

SUSTAINABLE TRANSFER

Growing an adaptive eco-system that mobilizes student journeys

BCCAT
2022 - 23 ANNUAL REVIEW

This infographic presents highlights from the 2022-23 Annual Review.

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.

For students from rural and remote communities, the availability of flexible pathways can be crucial for their post-secondary success, offering affordable, accessible options.

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

“

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)

”

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.

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.



2022-23 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

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.

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.

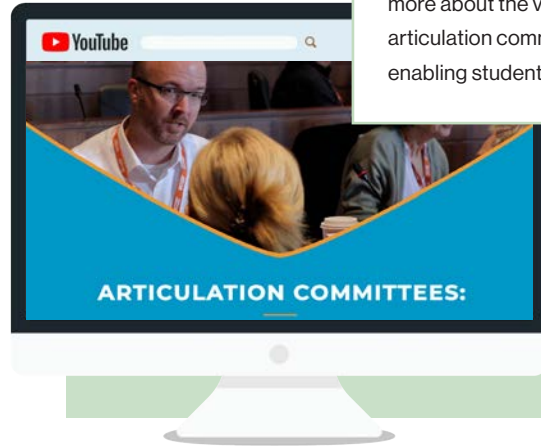
ARTICULATION COMMITTEES

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 provides information and resources supporting articulation committees. For more information, see www.bccat.ca/articulation.

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.

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.

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

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 www.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

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 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 – 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

Check out our videos at

https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org



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

TRANSFER CREDIT SYSTEM (TCS) ENHANCEMENTS

- New dashboard introducing key performance indicators for institutions, allowing for easier tracking of articulation activities.
- A new tool that enables institutions to identify opportunities to reciprocate course-to-course agreements. Institutions can now easily identify and create reciprocal agreements within the BCTS, which enables more consistent transfer credit for students.

TRANSFER WIDGET FOR PSIS:

This new widget enables institutions to deploy their own transfer search on their own institutional websites. The widget enables an easy-to-use transfer search tool that can be customized by institutions for advising and admissions purposes.



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

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



IN PROGRESS



College
of New
Caledonia
CNC



UNBC

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.

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.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022-23

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.”

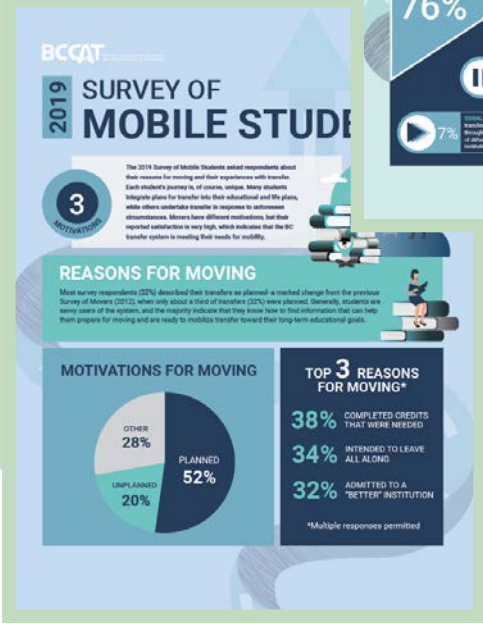
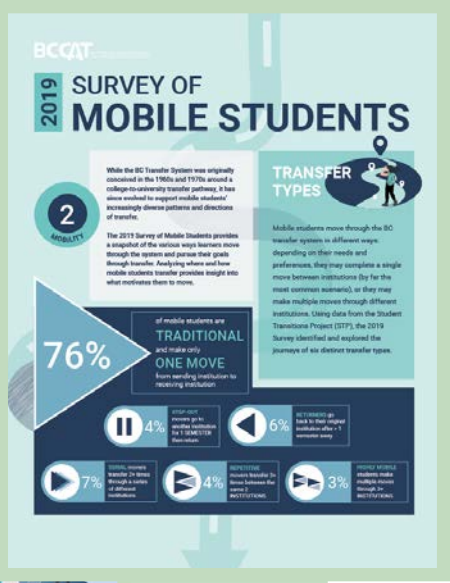
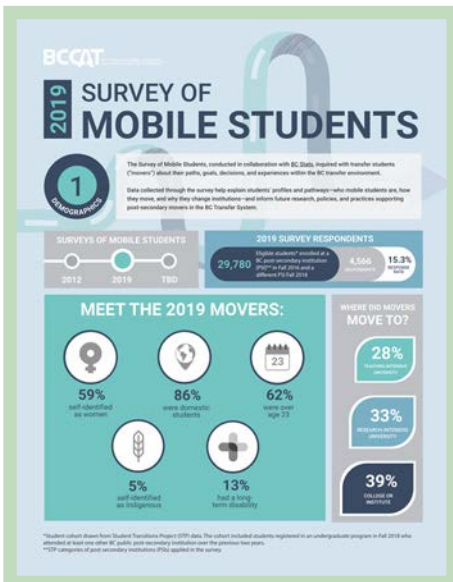
This project reviews data collection practices regarding race, ethnicity and ancestry (REA) in post-secondary institutions (PSIs) in Canada, as well as in other relevant sectors (e.g., health, K-12 education, government agencies). The goal of the project was to identify promising practices and to develop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



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 and their decisions, motivations, and experiences within the BC transfer environment. The survey included 4,566 respondents from a cohort drawn using Student Transitions Project (STP) data. The information provided by respondents helps explain their profiles and pathways.

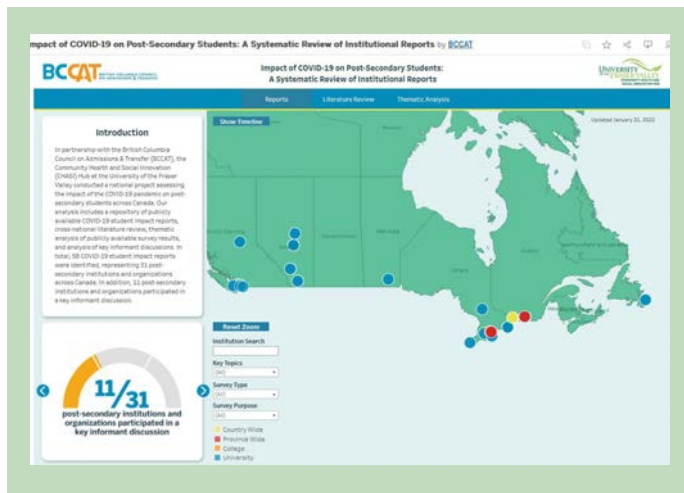


Hitting the Reset Button:

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.

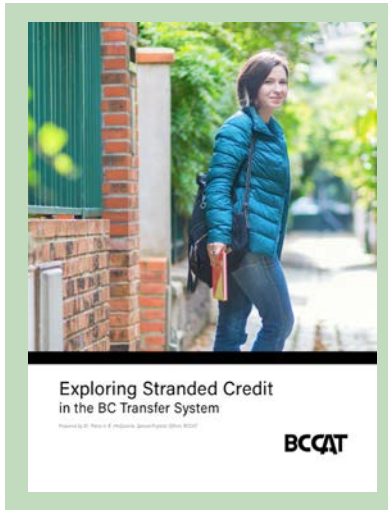


COVID-19 Survey of Post-Secondary Students

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.

For more information about BCCAT's research projects, see bccat.ca/research/plan.

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.6) 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.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to outgoing Council Co-Chair, 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

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
- Zena Mitchell, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Titi Kunkel, Vice-President Academic, Students & International, Coast Mountain College

Special thanks to the following outgoing Council members:

- 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

“

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 information, see


bccat.ca/about





BC Council on Admissions & Transfer

 info@bccat.ca Tel: 604.412.7700

 bccat.ca bctransferguide.ca

 [@bctransferguide](https://twitter.com/bctransferguide) [@bccat_org](https://twitter.com/bccat_org)

 [@bctransferguide.ca](https://www.instagram.com/bctransferguide.ca)

 https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org

© BCCAT June 2023

Scan the QR code above for access to this Annual Review and related materials, available at bccat.ca/publication/annualreview2023