

# WestCAT Fall 2015 Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday September 22 2015 – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

---

**Location:** Room 483 – British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)  
555 Seymour Street, Vancouver  
**NOTE:** BCCAT Offices are located on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor of this BCIT Campus.

### Expected Attendees:

Robin Fisher	ACAT	Phil Belanger	NBCAT
Ann Marie Lyseng	ACAT	Karen Grant	NBCAT / Mount Allison
Tony Norrad	MacEwan	Brigitte Arseneault	NBCAT/CCNB
Roger Barnsley	BCCAT	Glenn Craney	OnCAT
Rob Fleming	BCCAT	Shauna Love	OnCAT
Robert Adamoski	BCCAT	Lia Quickert	OnCAT
John FitzGibbon	BCCAT	Arlene Williams	OnCAT
Mike Winsemann	BCCAT	Alison Pickrell	Univ. of Saskatchewan
Dave Neale	Campus Manitoba	James D’Arcy	Univ. of Regina
Anita Ratnam	Campus Manitoba	Arnold Boldt	Sask. Polytechnic
Kathleen Fehr	Campus Manitoba	Gord Vaxvick	Sask. Polytechnic

### Minutes

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Rob Fleming (chair) welcomed members and round table introductions took place.

#### **2. Review & Approval of Agenda**

Agenda was accepted as presented.

#### **3. Review of Meeting Notes from October 7th, 2014 Meeting at Univ. of Saskatchewan**

The minutes of the October 7, 2014 meeting were accepted as presented.

#### **4. Round Table: Update on Learner Pathways and Mobility-Related Initiatives**

Each jurisdiction provided updates on key initiatives and priorities, as well as research developments and plans. A brief synopsis follows:

NBCAT:

- Fifth anniversary as a CAT

- Planning and achieving increased credit transfer activity, including from out of province

#### OnCAT:

- Planning to review and renewal their transfer credit portal; interested in the consortium approach to the TCES
- Major learning outcomes projects underway requiring coordination with institutions
- Interested in developing degree pathways with the first two years transferable from college to university; similar to the FPM approach in BC; will focus on high volume curricular areas like economics, psychology, biology
- General Education project could morph into a Learning Passport model; Glen to connect with John as this project develops as there may be interest in some level of BC institutional participation
- Interested in developing a more focused research program tracking student mobility as well as costs and benefits; Glenn to connect with Rob A for insight on how to approach this

#### CMB:

- Manitoba has released a PSE strategy that includes a focus on student transfer and mobility and high school transitions, especially for Aboriginal students
- CMB working with Bayleaf and connecting with MB registrars on the TCES Portal project; timeline for implementation is May 2016
- Partnering with BCcampus on OER resources being available through CMB, but focussing on text review rather than adoption at this point
- Have established a provincial Minister's Advisory Committee on PSE, with a Transfer Subcommittee

#### Saskatchewan Committee on Credit Transfer:

- Handout on activities was provided
- Have agreed to adopt National Transcript Guide Nomenclature on Transfer
- Working on terms of reference Provincial Transfer Committee supported by government
- Aware that students are coming from and going to other provinces so need to have better publicly available credit transfer data; interested in the TCES consortium idea

#### ACAT:

- Receiving funding for strategic initiatives, including the LPMI project, which is planning to integrate with the new TCES platform once developed (Council approved)
- Pursuing funding from Ministry for research program; first focus area is transfer student movement and success
- Hoping ACAT review will be restarted so that issues of governance and funding can be considered
- Dual credit and PLAR are priority areas now added to ACAT's mandate

#### BCCAT:

- Provided overview of work plan priorities (document distributed)

## 5. Overview of Transfer Credit Evaluation System Consortium Discussions (Mike Winsemann)

### 5.1. Updates on potential partner technology reviews and developments

Mike Winsemann provided an update on overview of a proposed TCES users' consortium that could be developed by BCCAT, CMB, ACAT, OnCAT, and Saskatchewan if planned technical upgrades the credit transfer technologies proceeds in these jurisdictions. Proponents agreed to continue to discuss and share technical requirements from their perspectives. The initial concept document was reviewed but all realize that the proposed model will need to adapt as developments occur. It was agreed that a more detailed discussion on principles, technical requirements, etc. would take place on November 5<sup>th</sup>, the day prior to the NCCAT JAM in Richmond.

**Action: Rob Fleming to invite attendees and secure a venue.**

### 5.2. CMB / BCCAT MoU and other related agreements (Rob Fleming, Dave Neale)

Dave and Rob discussed the draft MoU and non-disclosure agreement being reviewed by their legal entities and Ministries. It is hoped that once finalized they will form a basis for inclusion of other jurisdictions. A key observation was that a legal consortium may not be necessary to share technologies as long as each jurisdiction is granted an unrestricted license for use and adaptation of the TCES in perpetuity. Follow up will occur once the documents are finalized.

## 6. Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer

### 6.1. Updates (Phil Belanger, Glenn Craney)

The focus of discussion was on strategic planning for PCCAT and the need for a stronger governance linkage to the provincial Councils and / or related bodies to help build a national agenda for credit transfer. General agreement suggests the actionable items (see 7. Below) identified at the IPTF 2015 would be better pursued by PCCAT if the governance linkage to the CATs were better defined.

It was agreed that this discussion would be further focussed at a January 2016 PCCAT strategic planning workshop in Toronto. The outcome may be to suggest bylaw changes for consideration by the PCCAT membership.

**Action: Glenn Craney to schedule and organize the retreat.**

### 6.2. National Transcript and Transfer Nomenclature Guide Project (Robert Adamoski)

Rob A provided an update on the project, indicating the databases would go live soon.

#### 6.2.1. WestCAT / PCCAT use of transfer credit nomenclature (Ann Marie Lyseng)

The question was raised as to whether or not each CAT should adopt the use of the transfer credit nomenclature in the National Guide. General agreement was to move in this direction but only after review and approval of each jurisdiction.

#### 6.2.2. CAPLA Research Project (Ann Marie Lyseng)

Ann Marie provided an update.

#### 6.3. Joint Conference with ARUCC, June 22-23, 2016 (Rob Fleming)

Rob F confirmed the June dates at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver. The first day of PCCAT will overlap with the last day of ARUCC and there will be a shared keynote and sessions. The cfp will be issued later in the fall.

### 7. Discussion on Inter-Provincial Transfer Forum (IPTF) 2015 and Priorities for Action (All)

Summary discussion ensued on the day's events, including the development of a proceedings report for distribution. General agreement suggested the event was very successful and reinforced key actionable items such as technology sharing; national or multi-jurisdictional research programs; a toolkit of resources on the different credit transfer models; quality assurance processes, and institutional programming mandates across Canada; and shared resources like the National Transcript and Transfer Nomenclature Guide.

### 8. CAT MOU: Existing and Potential Collaboration across Jurisdictions (All)

#### 8.1. Articulation Committees across provinces (John FitzGibbon, Ann Marie Lyseng)

John and Ann-Marie reported on developing articulation committee linkages, in particular Mathematics. They will continue to facilitate linkages where there is interest. A progress update will be provided at the next meeting.

#### 8.2. Research plans and shared opportunities across provinces (Robert Adamoski, Glenn Craney)

It was agreed that BCCAT and OnCAT would try to collaborate on transfer student performance research opportunities, and that BCCAT and ACAT would try to develop a research project focusing on student mobility at a sampling of institutions along the BC – Alberta border. A progress update will be provided at the next meeting.

#### 8.3. Dual Credit Policy and Practice (John FitzGibbon, Ann Marie Lyseng)

John and Ann-Marie reported on ongoing discussions within and across BC and Alberta jurisdictions. The possibility of having Alberta join a proposed Dual Credit Symposium in BC in 2016 was raised.

**Action: John to follow up with interested attendees as the details of the event become clearer.**

#### 8.4. Publication of inter-provincial transfer agreements – policy and technology (All)

General discussion indicated a desire to move in this direction where technology allows and institutions agree. It was felt that the technology sharing initiatives should proceed further

before revisiting a possible coordinated approach to publication of inter-provincial transfer agreements.

#### 8.5. Other Items (All)

None.

#### 9. Other Business

None.

#### 10. Next Meeting – Date and Location

Tentative date: Sept 20, 2016 in Manitoba.

**Action: Dave Neale to schedule and organize**

#### 11. Adjournment

##### On-line background documents

##### CAT Annual Reviews or Reports

<http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca/pdfs/Annual-Report-2014-15.final.pdf>

[http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/2014-15\\_Annual\\_Review.pdf](http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/2014-15_Annual_Review.pdf)

<http://nbcacat.ca/annual-report-2013-2014/>

[http://oncat.ca/files\\_docs/content/pdf/en/AnnualReport\\_2014-2015\\_ENG.pdf](http://oncat.ca/files_docs/content/pdf/en/AnnualReport_2014-2015_ENG.pdf)

##### PCCAT / ARUCC National Transcript Guide

<http://www.arucc.ca/en/resources/arucc-pccat-project.html>

##### IPTF 2015

<http://bccat.ca/about/iptf>

##### Dual Credit

[http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/DualCredit\\_report.pdf](http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/DualCredit_report.pdf)

##### CAT MoU

<http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/MOU.pdf>