



## **Call for Proposals: Exploring Data Collection to Support Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in BC Public Post-secondary Institutions.**

### **Background**

BC Post-secondary institutions have historically adopted policies and learning approaches designed to reduce barriers to post-secondary education in the province. Indeed, the BC Transfer System supports accessibility by allowing students to begin their post-secondary journey in their home communities, and by multiplying the number of pathways available as their life-circumstances evolve. As a whole, Canada has not collected data on student ethnicity and ancestry as systematically as other jurisdictions, particularly the US.

The increasing awareness of systemic discrimination has challenged this traditional approach. If institutions are to demonstrate that their process support equity and diversity, it seems increasingly important that data exist to identify barriers, and the effectiveness of existing and emergent policies in addressing them (cite federal legislation and CRC transparency). This project, developed in conjunction with the BC Registrar's Association and EducationPlannerBC, will provide a survey of key considerations around the collection of data on student ethnicity and ancestry, and a survey of approaches adopted in other jurisdictions. Issues specific to post-secondary admission and reporting processes will be highlighted.

### **Purpose/ Goal**

To conduct a multi-jurisdictional review of collection processes for data pertaining to "race", ethnicity, and ancestry for post-secondary students. Protocols and processes from other public sectors will be included.

### **Scope**

Canadian post-secondary institutions. Key information from other BC sectors, including Health, and others as required.

### **Objectives**

The objective(s) of this project are to:

- a) Conduct a multi-jurisdictional policy and literature review on the collection of "race", ethnicity or ancestry data.
- b) Capture existing policy and practice in BC public post-secondary institutions regarding collection of student "race", ethnicity or ancestry data. Specifically, identify successful practices in question design and response categories that would inform BCRA's deliberations around possibly developing a recommended, consistent approach across BC institutions.
- c) Identify how other jurisdictions utilize this data to support post-secondary access and persistence, and how students benefit from, and access, this information.
- d) Identify opportunities and considerations concerning appropriate and empowering data sharing.
- e) Identify key issues for post-secondary institutions, including the timing of data collection (at application, admission, or post-admission).
- f) Provide a framework for the BCRA to consider, outlining key considerations at an institutional, and system-level.

**Timeline**

Completion date for this project will be no later than March 2022.

**Budget**

Maximum budget available for this project is \$27,000. This figure is inclusive of all hourly charges, travel and associated costs, and GST.

[Proposal Template for Research Projects](#)