revision. The proponents have decided to undertake the work of developing the course themselves.

The BC Transfer System Membership Policy was presented to the committee for feedback to inform the work of the Membership Policy Review Committee.

7.2 TAC Projects – *F. McQuarrie*

Fiona is currently working on the *Assessing the Resource Requirements and Benefits of Participation in the BC Transfer System* project, in the 2025/26 work plan. When this report is completed, she will start the second project, *Understanding Barriers to Transferring Credit for Transfer Students in BC*.

The Special Project Funding available to articulation committees has resulted in some broad expressions of interest. There is no deadline for applications as these are assessed on a first-come first-served basis.

7.3 JAM Update – *M. Winsemann*

Mike reported that this year's JAM will take place on November 6 and 7 in hybrid format. This year, Phedloop will be the online platform. BCCAT staff have started preparing for the event, building the agenda based on current events. Mike asked the members what topics they'd like to see at JAM. Some of the suggestions included Microcredentials (delivery and use), preservation of Indigenous Languages, AI use by practitioners, Decolonization, Reconciliation and Indigenization – showcasing decolonizing admissions and supporting students in innovative ways.

8. TECHNOLOGIES/WEBSITES

8.1 Transfer Credit System (TCS) Update – *M. Winsemann*

Mike reported that TCS has expanded to include Microcredentials pathways for credit. This is currently only available at TRU but it will expand to include more pathways between PSIs. It is expected that 40-50 pathways will be added over the summer months.

8.1.1 TCS Modernization – *M. Winsemann*

The survey of TCS users is complete. A survey for subject matter experts is under development. The goal is to review BCCAT's technology platform, with a goal of leveraging new and existing technologies to support transfer.

8.2 ONCAT Project – *M. Winsemann*

Mike reported that Ontario and their ONCAT institutions have completed pilot testing the Ontario version of the TCS. A shared platform between BC and Ontario has been readied for production launch. This will enable shared resources and data and future transfer agreements between the two provinces on the same platform. This project is intended to go live in Fall, 2025.

BCCAT is working with ONCAT on a service level agreement for the use of its platform.

8.3 TCS Pathways Update – *J. Kook*

Jennifer reported BCCAT wrapped up discussions around the POC. Staff is currently pilot testing to ensure the Pathway Module is ready for its Phase II launch this summer. Jennifer noted the PSI context has changed: PSIs are now only working on pathway agreement development and staff members are adding in program requirement information for them.

9. COMMUNICATIONS – V. Yorkston

9.1 2025 Annual Review

Val introduced this year’s Annual Review (entitled “Stepping Up”) which focuses on how BCCAT and the transfer community are stepping up to address current post-secondary challenges.

Members voted to accept the Annual Review with one minor correction. Before being released publicly, the report will be sent to the Ministry, along with a summary newsletter and other related pieces.

MOTION: To accept the 2025 Annual Review, as presented. K. Siedlaczek / T. Kunkel CARRIED

9.2 2024-25 Web & Social analytics (Summary)

Val presented a summary of web and social analytics overview to inform strategies for raising engagement and increase BCCAT’s reach.

10. THANKS TO OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS – R. Fleming & A. Graeme

Angus extended sincere thanks to outgoing Council members Laureen Styles and Helen McGregor for their active and insightful contributions during their terms as members on the Council, and wished them well on their next projects.

11. IN THE NEWS

Click here to view recent news articles of interest:

<https://mailchi.mp/d057739b55b2/gd0mdypkrv-6747790>

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. NEXT MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT:

TAC	September 19, 2025
ADMISSIONS	September 26, 2025
COUNCIL	October 6, 2025
RESEARCH	October 10, 2025
COUNCIL	December 8, 2025
ADMISSIONS	January 23, 2026
RESEARCH	February 6, 2026
COUNCIL	March 16, 2026