

# Stepping Up

## INTRODUCTION

### Stepping Up for Students

BC's students benefit from a wide array of flexible transfer pathways developed by dedicated groups and individuals from across BC's transfer community

These days, we see fresh challenges emerging - affecting both students and institutions. In this moment, it is worthwhile to reflect on what has made BC's transfer community so responsive and adaptive, and how we may build on those strengths moving forward.

This Annual Review takes a look at key ways BCCAT and transfer partners are stepping up to expand pathways in support of learner access and mobility.



Learn about the remarkable history of BC's post-secondary transfer system. Check out our "Did You Know?" videos at [www.youtube.com/@bccat\\_org](https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org).

*BCCAT acknowledges the unceded territory of Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwítlh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations, on which the BCCAT office is situated.*

*BCCAT is committed to working respectfully with Indigenous peoples under the guidance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in response to the Calls to Action set out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.*

*In keeping with the Council's mandate, we are committed to moving forward together with post-secondary partners to foster an environment that supports and enables post-secondary access and pathways for Indigenous students.*

*This is a summary of BCCAT's 2025 Annual Review. See the full report at [bccat.ca/publication/annualreview2025](https://bccat.ca/publication/annualreview2025).*



# A WORD FROM THE MINISTER

*Our Government is ready to work with stakeholders to focus on expanding the middle class and improving the lives of people living in BC. We are facing challenging times, with federal changes impacting post-secondary enrollments, our Province's labour supply, and an overall uncertainty to our economy.*

*Luckily our partners in the community, including the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer, have always been resourceful, and I'm confident that together we can turn these challenges into opportunities.*

– Hon. Anne Kang, Minister, Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills, BC Provincial Government

# ABOUT BCCAT

## An Overview of Key Activities

### WHAT WE DO

Connecting BC's post-secondary institutions, education ministries, and public and private education sectors. BCCAT's mandate is to facilitate transfer, articulation, and admission arrangements among BC's Transfer System member institutions.



### FACILITATION

Overseeing and facilitating BC's 65 articulation committees; providing key resources and supporting partners across BC's transfer community.

### TECHNOLOGIES

Managing the BC Transfer Guide, and leveraging Transfer Credit System (TCS) resources, building on existing processes and technologies that are cost-effective and efficient.

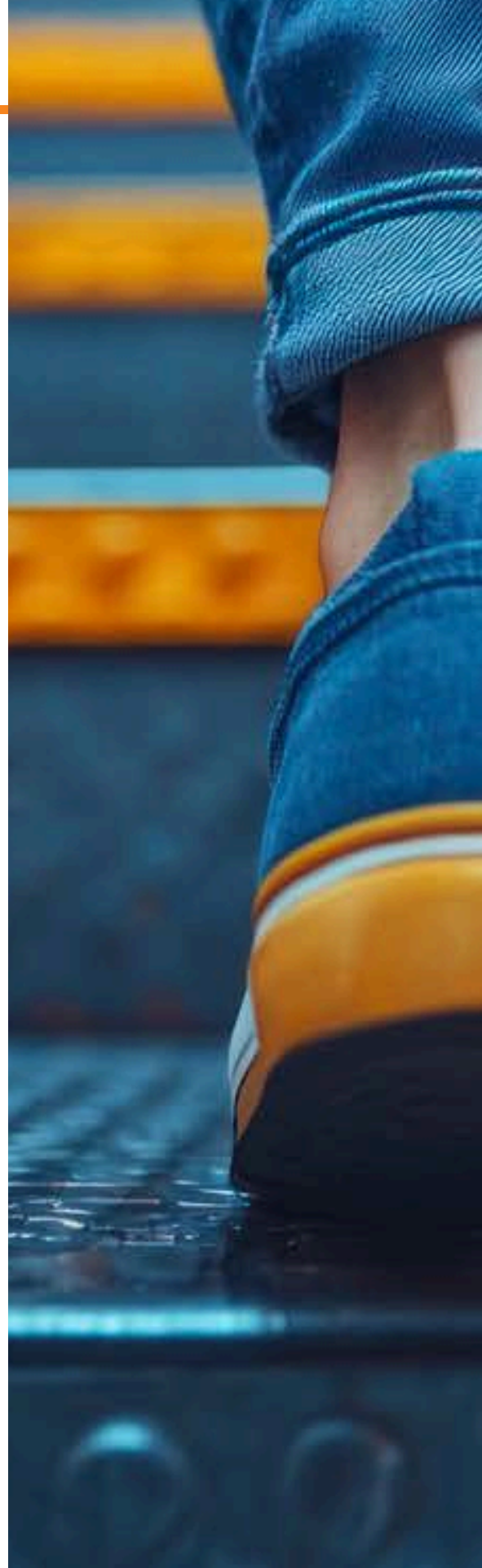
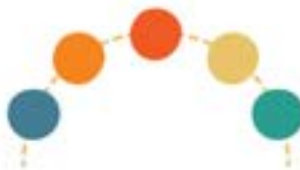


### RESEARCH

Undertaking comprehensive research to inform on student demand, mobility patterns and demographics, and to equip us to support learner access and mobility in ways that are strategic, effective, and efficient.

### COLLABORATION

Working together with post-secondary partners to advance learner mobility and expand pathways within and across borders.



# LEARNER MOBILITY

\*PSIs = post-secondary institutions

## Transfer → U

On average, BC transfer students constitute 29% of all students admitted in a year at participating BC public universities.



## Success

Post transfer, transfer students perform as well as students who enter post-secondary directly from a BC high school.

## 50K Mobile

Approximately 50,000 students move between BC's public PSIs, annually.

(Source: Student Transitions Project)



## 400K Credits

Every year, students transfer roughly 400K credits between public PSIs.

## 45% → >1 PSI

45% of bachelor degree grads attended >1 public PSI.

(Source: Student Transitions Project)



# FACILITATION

## THE VITAL ROLE OF ARTICULATION COMMITTEES



*A key component of BCCAT's mandate is the facilitation of transfer and articulation among BC's transfer institutions. This includes supporting and coordinating BC's 65 articulation committees.*

Articulation committees play a vital role in the overall functioning of BC's transfer system. Committee discussions help to foster the kind of communication and trust needed to overcome transfer barriers and enable student mobility. Because of the dedicated efforts of these individuals, students benefit from a responsive and effective transfer network.

*BCCAT provides information and resources supporting articulation committees, available at [bccat.ca/articulation/info](https://bccat.ca/articulation/info). Explore the history of BC's articulation committees at [bccat.ca/system/history](https://bccat.ca/system/history).*

## GROWING TOGETHER AT JAM 2024

*The Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) brings together transfer partners from across BC and beyond to connect, share, and learn about issues impacting student transfer and mobility.*

*The theme of JAM 2024 was "Growing Together", bringing into focus the remarkable history of BC's transfer community, looking at where we are today, and also considering the road ahead for us as an evolving transfer ecosystem.*



JAM 2024 drew **388 participants** who participated in a variety of ways: submitting questions, joining in discussions, sharing reflections and learning, and offering suggestions on how to modernize the BC Transfer System for the future.

There were 22 sessions over two days. One panel discussion looked at "The Impact on Transfer Due to Changes to International Study Permits," generating a stimulating discussion and food for thought going forward.

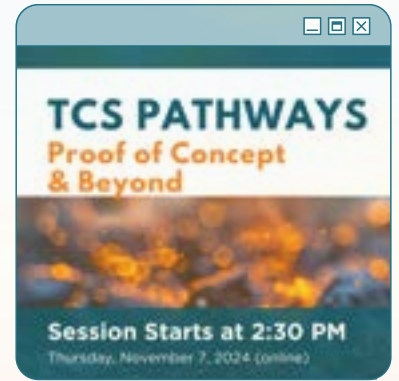
This year, for the very first time, BCCAT also hosted a Viewing Party to accommodate individuals wishing to gather together on the "Online Only" day. Feedback from participants was very positive, so it is likely this will become a regular JAM feature in future years!



**JAM 2024 IN PICTURES (clockwise):** Angus Graeme (BCCAT Co-Chair) speaks while gathered attendees listen; Philipp Reichert (Director, Global Engagement, University of British Columbia & Senior Advisor, Canadian Bureau for International Education) shares in a panel discussion, alongside Neil Mort (President, Acsenda School of Management); Jean Maltesen (Interim Assoc. VP Academic, Vancouver Island University) and Mark Wallin (Assoc. Dean of Arts, Thompson Rivers University) pose for the camera.  
 PHOTO CREDITS: [Eyes Multimedia](#)

## Learn more!

Explore the JAM 2024 video playlist on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/@bccat\\_org](https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org), or check out our website at [www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam](https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam).



## BCCAT TRANSFER AWARDS >>> Celebrating BC's Transfer Champions

In November 2024, we were pleased to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BCCAT Transfer Awards by celebrating two new awardees. Congratulations to Pricilla Stone (Articulation & Transfer Credit Officer, Vancouver Community College) and Emily Gadzala (Student Advisor, Faculty of Environment, University of Northern British Columbia), and special thanks to all who contribute to learner access and mobility in BC!

### PRICILLA STONE \* Rising Star Award \*

*Pricilla will always advocate for a resolution that benefits the student while maintaining the academic integrity of our institution. Pricilla is a singular spirit and the Registrar's Office at VCC is a better place because of her diligence, skills, wisdom, and empathy.*

Marnie Findlater, Assistant Registrar, Records & Systems, VCC.

### EMILY GADZALA \* Transfer & Articulation Service Award \*

*We are nominating Emily for the Transfer & Articulation Service Award for her exceptional, highly effective, innovative, and tireless work with students. We give her our strongest possible nomination for this award for her incredible efforts that have made a major difference in the lives and careers of hundreds of students at UNBC.*

Dezene Huber, Professor, Faculty of Environment & Tamara Sweet, U/G Admissions & Articulation Coordination, Office of the Registrar, UNBC.



For more information, see [bccat.ca/about/awards](https://bccat.ca/about/awards).

# RESEARCH

## BC Transfer Students

### Profile & Performance (2018/19-2022/23)

Prepared for BCCAT by A. Wong; N. Franzova; S. Bajracharya

This report highlights the pathways and performance of students who transferred credits from BC Transfer System institutions to nine BC public universities during the period 2018/19 to 2022/23 academic years.

The results of the current research support many findings of the previous similar studies and also uncover trends that were specific to the latest reporting period, part of which coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic.

## More to explore...



### Upgrading Programs

Prepared by T. James Available at [bccat.ca/publication/upgradingprograms](https://bccat.ca/publication/upgradingprograms)

This study looks at student transitions from Adult Basic Education (ABE) upgrading programs into further studies at BC post-secondary institutions.



### Summer Melt

Prepared by A. Tikina Available at [bccat.ca/publication/summermelt](https://bccat.ca/publication/summermelt)

This short report reviews factors contributing to “summer melt”\* including different types of barriers for admitted post-secondary applicants, strategies to reduce summer melt and their success.

\*“Summer Melt” refers to instances when post-secondary students who received an offer of admission and may have paid a deposit when accepting the offer “fail to enroll at all in the fall after high school graduation”.



### Research Factor

Take a tour through our “Research Factor” video playlist at [www.youtube.com/@bccat\\_org](https://www.youtube.com/@bccat_org) for a quick look at BCCAT research highlights. The latest addition presents highlights from the 2023 report, “Accessible Admissions: Fostering Equitable, Accessible, and Inclusive Admissions through Disability Justice.”



Research is a key component of BCCAT’s mandate, allowing us all to better understand key issues impacting student demand, patterns and demographics. Deeper comprehension leads the way to informed decisions that better support student access and mobility.

### For more info:

Check out this report and infographic at [bccat.ca/publication/bctransferstudents2024](https://bccat.ca/publication/bctransferstudents2024). Explore BCCAT publications and research at [bccat.ca/publications](https://bccat.ca/publications) and [bccat.ca/research/overview](https://bccat.ca/research/overview).

## BCTransferGuide.ca and the Transfer Credit System (TCS)

[BCTransferGuide.ca](https://www.bctransferguide.ca) is the most comprehensive resource used by students and post-secondary faculty and staff for identifying, documenting, and planning transfer pathways.

The Transfer Credit System (TCS) underlies the BC Transfer Guide database. Through the TCS, BC's transfer institutions are able to formalize transfer decisions for publishing to the BC Transfer Guide.

## Stepping Up the TCS

Stakeholder consultation is underway to gather feedback for modernizing the TCS technologies. The TCS last underwent a major revision in 2019, with new enhancements added annually. BCCAT intends to conduct an end-to-end review of the TCS workflow, to explore how to incorporate new technologies including AI and greater automations.

BCCAT is currently expanding the TCS to include micro-credential pathways within the BC Transfer Guide. BCCAT is working in partnership with [TRU's Credit Bank](#) to develop a workflow to enable broader articulation of micro-credentials to credit-based programs.

BCCAT is also working with the [Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer](#) (see <https://www.oncat.ca>) to deploy an Ontario version of the TCS scheduled for launch in June, 2025. Once launched, BC and Ontario will share the same online platform. This will increase efficiency in terms of ongoing development costs and shared technologies.

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

## BC TRANSFER GUIDE

### THE STATS

#### Equivalencies

292.4K	British Columbia
86K	Pan-Canadian & Int'l
378.4K	Total Equivalencies
1,618	Block Transfer Agreements
37.7K	Active Courses (BC)

#### Analytics

382K	Active Users
2.3M	Page Views
705K	Sessions*

\*Sessions are initiated when a user visits the website or views a page or screen. Sessions time out after 30 minutes of user inactivity.

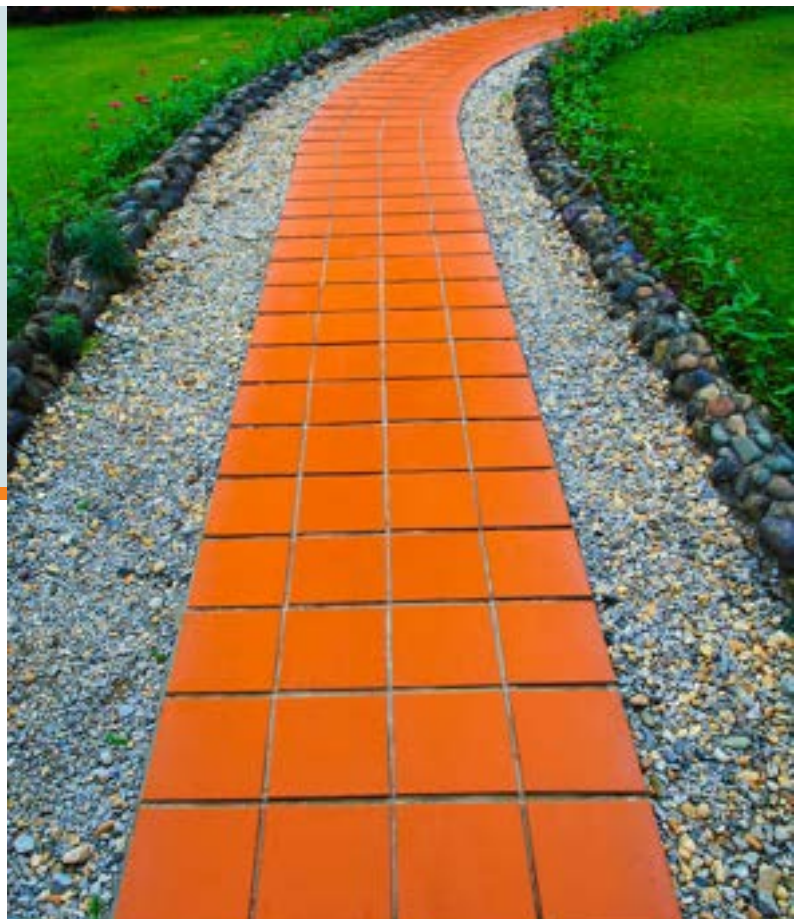
# TCS Program Pathways Project



The TCS Program Pathways project aims to address information challenges faced by our transfer students and BC's post-secondary institutions when mapping bridging and laddering learning opportunities.

The project utilizes the existing TCS, leveraging the already familiar system-wide workflow, data tables and data management tools, to aggregate course-level program requirements and facilitate the creation and maintenance of program pathways. The proof of concept provides a limited scope foundation that can be extended to accommodate other program structures and types of pathway opportunities.

The TCS Pathways tool will be piloted over Summer 2025, by proof-of-concept partners including the Northern Consortium post-secondary institutions and Engineering programs stakeholders. Alongside the pilot, BCCAT will be adding programs that work within the currently developed scope for our next phase PSI partners and anticipate including numerous programs that could be available for institutions to create pathway agreements and partnerships later this year. Future development includes expanding the scope of programs that are able to be added, working with specific program areas, and identifying pathway priorities that benefit learners and post-secondary.



## Participating Institutions:

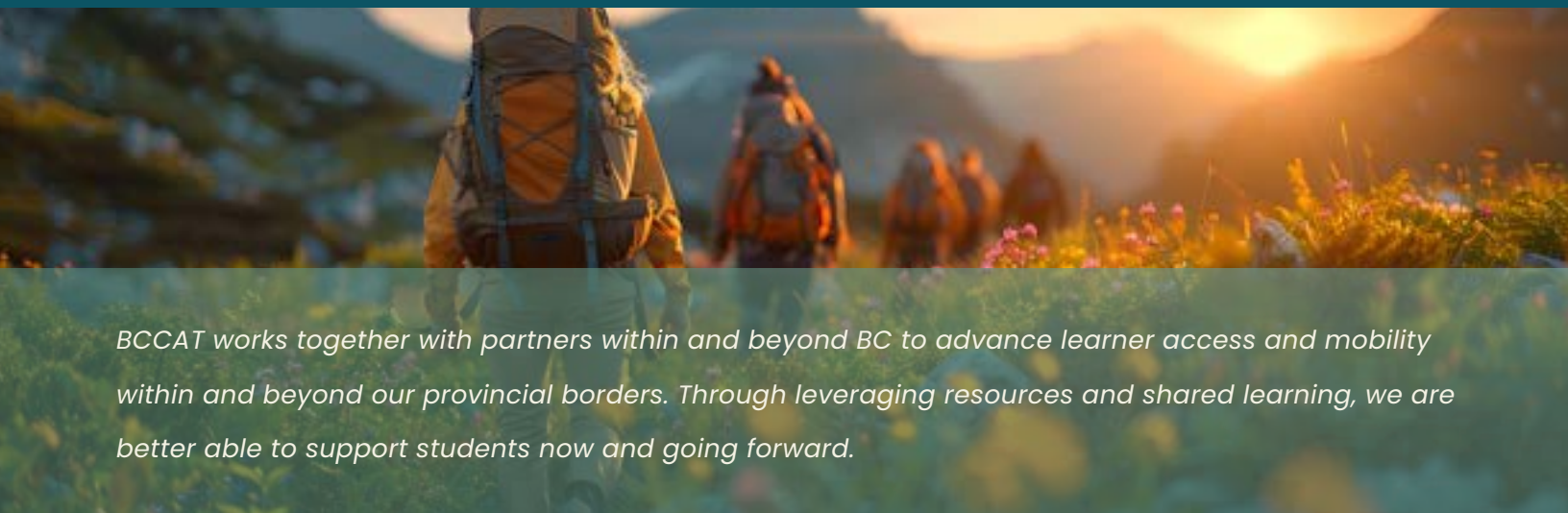


## Learn more!

[bccat.ca/technology/pathways](https://bccat.ca/technology/pathways)



# COLLABORATION



*BCCAT works together with partners within and beyond BC to advance learner access and mobility within and beyond our provincial borders. Through leveraging resources and shared learning, we are better able to support students now and going forward.*

Three major collaborative projects have already been referenced in this report:

- a) Expansion of the TCS to include micro-credential credit pathways, in partnership with [Thompson Rivers University – Open Learning](#);<sup>[1]</sup>
- (b) Working with the [Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer](#) (ONCAT) to deploy an Ontario version of the TCS;<sup>[2]</sup>
- (c) Development of a TCS Program Pathways tool; currently entering the pilot phase, working together with two BC post-secondary stakeholder groups.<sup>[3]</sup>

BCCAT is also working with [EducationPlannerBC](#) to enable transfer credit data exchange with the TCS. The goal is to enable students to see how their courses transfer based on their post-secondary academic transcripts.

BCCAT is an active member of the [Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer](#) (PCCAT) <sup>[4]</sup> and CATCan, a network of Canadian “CATs” (BCCAT’s counterparts in other provincial jurisdictions).

BCCAT staff members also participate with the [Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada](#) (ARUCC),<sup>[5]</sup> and BCCAT is a signatory of the [Groningen Declaration Network](#) (GDN).<sup>[6]</sup> In May 2025, BCCAT participated at the [GDN PCCAT Conference](#) (Toronto; May 28-30, 2025).<sup>[7]</sup>

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1 See <https://inside.tru.ca/2025/01/28/tru-open-learning-receives-funds-to-improve-micro-credential-assessment/>

2 See p. 8 for more information regarding these TCS projects.

3 See p. 9 for further details about the TCS Program Pathways project.

4 For more information, see <https://www.pccat.ca>

5 See <https://arucc.ca>

6 See <https://groningendeclaration.org/>

7 See <https://groningendeclaration.org/gdn-pccat-2025>

# THE PATH FORWARD

*The work of BCCAT would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of thousands of individuals from across BC's transfer community. We are mindful that there is much yet to be done going forward as we work together to adapt and expand in the face of current challenges. And we are grateful for the opportunity to continue our collaborative relationships in support of students.*

## BCCAT's Council & Committees

The Council guides the work of three standing committees, each devoted to different aspects of the Council's mandate. We are grateful for the valuable contributions of all Council and committee members. Special thanks to outgoing Council members, and welcome to those who joined us this year!

### NEW:

- **Avery Hulbert**, Faculty Instructor, College of the Rockies
- **Stephanie McKeown**, Chief Institutional Research Officer, University of British Columbia
- **Kathy Siedlaczek**, Dean, Academic Planning & Quality Assurance, British Columbia Institute of Technology
- **Sunita Wiebe**, Director, Academic Quality Assurance, Langara College

### OUTGOING:

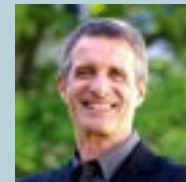
- **Helen McGregor**, Superintendent & CEO, Vancouver School District
- **Laureen Styles**, Interim President and Vice-Chancellor, Capilano University



## Message from our Co-Chairs



**Robert Fleming**  
Executive Director  
& Co-Chair, BCCAT



**Angus Graeme**  
Council Co-Chair  
& Former President,  
Selkirk College

*BC's remarkable transfer community continues to deliver positive outcomes and innovative transfer choices for students.*

*This past year the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer has been effective in responding to current challenges and opportunities for the transfer system and remains focused on ensuring that students continue to benefit from flexible pathways into the future.*

*BC's transfer system continues to operate as a model of post-secondary system collaboration in Canada and an important investment in the future of post-secondary students across the province.*

# LINKS FOR INFO

## Council & Committees

[bccat.ca/about/council](https://bccat.ca/about/council)

[bccat.ca/about/committees](https://bccat.ca/about/committees)

## Articulation & JAM

[bccat.ca/articulation](https://bccat.ca/articulation)

[bccat.ca/articulation/jam](https://bccat.ca/articulation/jam)

## Publications

[bccat.ca/publications](https://bccat.ca/publications)

## Research

[bccat.ca/research/projects](https://bccat.ca/research/projects)

[bccat.ca/research/plan](https://bccat.ca/research/plan)

## Technology

[bccat.ca/technology/overview](https://bccat.ca/technology/overview)

## BCCAT Transfer Awards

[bccat.ca/about/awards](https://bccat.ca/about/awards)

## Engage (Subscribe for regular updates!)

[bccat.ca/about/news/#Engage](https://bccat.ca/about/news/#Engage)



Scan the QR code above for access to this Annual Review and related materials, available at [bccat.ca/publication/annualreview2025](https://bccat.ca/publication/annualreview2025)

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BC Council on Admissions & Transfer

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