



June 25, 2024

Ms. Bobbi Plecas
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills
Email: AEST.DeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Plecas:

On behalf of the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT), we are pleased to present [BCCAT's 2023-24 Annual Review, Growing with BC's transfer ecosystem](#). This year marks the 35th anniversary of BCCAT. As BC's post-secondary transfer system has expanded and evolved over the years, so too has BCCAT's role in supporting mobile students navigating educational pathways across institutions offering a greater range of credentials.

Findings from the [Student Transitions Project \(STP\)](#) reveal significant changes in student mobility patterns between institutions, from uni-directional to what is now clearly multi-directional. Here is a quick look at the stats:

- **+400K credits transfer each year** (between public post-secondary institutions, or "PSIs")
- **+55K students move between public PSIs annually**
- **+45% of degree graduates attended >1 public PSI**
- **79% of BC transfer students receive all or most of their requested transfer credit**

Stephanie Boychuk (Instructor, Adult Basic Education, Vancouver Island University, and 2023 winner of the [Rising Star Award](#)), views BC's transfer community as an evolving ecosystem; one that thrives because of its complexity, diversity, and interconnectedness. All the individual parts (e.g., faculty, professional staff, institutions, articulation committees) are integral to the functioning of the network supporting post-secondary student journeys.

[This report](#) presents an overview of recent projects and activities and offers some reflections on the strengths of this community as we continue the vital work of supporting and advancing learner access and mobility. As you'll see, it covers key developments in the areas of community, technologies, research, and partnerships.

COMMUNITY

BCCAT facilitates and supports [BC's 65 articulation committees](#), which play a vital role in BC's transfer ecosystem. Approximately 1,500 representatives meet regularly to address curricular and articulation issues. These interactions foster understanding, respect, and commitment to support learner access, transfer, and mobility across the system. Popular topics of discussion this year focused on post-pandemic effects on student wellness, AI and ChatGPT, micro-credentials, and new Transfer Credit System (TCS) technologies.

Every year, BCCAT hosts the [Joint Annual Meeting \(JAM\)](#), bringing together the higher education, articulation, and administrative communities across BC and beyond to connect, share, and learn about issues impacting student transfer and mobility. This year's JAM drew **375 online and in-person registrants** to focus on "*Building the Big Picture of Student Mobility*". Session videos are available at www.youtube.com/@bccat_org.

TECHNOLOGIES

BCTransferGuide.ca is the "go-to" resource for students planning their post-secondary transfer pathways in BC. The site has expanded dramatically over the years due to a significant increase in transfer equivalencies and a variety of new transfer pathway options.

Suite #709, 555 Seymour Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 3H6 Canada
Tel: (604) 412-7700 E-mail: info@bccat.ca Web: www.bccat.ca www.bctransferguide.ca

- 285,538 BC Course-to Course (C2C) Equivalencies
- 82,571 External (Pan-Canadian & International) C2C Equivalencies
- 1,667 Block Transfer Agreements

For more information on the BC Transfer Guide and transfer pathways, check out the “Did You Know?” and “Transfer To” videos available at youtube.com/@bccat_org.

In support of the Ministry’s **Digital Services Strategy**, BCCAT is continuing work with Northern Consortium post-secondary institutions and engineering programs on the **Program Pathways** project to develop a pathway building tool that will connect course equivalency data with program-level course requirements and provide comprehensive program pathway information to students. By expanding the existing TCS platform and data, BCCAT is leveraging resources already utilized by PSIs in our transfer system. The **Program Pathways** proof of concept is currently in the testing phase. More information is available at bccat.ca/technology/pathways/.

RESEARCH

Research on issues surrounding learner access and mobility, and the functionality of the system, is a key component of BCCAT’s mandate, informing development of policy, planning and processes within BC’s transfer community. One recent report, [Accessible Admissions: Fostering accessible, equitable, and inclusive admissions through disability justice](#), summarizes an environmental scan of 38 BC Transfer System post-secondary institutions’ admissions processes. It presents both current best practices in the system and opportunities to advance equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization (EDID) supports attached to institutional admissions policies and practices, with a focus on the removal of systemic barriers commonly faced by learners with disabilities. A two-page summary of recent publications and resources is available at bccat.ca/resources/AllAboutPubsResources2024.pdf.

PARTNERSHIPS

BCCAT collaborates with partners within BC and beyond to advance intra- and inter-provincial learner mobility. In addition to the system-focussed Program Pathways project, BCCAT continues to work with the Indigenous Policy & Engagement Branch, Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA), and key contacts regarding the transferability of Indigenous Language Fluency degree curriculum and articulation relationships between IAHLA and BC Transfer System institutions. Nationally, BCCAT is a member of the [Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer \(PCCAT\)](#), and CATCan, a network of Canadian “CATs”, and is a partner and participant in the [2024 ARUCC PCCAT conference](#) in Calgary in June 2024. BCCAT is also collaborating with the [Ontario Council on Articulation & Transfer \(ONCAT\)](#) to explore shared technologies and practices to enhance efficiency and inter-operability.

The success of BC’s integrated transfer network is due to the collaborative efforts of many across BC who work to support and improve learner access and mobility. In the words of the Hon. Lisa Beare, “As we celebrate this significant anniversary, it is important to acknowledge the invaluable work of BC’s transfer ecosystem in supporting learner access and mobility, as well as the dedication and collaboration of this important partnership for our province.” We are privileged to work with these groups and individuals in expanding pathways for BC’s learners.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Rob Fleming
Co-Chair and Executive Director



Mr. Angus Graeme
Co-Chair, and Retired President, Selkirk College

cc: Mr. Chris Rathbone, Assistant Deputy Minister, Post-Secondary Policy, and Programs (PSEFS)
Mr. Ben Ferrel, Executive Director, Post-Secondary Digital Policy, and Programs (PSEFS)

Encs.