

# CLEARING THE WAY

*Improving Access for BC's  
Diverse Post-Secondary Learners*

A Brief Look at BCCAT's 2017-18 Annual Review

Success can mean different things for different students. For those involved in facilitating student mobility, it means that students are supported in accessing post-secondary education, and as they move forward on their respective journeys.

BCCAT works together with the BC Transfer System to improve access to pathways, enabling diverse learners to advance towards their educational goals.

**Research indicates that BC's post-secondary students benefit from the flexibility of the BC Transfer System.**

**45%**

of bachelor graduates attend more than one BC public post-secondary institution.

**82.4%**

of mobile students continued their studies or received a credential (in 2016-17), surpassing the system retention target of 75%.

**54,000+**

students move between BC public post-secondary institutions every year.

# SUPPORTING Student Planning

BCCAT supports access to post-secondary opportunities by connecting students to resources that assist them to explore and identify the programs and transfer pathways that accommodate their particular needs and educational goals.



## BCTransferGuide.ca

BCTransferGuide.ca delivers accurate and up-to-date information on an extensive range of flexible pathway options in the BC Transfer System.

**210,000+**

Course-to-Course Articulation Agreements



## EducationPlannerBC

EducationPlannerBC allows students to plan, search and apply for BC post-secondary programs. The Steering Committee continues to work with BCCAT and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST) to provide direction for the online planning and application service.

**1,378**

Block Transfer Agreements

**52**

Degree Partnerships

*"The new TCS is wonderful. I equate it to Apple products... Once you figure it out it is quite intuitive. Thanks for this amazing site."*

- Laurel MacIntosh, Student Records/Transfer Credit, Camosun College - Lansdowne Campus

## Transfer Credit System (TCS)

This year, BCCAT launched the new and improved Transfer Credit System (TCS), the online resource for creating and maintaining transfer agreements that populate the BC Transfer Guide. The new system delivers more efficient and advanced tools for articulation construction and maintenance, and improves the consistency and accessibility of transfer information.



## DANIEL'S STORY: Education as Process

*"The complexity of these different pathways completely flipped my thinking: education isn't a progression from point A to point B--it's a process that is fluid, complex, dynamic and individual."*

- Daniel Jacinto, Co-Op Student/  
BCCAT Project Assistant (2017-18)

# FACILITATING the BC Transfer System

BCCAT facilitates the BC Transfer System by supporting discussion on emerging issues and developments, and by coordinating a dynamic transfer community dedicated to advancing access and mobility for BC's post-secondary students.



## BC's Articulation Community

BC's 66 articulation committees play an essential role in enabling transfer for BC students. Meeting discussions help to strengthen relationships and foster trust and understanding that underpins transfer credit evaluation processes at each institution. BCCAT supports these committees by providing key resources and information, and by attending committee meetings when possible. See [bccat.ca/articulation](http://bccat.ca/articulation).

## 2017 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM)

Every year, BCCAT brings together members of the articulation community with admissions and transfer practitioners to discuss emerging issues and share best practices. At JAM 2017, a panel discussion focused on Indigenization in the BC post-secondary system. See [bccat.ca/articulation/jam](http://bccat.ca/articulation/jam).



*"Our articulation committee brings together a diverse array of instructors from across the province (in person and online) to discuss and share ideas and common, emerging concerns. This collaboration is extremely valuable for instructors and for students."*

- Dezene Huber, Chair, Biology Articulation Committee (outgoing)

61

TI projects completed since 2000, as of May 2018.

## Transfer Innovation Projects

Transfer Innovation (TI) projects enable articulation committees to develop flexible and innovative transfer arrangements among BC post-secondary institutions. These projects significantly improve transfer information and opportunities for BC's post-secondary students. See [bccat.ca/articulation/projects](http://bccat.ca/articulation/projects).



BCCAT is committed to assisting post-secondary partners as we work together on addressing emerging issues and strengthening system supports for students.

## Students with Lived Experience in Care

In 2017, BCCAT participated with representatives from across the post-secondary system at a discussion forum hosted by the University of Victoria (UVic). The event focused on support for post-secondary students with lived experience in care.

Two students, Ruby Barclay (a "Peer Support Navigator" at Vancouver Island University [VIU]) and Lilia Zaharieva (Child and Youth Care student at UVic) spoke on the importance of paying attention to language and terminology, growing in awareness and combatting stereotypical thinking.

*"Students come with unique challenges as a result of in-care experience, and need support moving forward and navigating post-secondary."*

- Ruby Barclay, VIU Peer Support Navigator.  
[news.viu.ca/vius-new-peer-support-navigator-removes-barriers-students](https://news.viu.ca/vius-new-peer-support-navigator-removes-barriers-students)

## Secondary to Post-Secondary Transitions

BCCAT continues to support BC Transfer System partners through dialogue and facilitation regarding changes to BC's high school curriculum and graduation requirements. A recent update from the Ministry of Education is provided at [bccat.ca/articulation](http://bccat.ca/articulation).

## *Congratulations to the winners of the 2017 BCCAT Transfer Awards!*

Every year, BCCAT looks forward to celebrating BC's transfer "champions" and their respective contributions to the advancement of transfer and articulation in BC.

Congratulations to this year's winners!

### TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD:

Brian Dick (Vancouver Island University)  
Steven Earle (Thompson Rivers University-Open Learning)

### LEADERSHIP AWARD:

Tanis Sawkins (Vancouver Community College)

See [bccat.ca/system/awards/2017](http://bccat.ca/system/awards/2017).

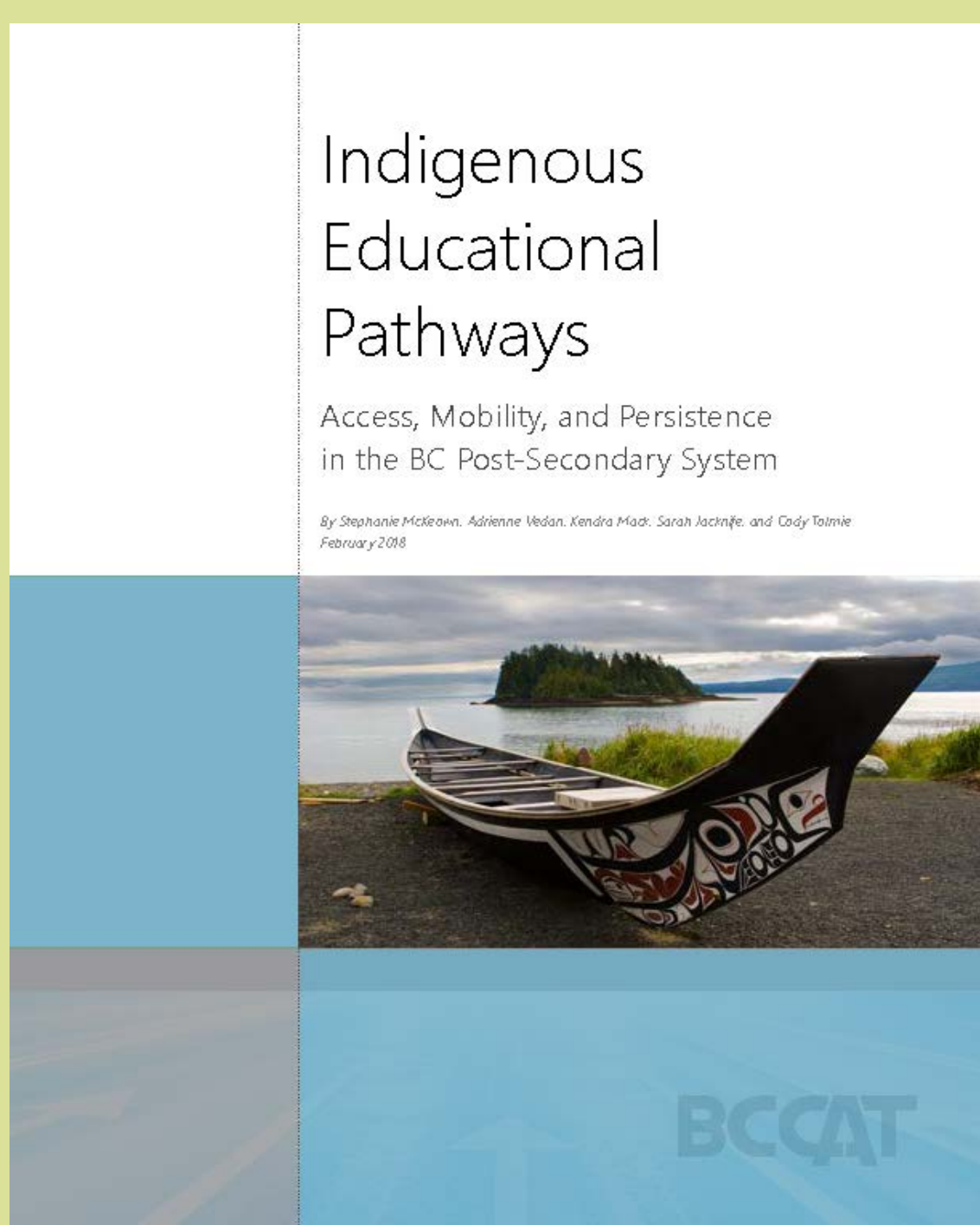


# LEARNING about Access and Mobility

BCCAT and related system research examines key questions about student access, mobility, and success. These projects inform BCCAT and our post-secondary partners on the development of policies and processes, strengthening support for students as they pursue their educational goals.

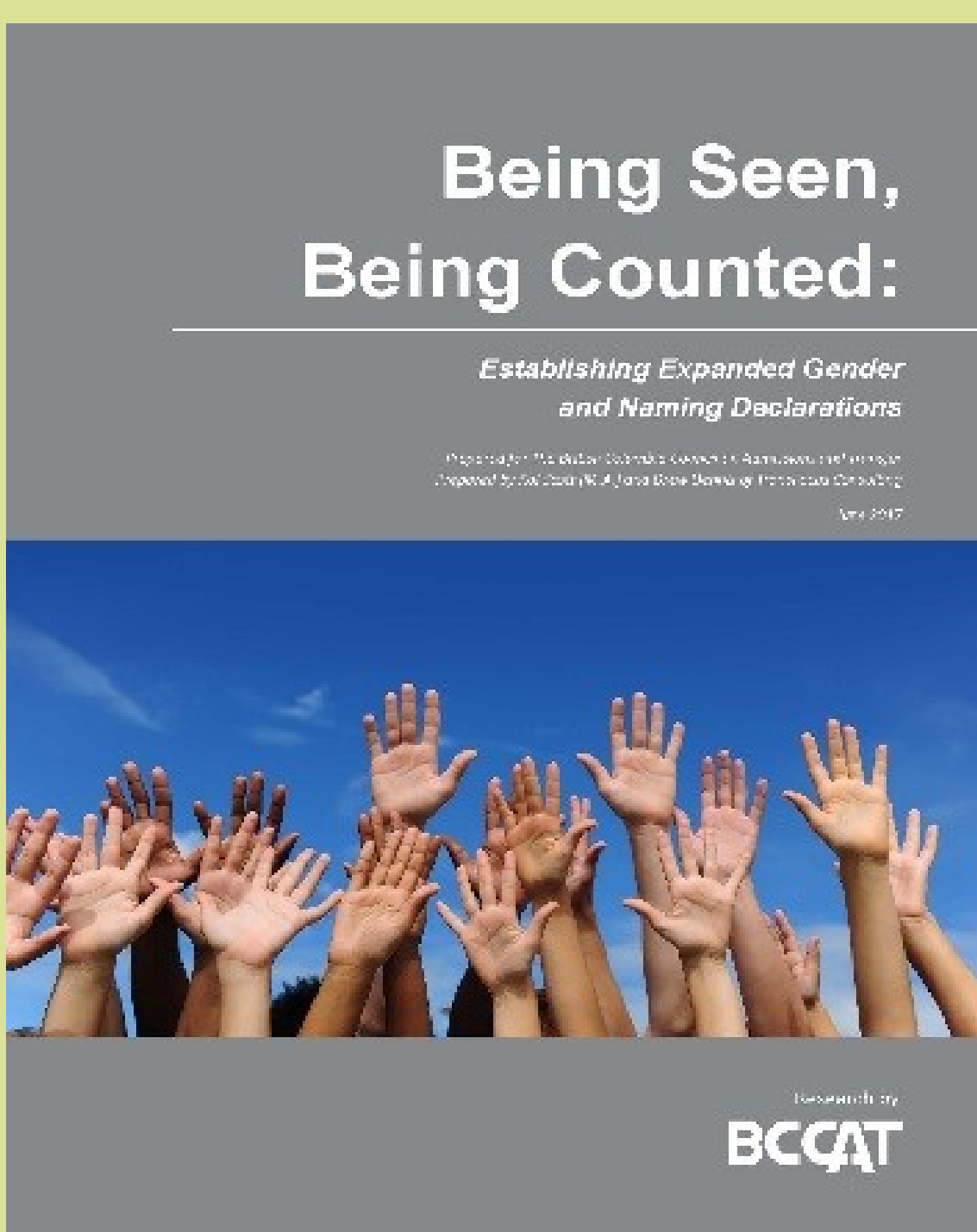
## BCCAT Research Highlights

See BCCAT's 2017-18 Research Plan at [bccat.ca/research/plan](http://bccat.ca/research/plan).



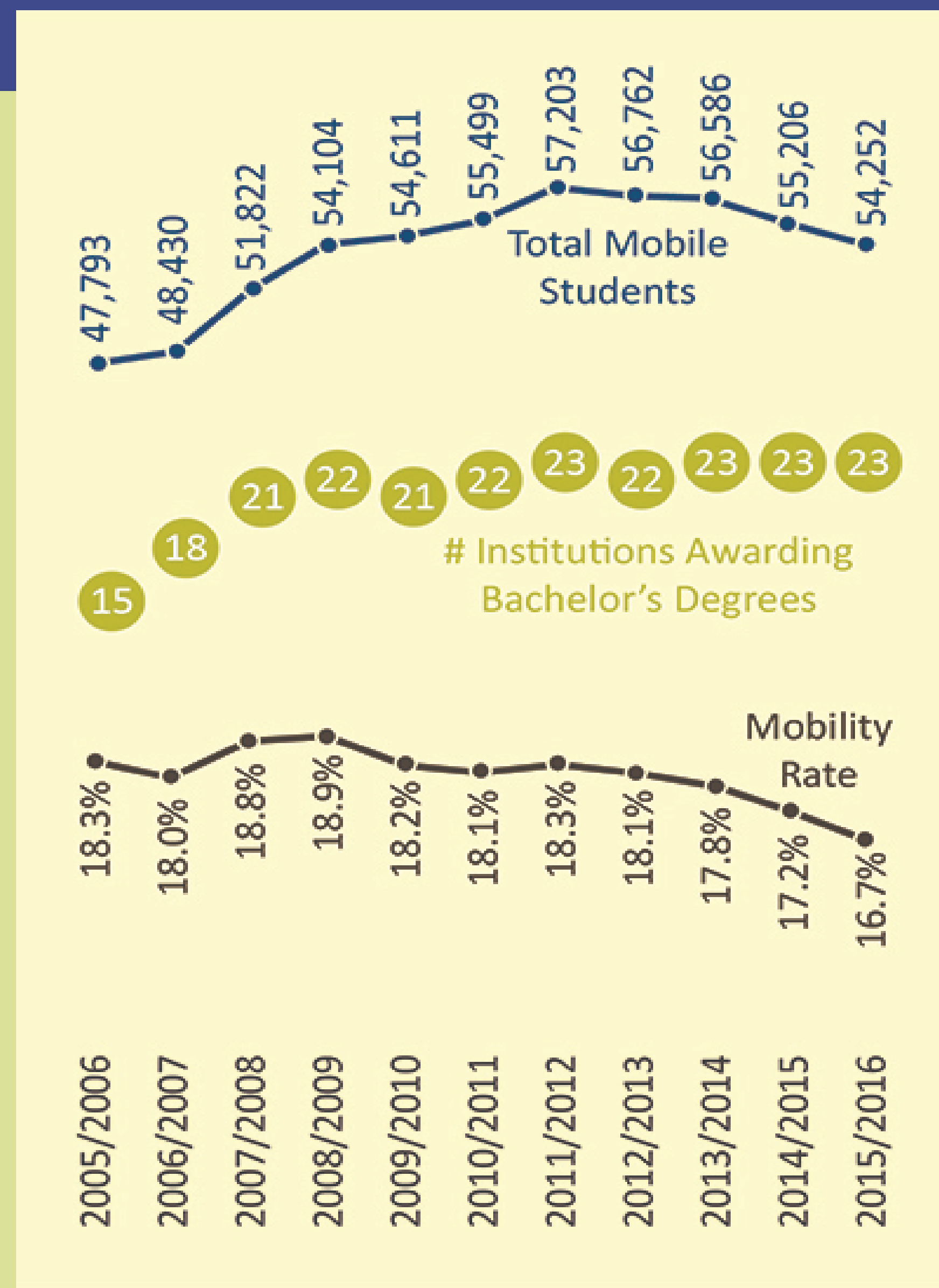
### Indigenous Educational Pathways

Indigenous learners face numerous challenges in accessing and persisting through their post-secondary journeys. A team led by Dr. Stephanie McKeown (UBC-Okanagan) investigated policies and practices supporting Indigenous students at public BC Transfer System institutions. See [bccat.ca/pubs/Indigenous\\_Pathways.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/Indigenous_Pathways.pdf)



### Being Seen, Being Counted

This project - which arose from discussions with the BC Registrars' Association (BCRA) - focused on developing an informed perspective on the collection of gender-identity in the admissions process. TransFocus Consulting oversaw the research leading to recommendations for appropriate, respectful, and useful nomenclature for expanded gender declaration. See [bccat.ca/pubs/BeingSeen.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/BeingSeen.pdf)



Student Mobility Trends in BC. (Source: STP)

### Other links for info:

- Central Data Warehouse (CDW): [www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/data-research/post-secondary-central-data-warehouse](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/data-research/post-secondary-central-data-warehouse)
- Student Transitions Project (STP): [www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/data-research/student-transitions-project](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/data-research/student-transitions-project)

**54,000+**

students move between BC public post-secondary institutions every year.

Source: STP

**57%**

of students complete their credential in the same region in which they graduated from high school.

Source: STP

**400,000+**

credits\* move with BC transfer students every year.

Source: CDW/BCCAT

\*The number of recognized credits highlighted above is an estimate based on the Central Data Warehouse (CDW) transfer credit data (from 21 BC public post-secondary institutions) plus an estimated calculation of transfer credits brought to four non-CDW research universities (SFU, UBC, UNBC, UVic), as reported in BC Transfer Students: Profile and Performance (BCCAT, May 2015).

# COLLABORATING with Post-Secondary Partners

Collaboration is vital to the functioning of the BC Transfer System and the post-secondary system as a whole. BC's students benefit from the strengths of this dynamic community as we continue to work together, addressing emerging issues with vision, commitment, and cooperation.

## Pulling Together: Professional Learning Series

For the past year and a half, the Indigenization Project Steering Committee has worked collaboratively to design open learning resources; writing teams of post-secondary educators and leaders are creating these resources to benefit and supplement post-secondary Indigenization across the province. These resources are sure to be welcome by post-secondary staff, including BC articulation committee members.

See [www.bccampus.ca/2018/05/15/bccampus-indigenization-project-update](http://www.bccampus.ca/2018/05/15/bccampus-indigenization-project-update).

## Inter-Provincial Transfer Partnerships

The values and principles underlying the BC Transfer System extend beyond provincial borders as well. BCCAT works together with many different post-secondary partners across Canada to support and advance inter-provincial transfer and mobility. The Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer (PCCAT) serves an integrating function, drawing together Canada's jurisdictional transfer councils and post-secondary institutions in a more deliberate and coordinated way. Incorporation of PCCAT as a non-profit society has enabled greater collaboration with other Canadian post-secondary organizations on national initiatives, such as the ARUCC Groningen Student Mobility Project. See [www.arucc.ca/en/resources/task-force-groningen.html](http://www.arucc.ca/en/resources/task-force-groningen.html) and [www.pccatweb.org](http://www.pccatweb.org).

## Thanks from BCCAT!

*As BCCAT approaches its 30th anniversary in 2019, the BC Transfer System is continuing to thrive through the ongoing, extensive collaboration of faculty and staff at member institutions on behalf of students. Enhanced and expanded transfer technologies, flexible learner pathways, and system-focused research over the past year have produced efficiencies for institutions and greater accessibility and mobility for students.*

*On behalf of the Council, its committees, and the hard-working BCCAT staff team, thank you for participating in and facilitating the collective success of the BC Transfer System.*

*- Robert Fleming, BCCAT Executive Director and Co-Chair,  
and Jim Hamilton, President, Okanagan College and BCCAT Co-Chair*

*These collaborations,  
together with BCCAT's  
ongoing facilitation of the  
BC Transfer System,  
research coordination, and  
student planning support,  
all work to clear the way  
for students seeking  
flexible options for their  
educational journeys.*

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**BCCAT**

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