



SUSTAINABLE TRANSFER

Growing an adaptive eco-system that
mobilizes student journeys

BCCAT

2022 - 23 ANNUAL REVIEW

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Growing an adaptive eco-system that mobilizes student journeys

Students today face a fast-changing world. Adaptability and agility in education and training are more vital than ever for enabling student success. BC's flexible transfer community stands ready to address emerging issues, responding to the needs of students in ways that are strategic and sustainable.

Flexible transfer pathways allow individuals to plan and pursue their post-secondary journeys as and when they are able, in keeping with their changing needs and goals. As work opportunities change, transfer options enable individuals like Jerry Mundi ⁽¹⁾ to re-skill or upskill and move forward to careers that are more "financially sustaining".

Transfer is also key to ensuring access to educational opportunities for all students in BC. For students from rural and remote communities, the availability of flexible pathways can be crucial for their post-secondary success, offering affordable, accessible options.

“ Our Government appreciates BCCAT's important role in supporting students to ensure we have the skilled workforce we need for British Columbia to be successful.

Expanding transfer pathways and supporting student journeys through the BC Transfer System helps to increase access to post-secondary education and skills training and allow British Columbians to reach their fullest potential. ”

Honourable Minister Selina Robinson
(Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills)

(1) See Jerry Mundi's story (and others) in our "Transfer Stories" video playlist at https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org

DID YOU KNOW?

55,000+ students move between BC's public post-secondary institutions annually

400,000+ academic course credits are recognized for transfer amongst BC's public post-secondary institutions each year

The BC Transfer Guide includes

350,000+ provincial, national and international course equivalencies

and **1,500+** program pathway agreements

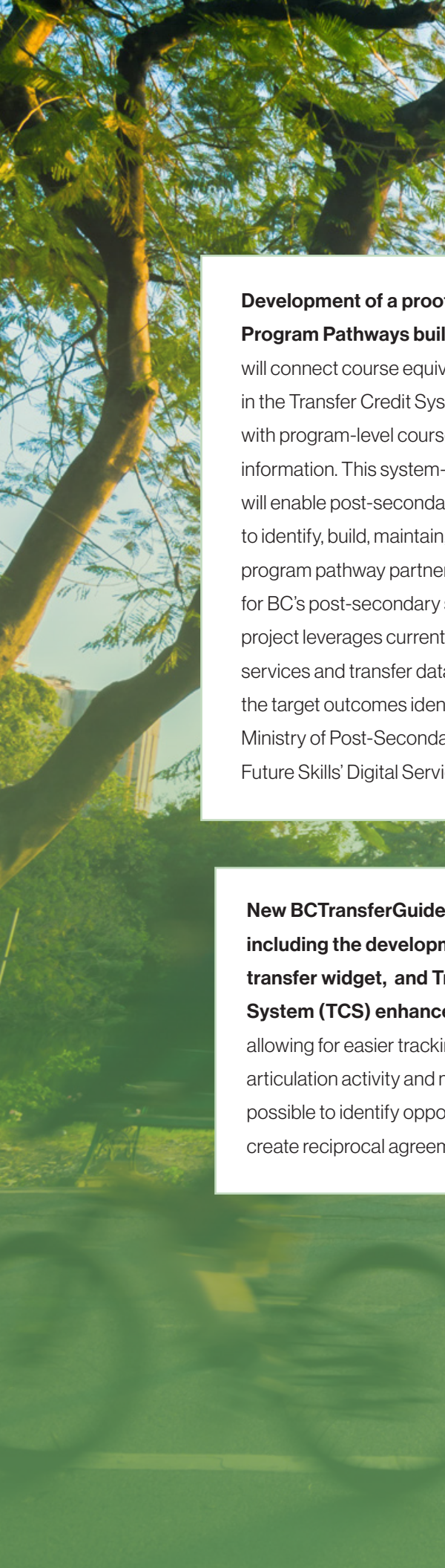
BCCAT works together with post-secondary partners to facilitate access and mobility, saving students valuable time and money as they pursue their educational goals. The many individuals who work every day to expand transfer pathways make up the connective tissue of BC's transfer eco-system.

BC's 65+ articulation committees function as the heart of the transfer community. Through BCCAT's extensive articulation network, post-secondary partners develop and maintain flexible credit transfer and program pathways that enable post-secondary mobility across the province.

BCCAT and BC's transfer community are dedicated to making post-secondary education and skills training more accessible and aligned to the needs of students. BCCAT works collaboratively on a wide range of projects and initiatives focused on facilitating and strengthening BC's transfer eco-system. Working together we can cultivate a responsive and sustainable system that ensures access and mobility for current and future learners.

This Annual Review provides a window into key collaborations and developments from 2022-23.





Development of a proof of concept

Program Pathways building tool that will connect course equivalency data in the Transfer Credit System (TCS) with program-level course requirement information. This system-wide resource will enable post-secondary institutions to identify, build, maintain, and promote program pathway partnerships agreements for BC's post-secondary students. The project leverages currently existing digital services and transfer data, and aligns with the target outcomes identified by BC's Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills' Digital Services initiative.

New BCTransferGuide.ca features, including the development of a transfer widget, and Transfer Credit System (TCS) enhancements

allowing for easier tracking of articulation activity and making it possible to identify opportunities to create reciprocal agreements.

2022-23 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Continued expansion of the BC Transfer Guide database with

the inclusion of pan-Canadian and international course-to-course transfer agreements with our BC Transfer System members.

Research looking at the collection of student data on race, ethnicity, and ancestry and a survey of mobile students.

These kinds of projects help to inform institutional planning and processes, and deepen our understanding of key issues affecting student access and mobility.

COMMUNITY

Sustainable transfer requires the dedication and support of many individuals and groups involved in expanding student pathways. BC's post-secondary transfer community are committed to advancing a system that is remarkably flexible and responsive to the changing needs of students.

ARTICULATION COMMITTEES

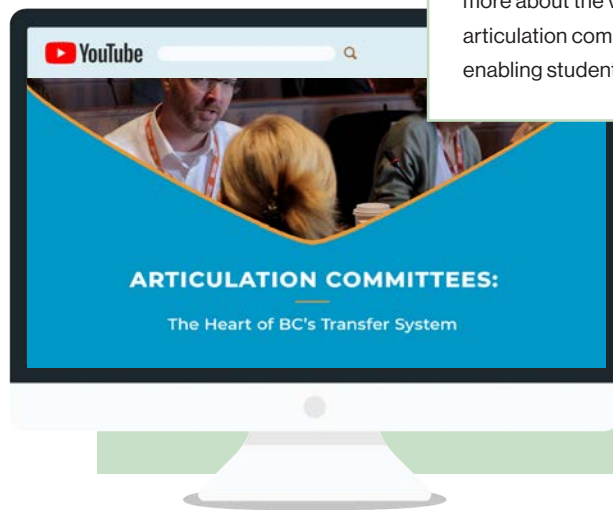
The Heart of BC's Transfer System

BC's 65+ articulation committees play a central role in the functioning of BC's post-secondary transfer system. These committees meet regularly to look at curricular and transfer issues and developments. These discussions help to build respectful relationships, paving the way to creating pathway solutions that work for students.

BCCAT staff members participate in many of these meetings to keep in touch with emerging issues and questions.

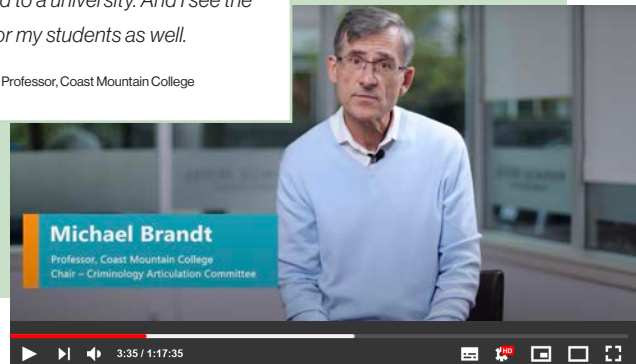
BCCAT also provides a variety of resources to facilitate the work of articulation committees. This year, we updated the *Articulation Committee Guide* (formerly the *Articulation Committee Companion*). The *How to Articulate handbook* is also being updated. These are likely to be published later this year.

See this [short video](#) to learn more about the vital role BC's articulation committees play in enabling student mobility in BC.



The articulation committee is crucial to maximize mobility for students. I benefitted from that mobility. I started off at a community college, and transferred to a university. And I see the benefits for my students as well.

Michael Brandt, Professor, Coast Mountain College



JAM 2022

Every year, BCCAT hosts the Joint Annual Meeting (JAM), bringing together the higher education, articulation, and administrative community across the province of BC and beyond to connect, share, and learn about issues impacting student transfer and mobility.

In 2022, for the first time ever, this was a hybrid event, with participants joining online and/or in person at the Vancouver Pinnacle Hotel.



"I think the hybrid model worked extremely well." "Will be difficult to top this meeting."

"It was wonderful to have the opportunity for an in-person meeting again!"

"The networking opportunities have been greatly missed over the past couple of years."

"Very professional production."

Feedback from JAM 2022 attendees

See youtube.com/@bccat_org to view JAM 2022 highlights and session videos.

We had over **300 people** register for this year's event, and the engagement over both days was outstanding. Attendees made the most of the opportunity to interact, through discussion, chats, live Q&As, polls, and more.

This year, we focused on *Sustainability, Learning, Access & Mobility*, in the context of how we may continue the important work of supporting BC's students and institutions as an adaptable and responsive transfer network.

The sessions were all very well-received, generating constructive and lively discussion. Here are just a few hits:

- [Working Together: The Parts of the BC Transfer System](#)
- [Sustainability and the BC Transfer System](#)
- [Pathways Partnerships with Indigenous Post-Secondary Institutes](#)
- [Equity, Diversity & Inclusion \(EDI\) Data Collection at Post-Secondary Admissions](#)
- [Student Mobility Research and Covid](#)
- [Articulation Temperature Check](#)

KATE ROSS

2022 Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

At JAM 2022, we were delighted to celebrate **Kate Ross** (Associate Vice-President, Enrolment & Registrar, University of British Columbia) as the winner of the 2022 Franklin Gelin Lifetime Achievement Award.



This award recognizes individuals “whose long-term contributions and far-reaching impacts have become apparent over a career of commitment to advancing transfer and articulation in the BC post-secondary system.”

Kate was selected for this award because of her exemplary leadership and commitment to the vital work of facilitating student mobility throughout her 35+ year post-secondary career. For more information about Kate and her award, see bccat.ca/about/awards/.



“

There are none more deserving for an award recognizing professional commitment across the post-secondary sector, and commitment to supporting student mobility across a long and impactful career.

Robert Adamoski
(Retired) Director, Research & Admissions, BCCAT

ABOVE PHOTO: Kate Ross is joined by (L to R) Mike Winsemann (Director, Transfer & Technology, BCCAT), Jim Hamilton (BCCAT Council Co-Chair & Retired President, Okanagan College), Karen McCredie (Executive Director, EducationPlannerBC), and Robert Fleming (BCCAT Executive Director & Council Co-Chair) following the awards ceremony at JAM 2022.

TECHNOLOGIES

BCCAT works together with institutional partners to develop and enhance sustainable technologies focused on streamlining transfer processes, and on informing and supporting students with their post-secondary pathway planning.

BC TRANSFER GUIDE

[BCTransferGuide.ca](https://bctransferguide.ca) is used by students, advisors, and educators from across BC, Canada, and around the world. Comprehensive information on transfer pathways enables students to plan the most efficient routes to credential completion, saving significant time and money. BCTransferGuide.ca is a valuable pathway planning tool, allowing students to:



- ▶ Find how courses and programs transfer in BC
- ▶ Learn the basics and benefits of transfer options
- ▶ Map out their own transfer pathways

BCTransferGuide.ca – The Stats

350,000+ course equivalencies (BC and external)

1,500+ Block Transfer agreements

35,000+ active courses listed in the database

8,000+ articulation requests

80,000+

**non-BC/external
equivalencies**
have been added to the BC
Transfer Guide to date

BC TRANSFER GUIDE EXPANSION

Expansion of the BC Transfer Guide has continued this year with the ongoing inclusion of pan-Canadian and international course-to-course transfer agreements with our BC Transfer System members.

ONBOARDED

BCIT

coast mountain college

College of New Caledonia
CNC

COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES

DOUGLAS

TRU

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING

okanagan college

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE
NIC

VIU

UNBC

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

UBC

UFV

IN PROGRESS

SFU

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

TRANSFER WIDGET FOR PSIs

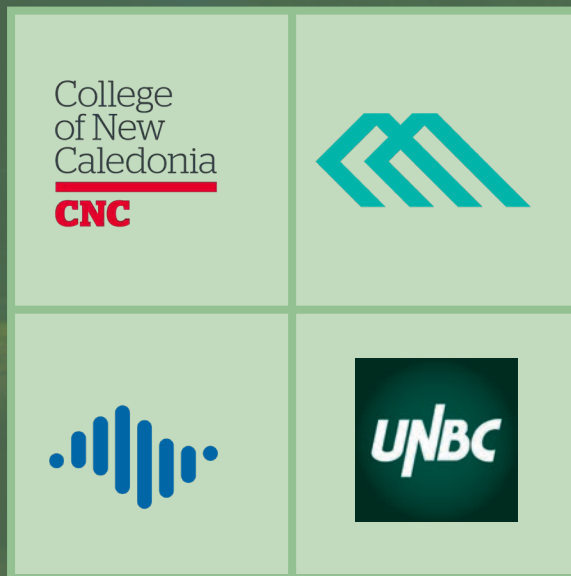
BCCAT has released the BC Transfer Guide *transfer widget*, which enables institutions to deploy their own transfer search on their institutional websites. This widget enables an easy-to-use transfer search tool branded to the PSI that can be customized for advising and admissions purposes.

TRANSFER CREDIT SYSTEM (TCS) ENHANCEMENTS

BCCAT has introduced several new features to the TCS underlying the BC Transfer Guide database. The TCS Dashboard introduces key performance indicators for institutions, allowing for easier tracking of articulation activities across their institution. Additionally, the TCS now tracks articulation activity by department, providing visibility for faculty evaluators into requests for subjects within their department area. In addition, review dates for agreements have been introduced, to assist with articulation maintenance for agreements that have not been reviewed in five or more years.

As well, BCCAT has released a new tool that enables institutions to identify opportunities to reciprocate (O2R) course to course agreements. An O2R is where there exists a course-to-course agreement in one direction, but there is not a corresponding reciprocal agreement in the other direction. Institutions can now easily identify and create reciprocal agreements within the TCS, which enables more consistent transfer credit for students.

PROGRAM PATHWAYS TOOL



BCCAT is partnering with the Northern Consortium post-secondary institutions (PSIs) and Engineering programs stakeholders to develop a proof of concept program pathway building tool that will connect course equivalency data in the Transfer Credit System with program-level course requirement information. Once developed this system-wide resource will enable PSIs to better identify, build, maintain, and promote program pathway partnership agreements for BC students. The tool will also allow for courses taken to be assessed against program profiles within pathway agreements to ascertain program and pathway progression.

This centralized BC transfer system tool will serve as a repository for pathway agreements, provide a technology-supported workflow with automated change management and notification functionality, and publish substantive course-level program transfer pathway information on the BC Transfer Guide and related websites to identify bridging and laddering opportunities and progression gaps for students and PSIs.

STUDENT RESOURCES

BCCAT provides a range of resources informing students, advisors, and others about key features available at BCTransferGuide.ca, and how to navigate transfer in BC's post-secondary system.

Explore our YouTube videos: www.youtube.com/@bccat_org

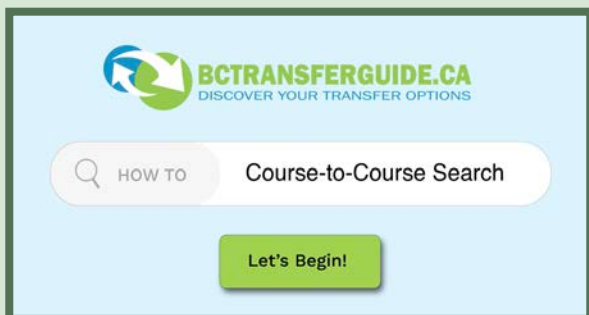
View/Download "Find Your Path" resources: bccat.ca/spotlight-news/findyourpath



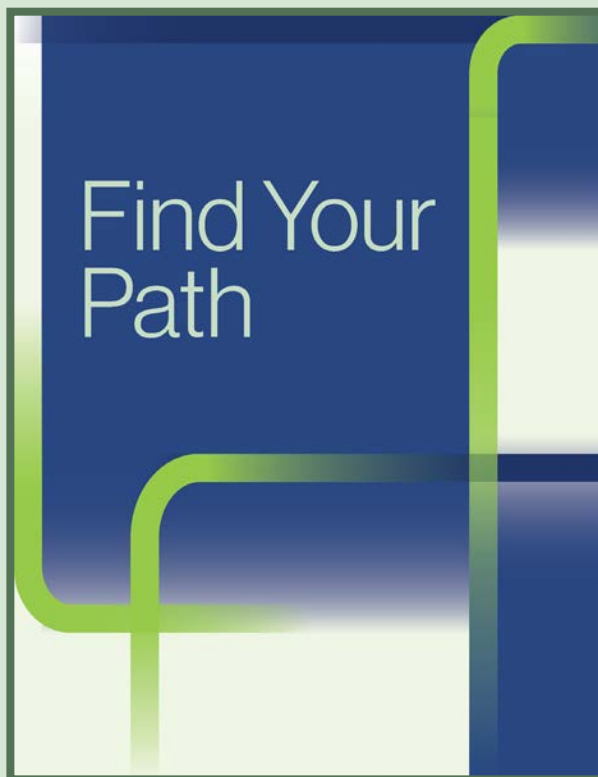
Check out the "Transfer To" video series to learn more about pathway offerings at BC's post-secondary institutions.



This animated tour leads viewers through key features of BCTransferGuide.ca and walks through transfer in BC's post-secondary system.



At BCTransferGuide.ca you can view this short demo clip for how to search through course agreements. More to come soon!



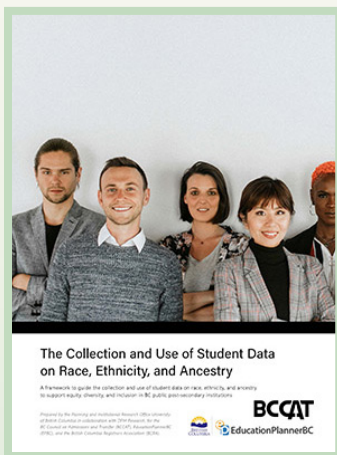
The "Find Your Path" viewbook and related resources (bookmark, posters, and postcards) are available for distribution to students, advisors and others.

RESEARCH

A sustainable transfer eco-system thrives on clarity and comprehension of key issues. Research allows BCCAT and its partners to better understand student demand, patterns and demographics, and enables us to support student access and mobility in ways that are both strategic and effective.

THE COLLECTION AND USE OF STUDENT DATA ON RACE, ETHNICITY, AND ANCESTRY

A framework to guide the collection and use of student data on race, ethnicity, and ancestry to support equity, diversity, and inclusion in BC public post-secondary institutions.



Prepared by the Planning and Institutional Research Office University of British Columbia in collaboration with DPM Research, for the British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT), EducationPlannerBC (EPBC), and the British Columbia Registrars Association (BCRA). This report, along with related resources, is available at: bccat.ca/publication/reastudentdata/

“Demographic-based data collection is about better identifying where gaps and barriers exist in institutional structures and systems for under-represented or marginalized communities so we can provide better services and or programs for students and ensure that services and programs are delivered equitably.”

This project reviews data collection practices regarding race, ethnicity and ancestry (REA) in post-secondary institutions (PSIs) in Canada, as well as in other relevant sectors (e.g., health, K-12 education, government agencies). The goal of the project was to identify promising practices and to develop recommendations to guide REA data collection initiatives both at the institutional and system level in BC post-secondary education.

The information was collected using systematic literature and documentary reviews of existing practices on data collection regarding REA, interviews with representatives from PSIs and other organizations, and focus groups with students and community representatives.

The framework for the collection and use of student demographic data, which was developed through the project work, offers a comprehensive approach to demographic data both at the institutional and system levels, considering the tools to be used, as well as appropriate processes to meet the objectives of the data collection. The report contains a discussion of key terms and definitions as well as examples of data collection questions used by other PSIs and organizations.

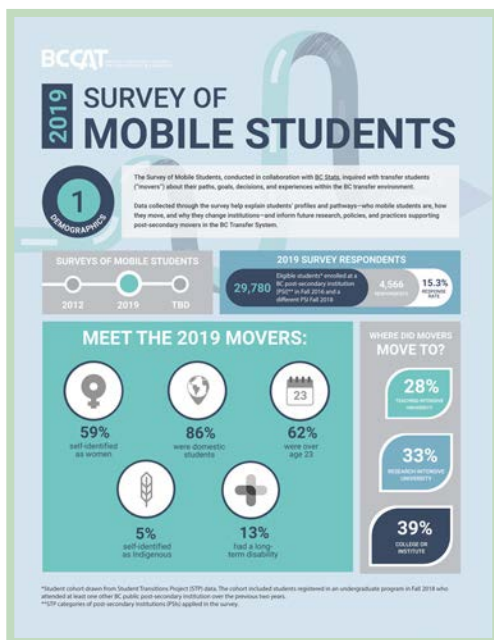
SURVEY OF MOBILE STUDENTS

Infographic summaries (focused on *Demographics, Motivations, and Mobility*) and sector-related reports are available at: bccat.ca/publication/surveyofmobilestudents/

In 2019, BCCAT collaborated with BC Stats to conduct the Survey of Mobile Students: this project examined transfer students (“movers”) and their decisions, motivations, and experiences within the BC transfer environment

Expanding on the information collected through its predecessor, the 2012 Survey of Movers, this survey took place in the spring of 2019 and included **4,566 respondents** from a cohort drawn using Student Transitions Project (STP) data. The survey was targeted toward students registered in an undergraduate program at a BC public post-secondary institution (PSI) in Fall 2016 and at least one different PSI by Fall 2018.

The information provided by respondents helps explain their profiles and pathways—who they are and how and why they change institutions—in ways that can inform future research, policies, and practices supporting post-secondary movers in the BC Transfer System. Sector-level summaries provide an overview of responses of students who moved to and from a specific sector.



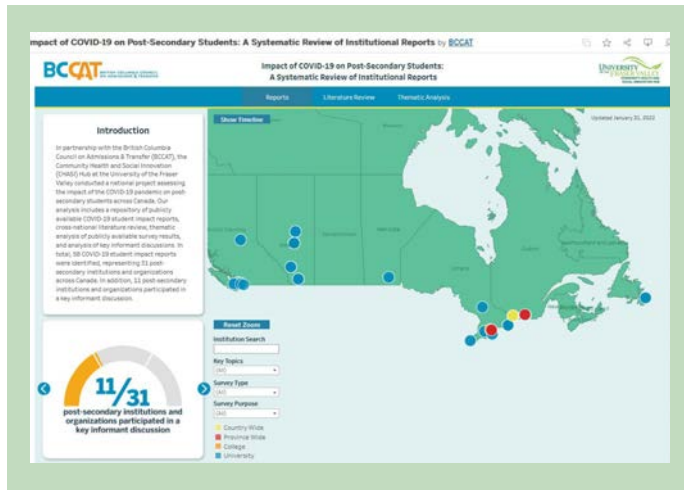
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Hitting the Reset Button:

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Functions and Services of Registrars' Offices in BC Post-Secondary

Prepared for BCCAT by Ted James
bccat.ca/publication/covidandregistrars/

This study evaluates the impact of the pandemic on services provided by Registrars' Offices at the 39 post-secondary member institutions operating in the BC Transfer System. The research included a literature review, an online survey, and interviews. The report provides a number of recommendations for institutional practice and further research.

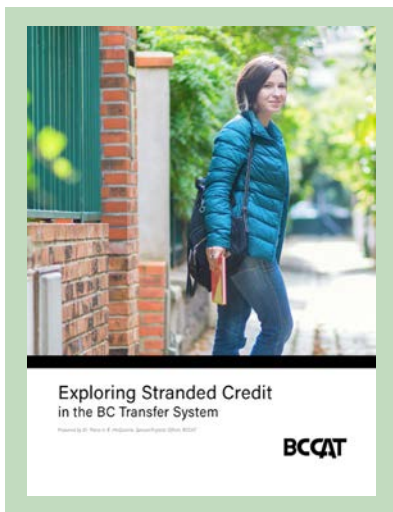


COVID-19 Survey of Post-Secondary Students

Impact of COVID-19 on Post-Secondary Students: A Systematic Review of Institutional Reports

Prepared for BCCAT by the Community Health and Social Innovation (CHASI) Hub, University of the Fraser Valley
bccat.ca/publication/covidstudentsurvey2022/

This project involved a systematic review of institutional surveys and reports related to the impact of COVID-19 on post-secondary students. The analysis covers 58 publicly available COVID-19 student impact reports from 31 post-secondary institutions and organizations across Canada.



Exploring Stranded Credit in the BC Transfer System

by Dr. Fiona A.E. McQuarrie, Special Projects Officer, BCCAT
bccat.ca/publication/strandedcredit

This study investigates the extent of stranded credit* in the BC Transfer System. Because of the significant and negative impact that stranded credit can have on individual students, the report provides recommendations informing institutional processes and practices.

*Credit that students have earned at a post-secondary institution, but cannot use or transfer because they have unpaid debts at the institution.

COLLABORATION

Collaboration is vital for building sustainability into our transfer processes and practices. BCCAT collaborates with post-secondary partners from BC and beyond to expand student pathways within and across borders.

WITHIN BC

Digital Services Strategy

This provincial initiative focuses on connecting information regarding post-secondary and career pathway opportunities, and creating a more unified and accessible experience for users of flagship services. BCCAT has undertaken the Program Pathways project (see p.8) as part of this mandate, as it focuses on the development of a pathway building tool that will connect course equivalency data in the Transfer Credit System (TCS) with program-level course requirement information in EducationPlannerBC.

Indigenous Education

BCCAT has been working with the Indigenous Policy & Engagement Branch (BC Government), Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA), and key contacts regarding the transferability of Language Fluency degree programs and articulation relationships of IAHLA schools with BC Transfer System member institutions.

BEYOND BC



Rob Fleming, BCCAT Executive Director & Co-Chair, presenting to a Japanese delegation at a Languages Canada event.

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 June 2022, BCCAT staff participated in the PCCAT conference, a hybrid event held at Niagara Falls. PCCAT conferences provide valuable opportunities to connect with others involved with advancing student mobility across Canadian jurisdictions.

This year, BCCAT collaborated with the [Alberta Council on Admissions & Transfer \(ACAT\)](#) to connect BC and Alberta transfer credit personnel. Meanwhile, discussions continue with ACAT regarding potential areas of collaboration, including sharing expertise and learning. In addition, BCCAT continues to explore potential areas for collaboration with counterparts at the [Ontario Council on Articulation & Transfer \(OnCAT\)](#) to consider how we might leverage technologies within our respective jurisdictions.

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 \(GDN\)](#). (BCCAT’s Executive Director participated at the Fall 2022 Groningen conference.) Other interactions included: [PESC Data Summit](#), the [Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials \(CICIC\)](#) and [Languages Canada](#).

THANKS FROM BCCAT

There are many who support the work of BCCAT. Our thanks go, first of all, to all Council and standing committee members for their valuable contributions to substantive discussions, decisions, projects and initiatives.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to our many post-secondary partners, from those participating within BC's transfer community to our inter-provincial and global partners. As we move forward together, we will continue to expand pathways, responding to the changing needs of students with meaningful and sustainable advancements.

WELCOME NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

This year, we were delighted to welcome the following new members to the Council:



Willy A. Aroca

Asst. Dept. Head, School of Hospitality
Vancouver Community College



Lisa Domae

President & CEO
North Island College



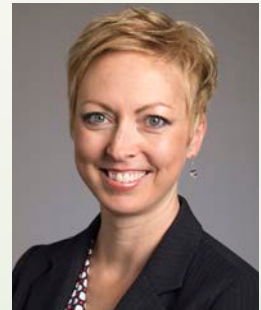
Helen McGregor

Superintendent & CEO
Vancouver School District



Titi Kunkel

Vice-President Academic,
Students, & International
Coast Mountain College



Zena Mitchell

Associate Vice President,
Enrolment Services and
Registrar,
Kwantlen Polytechnic
University

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUTGOING MEMBERS

Special thanks go to the following Council members for their considerable contributions over the years, and very best wishes as they move on to new endeavours:



Brenda Louie

Vice-Principal,
Columbia College



Brian Dick

Dept. Chair, Physics,
Engineering & Astronomy,
Vancouver Island
University



**Rummana Khan
Hemani**

Vice-Provost, Students &
International, Simon Fraser
University

THANKS AND BEST WISHES TO JIM HAMILTON (BCCAT CO-CHAIR)

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to outgoing Council Co-Chair (2017-2023) Jim Hamilton (Retired President, Okanagan College). Jim has provided valuable leadership over the years, and we wish him all the best as he moves forward to other activities and adventures.



“

As I conclude my formal association with BCCAT, I want to acknowledge how much I have enjoyed working with such a dedicated group of staff and volunteers. These are the people who have helped so many thousands of students transfer so seamlessly between post-secondary institutions, saving time and money as they pursue their educational goals and ultimately enrich their lives and those of their families and communities.

I have been so impressed by the quality of research, the technological advances, the collaboration between institutions and government entities, and the strategic planning that are key to the success of BCCAT and post-secondary education in BC. I have been honoured to have played my small part in helping to keep BC at the forefront of transfer and articulation in Canada and beyond. Thanks to all my colleagues and especially to Rob Fleming for his exceptional leadership.

”

Jim Hamilton, Retired President, Okanagan College & Council Co-Chair

“

On behalf of BCCAT staff and colleagues across the BC Transfer System, I want to thank Jim Hamilton for his excellent service and guidance not only in his role as External Co-chair of BCCAT for the past six years, but also his previous roles as member of Council and long-time President of Okanagan College. Jim's experience and professionalism, and his steadfast commitment to inclusive access and flexible pathways for learners, has reinforced and extended our collective system-wide success in facilitating collaboration, opportunity and innovation in support of learners.

”

Rob Fleming, Executive Director, BCCAT & Council Co-chair



LINKS FOR INFO

Council & Committees

bccat.ca/about/council

bccat.ca/about/committees

Articulation

bccat.ca/articulation/committees

Research Plan

bccat.ca/research/plan

Projects

bccat.ca/research/projects

BCCAT Transfer Awards

bccat.ca/about/awards

Engage e-newsletter

bccat.ca/about/news

For more info, see

bccat.ca/about





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BC Council on Admissions & Transfer

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