

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

WINSEMANN, Mike	BCCAT Executive Director-Interim
GRAEME, Angus (Co-Chair)	Retired President, Selkirk College
AROCA, Willy A.	Interim Dean, School of Hospitality, Food Studies & Business, Vancouver Community College
CHENOWETH, John	President & CEO, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
COLLINS, Lisa	Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President, Students, SFU
DOMAE, Lisa	President & CEO, North Island College
HERRERA LIRA, Debi	Chairperson, BC Federation of Students
HULBERT, Avery	Faculty Instructor/Program Coordinator, College of the Rockies
KAARDAL, Kevin	Retired Superintendent of Schools & CEO, Central Okanagan Public Schools
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
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, Teaching & Learning, BCIT
SOMERVILLE, Michelle	Education Planning Advisor, Recruitment and Enrolment Management, Okanagan College
WIEBE, Sunita	Director, Academic Quality Assurance, Langara College

REGRETS: *Biin, Dianne***STAFF MEMBERS:**

CHUN, Anabella	Committee & Technology Support Coordinator
DROPOI, Adina	Office Coordinator
HESLOP, Joanne	Student Transitions Project Manager
JACKLIN, Fred	Interim Director, Transfer & Articulation
KOOK, Jennifer	Interim Director, Information Technology
KUO, Irene	Pathways Coordinator
McQUARRIE, Fiona	Special Projects Officer
TIKINA, Anna	Director, Research & Admissions
TING, Elle	Research & Projects Officer
YORKSTON, Valerie	Communications Officer

GUESTS:

FERRELL, Ben	Executive Director, Post- Secondary Digital Policy & Programs, PSFS
GUEST PRESENTERS	Chris Rathbone, Assistant Deputy Minister, PSFS

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 (DRAFT)

1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

We acknowledge that we are gathering on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples including the territories of the xʷməŋkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) ʔSkwxwúmesh (Squamish) ʔStó:lō and Selilwetaʔ-Selilwitulh (Tseil̓ Waututh) Nations;

Angus welcomed the members to the meeting. He informed the attendees that audio recording would be turned on to assist with minute-taking. There were no concerns from attendees around transcript recording.

2. PROPOSED AGENDA

Angus informed the Council members that the Ministry Update was delayed until later in the meeting. The proposed agenda was approved as presented.

MOTION: To approve the proposed agenda as presented. K. McCredie/J. Kirkey **CARRIED**

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (March 16, 2026)

The March 16 minutes were approved as presented.

MOTION: To approve the December 2025 minutes as presented. K. McCredie/J. Kirkey **CARRIED**

4. REGULAR OPEN MEETING DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Provincial Issues and Developments

4.1.1 Indigenous Education Update

John provided an update, noting the following:

- Work was continuing with partner institutions and communities. John shared there is a significant change happening in communities around policy and protocol. John has been working with NVIT elders on protocols to focus on. Many elders feel inadequate as they do not know their language or culture well enough. This raised the question of what students might be struggling with around their identities. Some elders suggested that the system will change for Indigenous peoples when they find a way to love and accept who they are in terms of culture, languages and practices. A powerful message was that you're not going to be able to help students today if you're focussed on what you lost yesterday.

4.1.2 EducationPlannerBC Update

Karen provided an update on the EducationPlannerBC engagement work, noting four important items:

- EducationPlannerBC has partnered with the *Future Skills Grant* office – an initiative that supports upskilling and reskilling across the province. Through this partnership, EducationPlannerBC has been providing a connection point for students to learn about the opportunities and program availability. This year's offerings will be listed on the EducationPlannerBC website as they become available and will be removed as they fill up. Karen encouraged the Council members to work with students and institutions to keep an eye on those opportunities. This has been a successful program.
 - EducationPlannerBC had also recently launched the provincial applicant survey. This is a province-wide applicant survey of every single student who has applied through EducationPlannerBC's application this year. The survey will continue to roll out as new applicants come onboard. The first results will be available in the Fall. For this survey, EducationPlannerBC has partnered with Academica. The data will be shared sector-wide and hopefully it will also be connected to the STP for a better view of what's happening in BC currently.
 - Last year, EducationPlannerBC took on the *Find your Fit* initiative, which is a provincial-wide student engagement activity for younger years students. EBC has added additional engagement opportunities through hands-on interactive work for two different student-age populations: grades 5-8 and grades 9-2.
 - In July, EducationPlannerBC will launch its transfer credit tool in collaboration with BCCAT. This means students will be able to enter or look at their full academic record against the BC Transfer Guide and see how it compares across one or
-

multiple institutions. This will really help students make informed decisions about transfer opportunities and where the best fit would be for them as they move forward.

4.2 Executive Director Report

Mike informed the members that the Executive Director report was included in the Council package. Mike provided a high-level summary of recent activities and developments at BCCAT.

4.2.1 Executive Director Report

Some of the key activities since the last Council met related to concluding the FY26, beginning the 2026-27 fiscal year after approval of work plan and budget from Council, and hiring Fred Jacklin as Interim Director, Transfer & Articulation. Mike thanked Fiona McQuarrie for stepping in as Acting Director during the transition to a new Interim Director.

In May, BCCAT has put forward new candidates for new appointments to CABRO through the nomination process to replace the outgoing Council members: Willy Aroca, Jennifer Kirkey, and John Chenoweth.

The Ministry Update will further discuss the implications of the new Public Sector Office (PSO) project that will be created along with three other program offices: BCcampus, EducationPlannerBC and BC Electronic Library.

Mike was acting Co-Chair for the ARUCC/PCCAT conference, which was going to take place the following week in Montreal (June 15-17), with many BCCAT staff attending and presenting.

The new 5-year MOU and space use agreement with BCIT was concluded. BCCAT has entered year two.

In terms of key meetings/presentations, Mike attended the IAHLA board meeting to provide an update on the BCCAT member policy. There was discussion around establishing a working group for publishing pathways that are already established between IAHLA organizations and PSIs. Mike also participated as a panellist at the College Board of Canada conference. Discussion was focussed around microcredential pathways.

Spring is BCCAT's articulation season with BCCAT staff attending most of the meetings. Some of the key issues discussed at those meetings focussed on AI, particularly as it relates to exam invigilation and online materials, around the cost to attend articulation meetings and around the post-secondary review. This Avison report will likely be released in the Fall.

Some of the goals for the next quarter include continued work on the transition to a new PSO, the launch of a webinar series for BCCAT services, planning for the upcoming JAM in November, and onboarding new Council members.

4.2.2 Staff Report

The staff report was included in the package for information.

4.2.3 Projects Status Chart

The projects status chart reflects the BCCAT work plan. The document is updated for every Council meeting. The projects were on track.

4.3 Annual Budget & Work Plan

4.3.1 Final FYE 2026 Budget Report

Mike provided a budget update to Council members on the final FY26 budget surplus. The surplus funds were returned to the Ministry. Key reasons for the surplus included lower than anticipated costs for salaries and benefits, lower costs for JAM when it moved to online from hybrid format, and reduced travel expenses.

MOTION: To accept the FYE26 Final Budget as presented. K. Karda/L. Collins CARRIED

4.3.2 FY 2027 Q1 Update

Mike presented the Q1 budget update for the current fiscal year to the members.

4.3.3 Ministry Base Funding Letter

The *Ministry Base Funding Letter* document was included in the package for reference only.

5. ADMISSIONS

5.1 Admissions Committee

(Last Meeting: May 29, 2026)

Sunita informed the Council members that the committee last met on May 29, and the meeting minutes from that meeting were not included in the agenda package. In terms of membership, Peter Geller has retired in May and therefore stepped down from the committee.

Anna added that the project *Affordability Considerations for Post-Secondary Access* was published. The report is available online and she also had hard copies for those interested.

5.2 Admissions Projects

5.2.1 The Value Proposition for Post-Secondary Education – summary

Elle highlighted that *The Value Proposition for Post-secondary Education* project, which she led in-house, was completed and was going to be published shortly.

5.2.2 A Review of Admissions Models at BC Public Post-Secondary in BC - summary

Elle reported that a summary of *A Review of Admissions Models at BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions* report was provided in the agenda package. The report explored perspectives of admission professionals on the models that they use. The report will likely be released in the next few months.

6. RESEARCH

6.1 Research Committee

(Last Meeting: February 6, 2026)

Stephanie reported that the Research Committee has not met since February 6. There were no changes to the Research membership. The committee was still looking for an additional member to join the committee. Two of the FY26 projects were close to completion:

1. The *Administering Three-Year Degrees: A Review of Drivers, Policies and Practices* project was led by Elle Ting. She was working on the final draft and the project was expected to complete by end of June.
2. The *Laddering Short Post-Secondary Programs: Practices and Perspectives* project was also close to completion. The Committee approved the report for publication.

For the fiscal 2026-27, the *Survey of Mobile Students 2026*, which would follow the previous surveys conducted in 2012 and 2019, is a project that would likely span over two years. There were discussions with potential contractors, and a working group would be formed to help advise with progress on the survey. For the *First-Generation Students Transfer* project, a contract agreement was in place with a potential contractor. The contract was in the process of being signed.

6.2 Research Projects

6.2.1 Building Pathways: Laddered Credentials in Public Post-Secondary in BC - summary

Anna provided a brief update on the executive summary included in the agenda package for the *Building Pathways* project. The report for this project was approved but not yet published. It will be likely launched in the Fall. The project overviews examples of program laddering below baccalaureate degree and beyond traditional pathways such as Associate Degree to Baccalaureate.

7. TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

7.1 Transfer & Articulation Committee

(Last Meeting: May 22, 2026)

Sam informed the Council members that the last TAC meeting took place on May 22. The meeting minutes from the January meeting were included in the agenda package and the minutes from the last meeting will be included in a future agenda package. The committee welcomed a new member of TAC: Vance Mattson, Instructor, Philosophy and Sociology, College of the Rockies. The committee has a full membership as it moves forward.

There was active discussion around the report *Assessing the Resource Requirements and Benefits of Participation in the BC Transfer System*. In terms of benefits of participation, the committee felt strongly about the need to carry out more in-person articulation committee meetings. The need for access is important; however, in-person meetings help create better working relationships.

7.2 TAC Projects

Fred was happy to attend his first Council meeting. He informed members that BCCAT staff attended almost all the articulation meetings – in-person or virtually. Fred provided an update on the following two projects completed by Fiona McQuarrie, which were in the final draft phase: The *Assessing the Resource Requirements and Benefits of Participation in the BC Transfer System* project and the *Understanding Barriers to Transferring Credit for Transfer Students in BC* project both received minor edits at the TAC meeting and the committee members will vote by email in the next few weeks on approving both reports for publication

8. MINISTRY UPDATE

8.1 Public Sector Organization

Chris Rathbone, Assistant Deputy Minister, PSFS, joined the Council meeting to talk about the Public Sector Organization (PSO) consolidation and the implications of this change for BCCAT.

The Ministry has received direction from Cabinet to establish a new public sector organization that will become the administrative home for BCCAT, as well as EducationPlannerBC, BCELN and BCCampus. This project aims to combine the four existing program offices into a new Public Sector Organization that will become the administrative home for the four offices. The rationale is to address cybersecurity risks, seek administrative efficiencies, and provide shared services for the sector. The four program offices will be set up with a strong foundation to deliver enhanced services in the years ahead. There will be a transition period as Ministry moves from Cabinet process into Treasury Board and then additional administrative processes will be needed to create an administrative structure that supports the work of the four program offices under one roof.

Communication was sent out to all post-secondary institutions. The intention is for Council not to undergo any changes in terms of its overall mandate, mission and services it provides.

The new PSO will have an initial Board of Directors with representation from all four of the program offices. The expectation is for the Board to take on the fiduciary responsibilities of operational administrative details of the organization. The Council will focus on providing advice and oversight related to policy and program delivery.

Council asked the Ministry several questions about the proposed new PSO and its implications for BCCAT, including BCCAT's mandate, student representation, governance, the relationship to the post-secondary review, the existing MOU with BCIT, office space, timelines, and budget impacts. The Ministry indicated that BCCAT's mandate is expected to remain unchanged, governance and Board structure will be determined later, BCCAT is intended to remain in its current location, and the MOU will need updating. The Ministry also noted that a Treasury Board submission is planned for June, followed by appointment of an initial Board and hiring of a CEO to develop a transition plan. The initiative was described as not being a budget-cutting exercise, though administrative efficiencies may come after initial increased costs.

The Ministry will continue to provide updates as they become available.

9. TECHNOLOGIES/WEBSITES

9.1 AI, Micro-Credentials and TCS

Jennifer advised that the AI consultant that BCCAT had hired has completed their critique of BCCAT technologies and the draft design of a proposed software solution for micro-credential assessment. The Micro-credential Assessment Committee, which includes various PSI, IAHLA, and Ministry reps have received a draft document outlining an 8-dimension assessment framework based on the existing course, course outline and equivalency data available in the TCS. The draft document is out for feedback by the respective MCAC members' internal communities.

The AI MC assessment project proposes to incorporate AI as a core component of the technology stack for BCCAT's transfer services. The first quarter focused on getting AI ready and begin a prototype to see how AI might be used to assist with articulation. The upcoming quarters will confirm the MVP based on available budget.

BCCAT will need to discuss the data model with the Coursedog to ensure that it would be able to serve PSIs that are using the curriculum and program management approval tool and to ensure we have all the correct data elements necessary for micro-credentials, courses, programs.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 2026 Annual Report

Val reminded the members that the Annual Report is BCCAT's main public-facing accountability piece. Once Council approves it, it will then go to the Ministry and be shared more widely. This year's report focuses on the vital role BCCAT plays to facilitate and strengthen connections and collaboration in the transfer community, for the benefit of learners.

MOTION: To accept the 2026 BCCAT Annual Report, "Connections: Working together to build a resilient and responsive transfer network". D. Herrera Lira/T. Kunkel **CARRIED**

11. THANKS TO OUTGOING MEMBERS

Angus extended sincere thanks to outgoing Council members Willy Aroca, John Chenoweth and Jennifer Kirkey for their active and insightful contributions during their terms as members on the Council, and wished them well on their next projects.

12. IN THE NEWS

Click here to view recent news articles of interest:

<https://mailchi.mp/b107d304ff3b/gd0mdypkrv-6753126?e=7a70099374>

"Your personal information is collected under the authority of section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). By clicking the link, you agree to the collection and use of the information in accordance with the [Privacy Policy](#) of the service provider (Intuit MailChimp)."

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

14. IN CAMERA / CLOSED SESSION

An in-camera discussion was held at 12pm that was led by the Chair. The Executive Director left the discussion at 12 20pm.

15. NEXT MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT:

TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION	September 18, 2026

ADMISSIONS	September 25, 2026
COUNCIL	October 5, 2026
RESEARCH	October 9, 2026
COUNCIL	December 7, 2026
TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION	January 29, 2027
COUNCIL	March 15, 2027