



**FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021**

9:30am – 12:30pm (NOTE: This meeting was held online.)

## ATTENDANCE:

### COUNCIL MEMBERS:

FLEMING, Robert	BCCAT Executive Director [CO-CHAIR]
HAMILTON, Jim	President, Okanagan College [CO-CHAIR]
CARDWELL, Steve	Vice-President, Students, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
CHENOWETH, John	Associate Vice-President, Academic-Community Education, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
DENTON, Kathy	President & CEO, Douglas College
DICK, Brian	Professor and Chair, Engineering, Vancouver Island University
KRAUSE, Gerda	Dean, Faculty of Science, Langara College
LOUIE, Brenda	Vice-Principal, Columbia College
McCAUSLAND, Elizabeth	English Instructor, Douglas College
McCREDIE, Karen	Executive Director, EducationPlannerBC
NAUGLER, Diane	Dean, Business and Applied Studies, North Island College
O'MEARA, Tami	Dept. Head, Student Access and Support, and Counsellor, Selkirk College
RUSSELL, Carolyn	Executive Director, Global Engagement, University of Victoria
STYLES, Laureen	Vice-President Academic & Provost, Capilano University

REGRETS: *Dorys Crespín-Mueller, Rummana Khan Hemani, and Lisa McCullough.*

### STAFF MEMBERS:

ADAMOSKI, Robert	Director, Research & Admissions
BUI, Tu	Project Assistant (Co-op)
DROPOL, Adina	Office Coordinator
HESLOP, Joanne	Manager, Student Transitions Project
KOOK, Jennifer	Manager, Technology Services
McQUARRIE, Fiona	Special Projects Coordinator
TIKINA, Anna	Research Officer
WINSEMANN, Mike	Director, Transfer & Technology
YORKSTON, Valerie	Executive Assistant to the Council & Communications Coordinator

GUESTS: Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training:

- Jamie Edwardson, Executive Director, Corporate Planning, International & Quality Assurance
- Randall Gerlach, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

# MINUTES

Item/Speaker

## 1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS – R. Fleming & J. Hamilton (Co-Chairs)

*JIM: We acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people. We also want to acknowledge and thank our host community, the Westbank First Nation.*

*ROB: We acknowledge that we are gathering on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Salilwataʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.*

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Jim and Rob reported that Steve Roe has stepped down from the Council due to taking a new position (Dean of Arts at Alexander College). They expressed their appreciation for Steve’s contributions to the Council throughout his term as member.

Following this, Rob and Council members offered congratulations to Jim Hamilton for his retirement, expressing appreciation for his significant contributions to BC’s post-secondary system throughout his career. It was also confirmed that Jim will continue with his role as Co-Chair of the Council as appointed.

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## 2. PROPOSED AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

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## 3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING *(December 4, 2020)*

The minutes were approved as presented.

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## 4. ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION

### 4.1. 2020-21 Budget & Work Plan

#### 4.1.1. 2020-21 Budget Update and FYE Estimates – *R. Fleming*

Rob walked through key points, noting in particular:

- The significant savings on travel expenses this year (due to pivot to online versus face-to-face meetings) made it possible to reallocate some of these funds to accommodate technology needs and minor office renovations (as approved by Council at the last meeting).
- Due to streamlining and fast-tracking of projects and initiatives this year, there are relatively low “carry-forward” commitments.

In discussion, members queried whether we would be proceeding with in-person meetings in future. For JAM events, in particular, it can be valuable for participants to connect face to face. It was generally agreed that we may host hybrid events and a combination of face-to-face and online committee meetings when current restrictions are fully lifted.

***MOTION: To accept the 2020-21 Budget Update and FYE Estimates.***

***L. Styles / D. Naugler CARRIED.***

### 4.2. 2021-22 Proposed Budget & Work Plan

#### 4.2.1. Overview & Proposed Operating Budget – *R. Fleming*

Rob referred members to the budget request letter which outlines status quo funding for the coming year. He then outlined expected administrative costs, project funding, and carry-over commitments.

#### 4.2.2. Proposed Work Plan – *R. Fleming & BCCAT Staff*

Staff members presented an overview of proposed projects and activities. Highlighted projects are listed below:

##### ADMISSIONS & RESEARCH

- Pandemic Response: Admissions and Registrarial Policies
- Data Collection Supporting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Pandemic Response: Student Surveys
- Online Learning in Rural and Remote Communities

##### TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

- Impact of Covid-19 on Transfer and Articulation Practices
- Articulation Agreement Maintenance
- Articulation Committee Project funding (continuing the redesigned Transfer Innovation Fund))

##### TECHNOLOGIES & WEBSITES

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- Redesign of BCTransferGuide.ca
  - Enhancements to the Transfer Credit System (TCS), including integration of Adult Basic Education articulation agreements, and course attributes functionality.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Multimedia projects, including the “Research Factor” video series.
- Increased outreach to BC post-secondary institutions to inform about transfer in BC and the BC Transfer Guide.

#### COLLABORATION

- Ongoing work with pan-Canadian counterparts to advance mobility across Canada.
- Advising and supporting other jurisdictions regarding credit transfer system technologies.

**MOTION: To accept the proposed 2021-22 Budget and Work Plan.**

**T. O’Meara / S. Cardwell CARRIED.**

## 5. COUNCIL BUSINESS

### 5.1. Provincial Issues and Developments

#### 5.1.1. Ministry Update – *J. Edwardson*

Jamie gave a brief update on current issues and developments at the Ministry, touching on the following:

- Micro-credentials working group focused on development of a framework
- Capacity to Connect, educational resource developed by BCcampus to provide basic mental health and wellness information for faculty and staff (in supporting students)
- Open Education Resources – Cascadia event coming up <https://cascadia.bccampus.ca/>
- Expanding Indigenous Health programs
- International Education – institutional support for travel of international students (regarding current travel restrictions)
- Co-op / Integrated Learning Initiative
- Government Budget Day – coming up on April 20/21

#### 5.1.2. Indigenous Education Update – *J. Chenoweth*

John Chenoweth provided an update on recent issues and developments impacting Indigenous Education:

- Due to ongoing vaccinations, there is an increase in face-to-face gatherings in some communities
- NVIT’s Nsyilxcen Language Fluency Diploma Program – part of the Language Fluency degree framework
- UBCO is launching a new Indigenous language fluency degree program that will admit students from NVIT’s diploma program
- “Contact North” – new program announced by Ministry to expand access for post-secondary students in remote locations <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021AEST0017-000416>
- BC Association of Institutes and Universities (BCAIU) and BC Colleges meeting with the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) to look into working together to support training
- Work-Integrated Learning – seeing a significant increase in numbers of students taking up these programs

#### 5.1.3. EducationPlannerBC.ca (EPBC) Update – *K. McCredie*

UBC is now on board for the application process, and it is expected that UVic will be included in the summer.

Karen McCredie gave an update about the “EPBConnects” event, noting that 24 post-secondary institutions participated, along with BCCAT and other system partners. The main panel sessions looked how to support institutions, and gathered feedback from students (as users of the site).

In terms of engagement, EPBC has reached 8,000 students and parents since October 2020 to walk through features of the site for post-secondary planning and application.

EPBC is working with MyCreds.ca as a connector with BC post-secondary institutions.

#### 5.1.4. Micro-credential Working Group Update – *R. Fleming*

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Rob Fleming provided information about this working group looking at developing a framework for micro-credentials, starting with public institutions. The BCCAT perspective focuses on transfer issues in particular. Robert Adamoski recently gave a presentation on BCCAT research at a BCcampus FLO event.

## 5.2. Staff Report to Council on External Activities - *R. Fleming*

Staff members continue activities in support of the system, particularly regarding the impact of COVID on students and BC Transfer System member institutions. This includes support for enquiry into micro-credentials, learning continuity, and online instruction BCCAT also interacts with pan-Canadian partners regarding technology development in support of credit transfer.

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## 6. TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

### 6.1. Transfer & Articulation (TAC) Committee (Last Meeting: January 22, 2021) – *D. Naugler (Chair)*

Much of the discussions at this meeting focused on project planning for 2021-22, covered in the proposed work plan (above). The Articulation Committee Projects (ACP) funding program will be operating again in the 2021-22 fiscal year. No applications for funding were received in 2020-21 likely due to committees focusing on dealing with pandemic-related changes.

### 6.2. Articulation Committees – *M. Winsemann*

BCCAT is hosting a kick-off event / orientation for articulation committee Chairs and System Liaison Persons (SLPs). Most of the committees have set dates for online meetings, and BCCAT is providing information and resources to support committee meetings.

### 6.3. TAC Projects & Issues – *F. McQuarrie*

Fiona McQuarrie reported on a project looking at the criteria for assessing sending institutions outside of the BC Transfer System. She has completed a draft of the literature review and the section on context, and has started collecting data from institutional websites.

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## 7. ADMISSIONS

### 7.1. Admissions Committee (Last Meeting: January 29, 2021) – *K. McCredie (Chair)*

Karen McCredie spoke briefly about key projects planned for 2021 (see the discussion re the work plan above). In particular, she noted that Paola Baca had given an update regarding UBC's policies on transfer student admissions.

### 7.2. Admissions Projects

PRESENTATION – by Joanne Heslop, Manager, Student Transitions Project  
*Pre- and Post-Pandemic Enrollment Trends in BC*

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## 8. RESEARCH

### 8.1. Research Committee (Last Meeting: February 5, 2021) – *R. Adamoski*

Robert Adamoski referred members to the draft minutes from this meeting, highlighting two key projects:

- Exploring Student Motivations for Credit Accumulation: At the February 2021 Research Committee meeting, Drew Pihlainen from Academics provided a background and overview of the project. Early results indicate both personal and institutional/systemic factors impact the number of credits completed beyond the minimum requirements of the program.
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- Credit Accumulation and Pathway Programs: Plaid Consulting are leading this project. At the February 2021 Committee meeting, Andrew Drinkwater provided an update on this project which looks at block transfer programs, degree partnerships, and other pathways that allow students to enter a degree program at Year 2 or 3. The data will be merged with STP data to provide an even fuller picture of credit accumulation in BC.

## 8.2. Research Projects - *A. Tikina*

### 8.2.1. Micro-Credentials (infographic)

Anna Tikina referred members to this infographic, a complementary piece to the full report. She thanked Tu Bui for her work in setting up the design and layout. Both pieces are available at [bccat.ca/intro/MicroCredentialsReport](https://bccat.ca/intro/MicroCredentialsReport)

### 8.2.2. Data Governance Policy Models

The report and infographic are now available at [bccat.ca/intro/DataGovernance2021](https://bccat.ca/intro/DataGovernance2021)

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## 9. TECHNOLOGIES/WEBSITES – *M. Winsemann*

### 9.1. Transfer Credit System (TCS) Update

Mike gave a quick update on TCS projects in process, including addition of course titles and course reciprocity information and development of a course attributes feature.

### 9.2. BCTransferGuide.ca Enhancements – *Demo by M. Winsemann / J. Kook*

A major redesign of BCTransferGuide.ca is underway to incorporate international and national transfer agreements (from the institutions that have onboarded the TCS Suite project), build in new features, and improve overall navigability of the site. The first phase (showing the expansions) is due for launching later this Spring.

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## 10. COMMUNICATIONS – *V. Yorkston*

### 10.1. Coop Assistant: Tu Bui

Val introduced Tu Bui, a Coop Student currently undertaking a Bachelor of Business Administration degree at SFU. Tu is helping us with our communications projects and publications. She will be working with us until the end of August 2021.

### 10.2. Multimedia Projects

This year, we're looking forward to launching a new video series. "The Research Factor" will provide brief presentations of key BCCAT research findings. Anna Tikina will be heading this project. Other projects planned for this year include demo clips on how to use BCTransferGuide.ca, and a highlights video from JAM 2021.

### 10.3. Outreach/Events

In February, Val participated in a "Transfer Info Session" hosted by Vancouver Island University. BCCAT will be looking for further opportunities to collaborate with post-secondary institutions to share information about the BC Transfer Guide and the transfer system to support student planning. As well, there were a couple of "Education & Career Fair" events scheduled in February, and two more scheduled for May 2021. BCCAT will be co-presenting with EducationPlannerBC at those events.

### 10.4. BCCAT Transfer Awards

We are due to launch the 2021 BCCAT Transfer Awards in a few weeks. It is always helpful if Council members spread the word about the awards program, and look out for potential nominees if appropriate.

Val issued a request for volunteers from the Council to sit on the Awards Committee. Tami O'Meara and Carolyn Russell will be completing their terms as Council members this year, but will be sitting on the committee for one more year.

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## **11. INTER-PROVINCIAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES** – R. Fleming

### 11.1. CATCan Meetings

Rob Fleming noted that monthly meetings with CATCan partners continue, and have been focused recently on tracking practice and policy decisions relating to educational accommodations.

### 11.2. PCCAT Learning Day

Plans are underway for PCCAT to host a virtual learning day (likely in June 2021) instead of its annual conference. Check the website for details. <https://pccat.ca/conference>

### 11.3. ARUCC National Network and MyCreds.ca [www.aruccnationalnetwork.ca/mycreds.ca/2020/12/07/arucc-launches-mycreds-mescertif-canadas-new-credential-wallet/](http://www.aruccnationalnetwork.ca/mycreds.ca/2020/12/07/arucc-launches-mycreds-mescertif-canadas-new-credential-wallet/)

### 11.4. Groningen Declaration Network (GDN)

Rob Fleming noted that plans are underway for the next conference which will be hosted in Ottawa. <https://www.groningendeclaration.org/2021/05/11/2021-call-for-proposals/>

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## **12. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST** – *A listing of recent pertinent articles were provided for information only.*

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## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

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