



# PATHWAYS & PARTNERSHIPS

*Strengthening Community & Collaboration  
in Support of Learner Mobility*

Highlights from BCCAT's 2021-22 Annual Review

Full report available at: [bccat.ca/about/annualreview](https://bccat.ca/about/annualreview)

## COLLABORATION & COMMUNITY

Flexible pathways allow students to continue their educational journeys as and when they are able, and that is good news for us all – students, institutions, the post-secondary system, and the wider community.

BCCAT partners with post-secondary institutions to improve and expand transfer credit pathways for learners. This work is ongoing, as research informs our understanding of what is working well and what may be improved.

This Annual Review looks at how BCCAT enables connections between BC post-secondary institutions and all of our transfer partners, as we work together to support student access, mobility, and success.

*Since 1989, BCCAT has been instrumental to student success. BC has the most comprehensive credit transfer network in Canada, and we are able to continue to lead this work with a strong collaboration with BC's public post-secondary institutions.*

*One thing is clear: because of your work, BC students can achieve their educational goals and pursue the careers they need to thrive and succeed.*

- Hon. Anne Kang, Minister of Advanced Education & Skills Training (AEST)



Jennifer Anaquod and Jason La Rochelle share findings and compelling insights from the "Pathways Partnership" project.

A recently completed study shines a light on the importance of relationship-building, transparency, commitment, and compassion in supporting Indigenous students through their post-secondary journeys. Learn more about this illuminating project at [bccat.ca/intro/PathwaysPartnerships2021](https://bccat.ca/intro/PathwaysPartnerships2021)



# BC's Articulation Community

BC's 65+ discipline-specific articulation committees function as the collaborative "engine" of the BC Transfer System.

BC's articulation committees meet regularly to address transfer-related issues and developments, fostering an environment of respectful relationships that enable pathways that work for students.

Approximately 1,500 individuals from all post-secondary sectors and disciplines participate annually across the province in the work of these committees.

This year, most articulation committees met online, with a few hosting hybrid and face-to-face meetings. To support articulation chairs and System Liaison Persons (SLPs), BCCAT held a kick-off event at the start of "articulation season". In 2021, BCCAT also launched a self-hosted Moodle platform for articulation committees to manage and archive documentation and facilitate communication and networking among BC Transfer System member institutions.



*In 1967, Ralph James (UBC) organized a meeting "for the Departments of Mathematics in the universities to extend a helping hand to their colleagues in the two-year colleges".*

## Mathematics-Statistics Articulation Committee Holds 100th meeting (1967-2022)

Congratulations to the [BC Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics and Statistics \(BCcupms\)](#) who held their 100th meeting in May 2022! This articulation committee predates BCCAT and the formalization of inter-institutional transfer in BC.

For more than five decades, this group has stood as a compelling example of what can be achieved through collaboration, sustained focus, and a shared passion for advancing learner mobility.

BCCAT would like to extend our congratulations to the BCcupms community on reaching this remarkable milestone, and acknowledge their significant contributions to improving transfer and articulation for BC post-secondary students.

## JAM 2021: Moving Forward



**Mike Winsemann**  
BC Council on Admissions and Transfer



**James Gifford**  
Fairleigh Dickinson University



**Peter Dueck**  
Royal Roads University



**Jean Maltesen**  
Vancouver Island University

The "pandemic panel" walks through key challenges and learning through COVID-19, and changes going forward.

BCCAT's Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) brings people together from across BC's post-secondary, articulation, and administrative community to share and learn about transfer and mobility.

At JAM 2021, we focused on "Moving Forward", examining current and emerging transfer-related issues and developments we are all facing as we continue to navigate the post-secondary terrain in this ongoing pandemic. The event drew almost 400 registrants. Attendees took up the opportunity to view online sessions, ask questions, chat, contribute to discussions, and share photos.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Sarah Eaton (University of Calgary), presented on "Contract Cheating and Degree Fraud in Canada". We also learned about the Indigenous Language Fluency Degree currently in development, and a panel walked us through "The Pandemic - One Year Later: What have we learned?".

Check out the JAM 2021 highlights video and the session playlist on [BCCAT's YouTube channel](#) and check our website as plans unfold for JAM 2022!



# TECHNOLOGIES

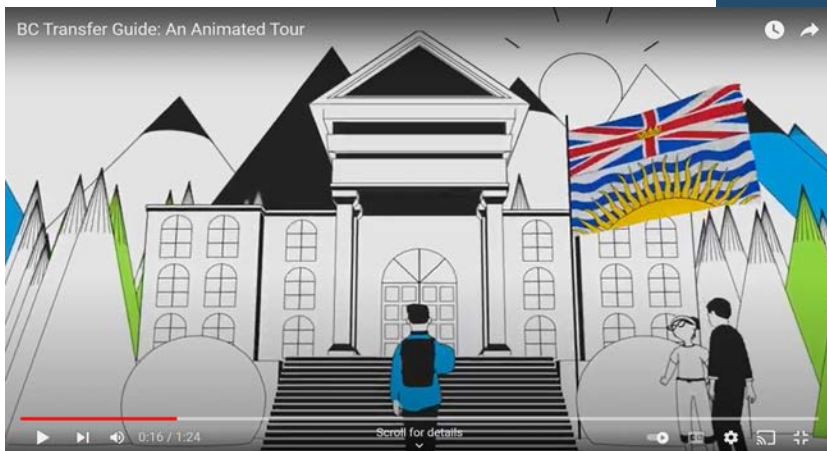
## Bigger, Better BCTransferGuide.ca



[BCTransferGuide.ca](http://BCTransferGuide.ca) is widely recognized as the “go-to” resource for planning transfer pathways.

This year, we gave the website a fresh new look and feel, with improved accessibility and adaptivity for a more user-centric focus and experience.

Check out this [animated tour](#) of BCTransferGuide.ca on BCCAT’s Youtube channel!



## What's new?

- Website redesign – UX improvements for improved accessibility, adaptivity and responsiveness.
- Pan-Canadian & international transfer agreements
- Adult Basic Education transfer search
- English as an Additional Language transfer search

### Analytics

New Users: **269,000+**  
Page Views: **1,934,000+**  
Sessions: **519,000+**

### Equivalencies

BC: **255,000+**  
External: **70,000+**  
BC & External: **325,000+**  
Block Transfer: **1,459**

## ONBOARDED



## Expanding the BC Transfer Guide

To date, 70,000+ external equivalencies have been added to the database.

The BC Transfer Guide expansion continues as BC Transfer System member institutions upload their pan-Canadian and international transfer equivalencies to the BC Transfer Guide, using the Transfer Credit System application. As a result, students near and far can now explore this global transfer guide to inform their post-secondary planning for transfer to British Columbia.

We thank the on-boarded institutions and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training for their support and leadership.

## BC Transfer Guide: Policies and System Consultation

BCCAT is reviewing membership policies in relation to out-of-province and private institutions. This includes considering eligibility for membership for Indigenous and First Nations institutions delivering post-secondary pathways or degree-level curriculum.

A working group was struck to review the criteria for including transfer agreements in the BC Transfer Guide, to ensure the BC Transfer Guide continues to be representative of all sectors where there is student mobility.

## Transfer Credit System (TCS): Recent Improvements

Through the Transfer Credit System (TCS), BC’s post-secondary transfer institutions are able to formalize transfer decisions for publishing to the BC Transfer Guide. Recent improvements to the TCS include:

- a department dashboard with information for faculty members evaluating articulation requests;
- an institution dashboard to provide key performance indicators on articulation rates for institutions; and
- the introduction of dates to identify when agreements are due for review.

## IN PROGRESS



# RESEARCH



BCCAT conducts and coordinates a wide variety of research projects, to inform and support institutional planning, procedures, and policies, and to enhance educational opportunities and experiences for BC post-secondary students.

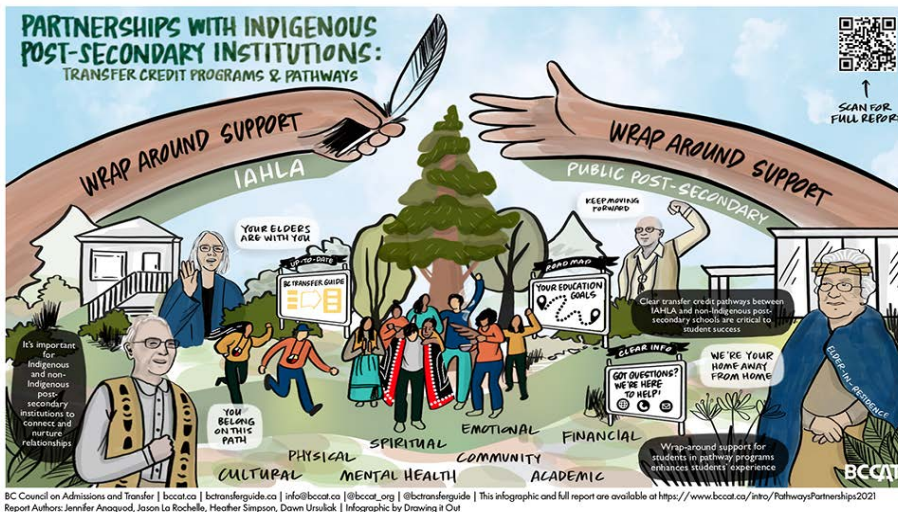
## Pathway Partnerships with Indigenous Post-Secondary Institutes

by Jennifer Anaquod, Anaquod Educational Consulting, Jason La Rochelle, Heather Simpson, Dawn Ursuliak, Justice Institute of BC  
[bccat.ca/intro/PathwaysPartnerships2021](https://bccat.ca/intro/PathwaysPartnerships2021)

This study explored current practices that help support and enhance Indigenous students' post-secondary experiences. Through the use of Indigenous ways of knowing and storytelling, those supporting students at Indigenous Adult Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) institutes and public post-secondary institutions gathered

to weave together their stories of success, struggle, and perseverance in their journey to advance Indigenous education and improve the experiences of Indigenous students in post-secondary education.

These stories showed a wealth of positive policies and practices that support both pathway partnerships and Indigenous students, as well as identifying areas needing improvement.



### It begins with understanding...

Those that are working with Indigenous students—who are not Indigenous—need to take that time, being able to understand the truth of the history of education in Canada, not just for Indigenous people, but for everybody.

Understanding what the purposes of the pathway are and then understanding who the IAHLAs are that they're partnering with and really creating those relationships.

Check out [our website](#) for access to the full report, this infographic, and a video interview with the project leads. (Graphic by Drawing It Out. Video by Eyes Multimedia.)

- Jennifer Anaquod (project lead).



## Supporting BC Post-Secondary Students with Lived Experience in Care

by Plaid Consulting for BCCAT  
[bccat.ca/intro/LivedExperienceInCare2022](https://bccat.ca/intro/LivedExperienceInCare2022)

Students with lived experience in government care can face significant challenges in their educational journeys. In 2017, the BC government created the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (PTWP) to encourage students with lived experience in care to continue their education at the post-secondary level.

In the four years since the PTWP was launched, more supports have been made available to BC students with lived experience in care. This study investigates the effects of financial, academic, and mental health supports intended to improve the post-secondary experience of students with lived experience in BC's care system.

The report recommends:

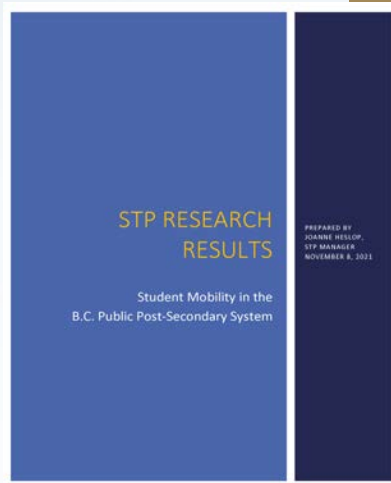
- Creating wrap-around support models at all BC post-secondary institutions for students with lived experience in care.
- Reviewing and aligning post-secondary mental health supports for students with lived experience in care.
- Reviewing and aligning post-secondary financial supports for students with lived experience in care.

# STUDENT MOBILITY

Student mobility research provides valuable insights that help us to better understand student mobility experiences, movement patterns, and the functionality of BC's Transfer System.

BCCAT collaborates with the [Student Transitions Project \(STP\)](#) to analyze system-wide mobility trends in BC's post-secondary system.

Also see:



STP's publication [Update on Student Mobility in the BC Public Post-secondary System](#) presents key findings from the fall 2020 STP data submission. These findings provide an enlightening and useful look at recent student mobility activity.

## Recent STP findings:

- New degree opportunities in BC colleges and institutes have reduced the need for students to switch institutions to complete a Bachelor's degree in BC.
- Not enough data yet for a full picture of the impact of the pandemic on student mobility.
- Roughly two-thirds of the mobile students last enrolled in the BC public system in the previous academic year (2018-2019); and the other one-third of mobile students stopped out in 2018-2019, after last enrolling in an earlier year.

## Did you know?

Mobility Rate

16%

**55,737 (16%) of students moved** between public post-secondary institutions in 2019-20.

(Source: Student Transitions Project)

Received Transfer Credit

83%

**83% of students who took further education received transfer credit.**

(Source: BC Student Outcomes 2020 Highlights)

Student Satisfaction

86%

**86% were satisfied** with their transfer experience.

(Source: BC Student Outcomes 202 Highlights)

## COLLABORATION

BC works with institutional partners, key sector groups and organizations to support mobility and expand student pathways in BC.

BCCAT has facilitated research for [BC's Micro-Credential Framework](#). In conjunction with [BCcampus](#) and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST), six research projects are looking into processes and practices supporting micro-credential stacking, laddering and transferability; transcription and recognition; quality assurance; prior learning assessment and competencies; and micro-credential registries.

A current BCCAT research project, Data Collection Supporting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, developed in conjunction with the [BC Registrar's Association](#) and [EducationPlannerBC](#), includes an environmental scan of key considerations around the collection and use of data on student ethnicity and ancestry. The project is aligned with the broader work being undertaken by the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives.



### Zena Mitchell Receives Leadership Award

**BCCAT's Transfer Awards** recognize and celebrate exemplary individuals who contribute significantly to advancing transfer and mobility in BC. This year, the Leadership Award went to **Zena Mitchell**, Associate VP, Enrolment Services & Registrar, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, for her leadership and dedication in supporting learner mobility within and beyond her own institution.

## BC Transfer System

### Key Activities:

- Pathways partnerships between public and Indigenous institutions
- Supporting post-secondary access, equity, diversity and inclusivity with educational pathways
- Collaboration with BCcampus to share resources to support online learning

### Transfer Credit System (TCS) Program Pathways Application

In consultation with system partners, BCCAT is exploring technological and institutional capacity, and interest, in an electronic workflow application that aggregates and audits course-level transfer agreements between credential programs to identify and create program pathways. This tool builds on existing transfer credit information maintained by BCCAT. Program pathway building and auditing functionalities will enable BC institutions to build transfer program pathways for publication on the [BC Transfer Guide](#) and related BC educational pathway resources, in keeping with AEST's Digital Services Strategy.

*Our students are busy. They're working, they're parents, they're caregivers, they're dealing with so much more in their lives. And, to achieve their goals, they're often attending multiple institutions at the same time. BCCAT's always working to grow and expand, and to ensure students make the most of their credits.*

*And -- because we have such a robust system -- students are saving time and money. They're able to move around without duplicating credits, and ultimately reach their credential goals sooner which I think is an effective goal for all of us.*

# COLLABORATION

BCCAT collaborates with transfer partners from across Canada and beyond to advance learner mobility within and across borders.

BCCAT is an active member of the [Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer](#) (PCCAT) and CATCan, a network of Canadian “CATs” (BCCAT’s counterparts in other provincial jurisdictions).

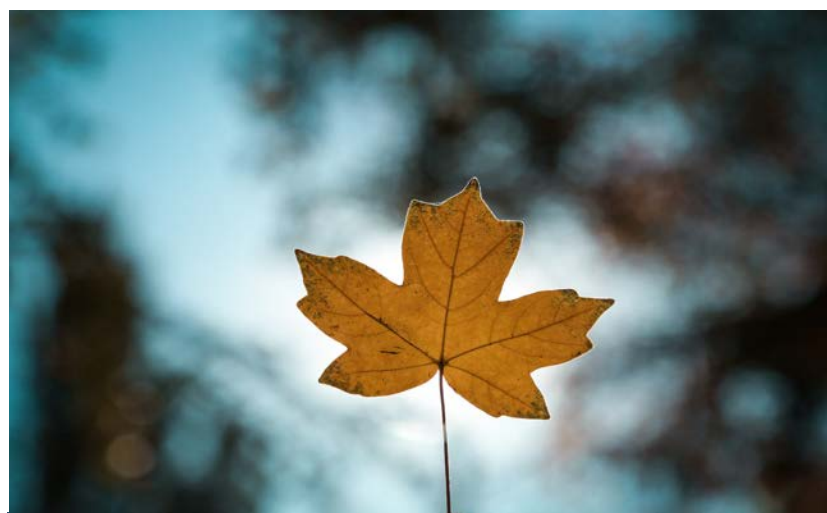
In 2021, BCCAT assisted PCCAT with hosting a virtual “Learning Day” that brought together educational administrators, staff and faculty from across Canada. The program focused on key educational developments and their current and future implications for post-secondary access and mobility in Canada. Sessions included the pivot to online learning environments and services during the COVID-19 pandemic, mapping institutional transfer credit practices, implementation of the [MyCredits.ca](#) digital exchange network, and the development of micro-credential frameworks and programs.

Meanwhile, BCCAT is also assisting with preparations for the (hybrid) 2022 [PCCAT conference](#) to be held at Niagara Falls on June 22 and 23, 2022.

BCCAT staff members also participate with the [Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada](#) (ARUCC) and BCCAT is a signatory of the [Groningen Declaration Network](#) (GDN).

This year, BCCAT collaborated with the [Alberta Council on Admissions & Transfer](#) (ACAT) to connect BC and Alberta transfer credit personnel. In addition, BCCAT worked closely with the [Ontario Council on Admissions & Transfer](#) (OnCAT) to explore how we might leverage technologies within our respective jurisdictions.

# Pan-Canadian & International



- leveraging resources
- sharing best practices
- learning together
- joint projects



# THANKS FROM BCCAT

Sincere thanks from all of us at BCCAT to our many post-secondary partners who work every day to improve transfer and enable learner mobility.

We at BCCAT have the privilege of working with many dedicated individuals who work to support educational pathways for students. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of our post-secondary partners, including those working within BC's post-secondary transfer community, and our inter-provincial and global partners as well.

Council and standing committee members contribute much to the work of BCCAT. Special thanks and best wishes to all outgoing members, including the following outgoing Council members for dedicated support for the work of the Council over the years:

- **Kathy Denton** (President & CEO, Douglas College)
- **Elizabeth McCausland** (Professor, Department of English, Douglas College)
- **Lisa McCullough** (Superintendent, Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, BC Ministry of Education)
- **Diane Naugler** (Director, Community Engagement & Future Students, North Island College)

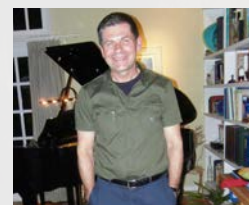
After a thirty year career in post-secondary education, **Robert Adamoski** brought his extensive experience and exceptional skills to BCCAT, serving as Director, Admissions & Research. **Ruth Erskine** joined us in 2013 to serve as Communications Coordinator, and proved herself to be highly proficient, talented, and gracious. We wish you both the very best for your next adventures in retirement, and we miss working with you!

Meanwhile, we are delighted to welcome **Anna Tikina** to her new role as Director, Admissions & Research (as of April 1, 2022). Anna brings extensive experience to this role, drawing on 20 years working in the BC post-secondary system, including eight years as BCCAT's Research Officer.

Finally, we were deeply saddened by the passing of **Devron Gaber** in 2021. As BCCAT's Associate Director of Admissions and Research (2003-2012), Devron was a valued and vital member of our staff team who contributed much to the work of BCCAT and to BC post-secondary education over the years, and we feel privileged to have known and worked alongside him.

## Links for info

- Council & Committees  
[bccat.ca/about/council](http://bccat.ca/about/council)  
[bccat.ca/about/committees](http://bccat.ca/about/committees)
- Articulation  
[bccat.ca/articulation/committees](http://bccat.ca/articulation/committees)
- Research Plan  
[bccat.ca/projects/plan](http://bccat.ca/projects/plan)
- Projects  
[bccat.ca/projects/research](http://bccat.ca/projects/research)
- BCCAT Transfer Awards  
[bccat.ca/about/awards](http://bccat.ca/about/awards)
- Engage e-newsletter  
[bccat.ca/about/engage](http://bccat.ca/about/engage)
- About BCCAT  
[bccat.ca/pubs/Resources/AllAboutBCCAT2021.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/Resources/AllAboutBCCAT2021.pdf)
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TOP (L to R): Kathy Denton, Elizabeth McCausland, Lisa McCullough, and Diane Naugler.  
BOTTOM (L to R): Anna Tikina, Robert Adamoski, Ruth Erskine, and Devron Gaber.

