



# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE AND THE MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA OF CANADA AND

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF GUANAJUATO OF MEXICO
ON

ACADEMIC EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION ON EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

The Government of British Columbia as represented by The Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training of the Province of British Columbia of Canada ("the British Columbia Ministries") and the Ministry of Education of Guanajuato of Mexico ("the Guanajuato Ministry") hereinafter referred to as "the Participants".

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the mutual interest in carrying out collaboration activities for the benefit of education;

**CONSIDERING** the strong cultural and economic ties between the Province of British Columbia and the Government of the State of Guanajuato of Mexico;

**STATING** that multicultural and multilingual education is a powerful way to foster the understanding and solidarity between peoples, which contributes to preserving cultural identity and promoting cultural enrichment;

**REAFFIRMING** that the Participants strive for cooperation and the promotion of cultural values for better mutual understanding between Mexican and Canadian residents; and

**WISHING** to foster a cooperative relationship between the Participants for the promotion of mutual educational exchange and the strengthening of relations in educational matters, at the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels, in both the public and private sectors.

Have come to the following understanding:

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish cooperation between the Participants for the development of joint activities in educational promotion and exchange.

#### 2. INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

The Participants will promote the exchange of information on:

- a) Educational policies and regulations, including academic quality assurance frameworks;
- b) Two-way educational exchange and promotion activities;
- c) Mutual visits;
- d) Services provided by the Participants to educational institutions, as well as possible cooperation projects; and
- e) Cooperation opportunities to strengthen educational exchange and promotion.

# 3. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Participants will review the feasibility of cooperating in the following priority areas for the academic exchange:

a) Visiting teachers

- Exploring opportunities for teachers to participate or study in schools and institutions of British Columbia and Guanajuato, including professional development, programs of study and curricular development; and
- ii. Acknowledging that the Participants are responsible for establishing professional certification requirements within their respective jurisdiction, which will have to be met by the visiting teachers in order to be eligible to participate as a visiting teacher in the Province of British Columbia or in the State of Guanajuato in Mexico.

# b) Student mobility

i. Promoting opportunities to study in schools and institutions in British Columbia and Guanajuato, and offering introductions between schools, institutions, or other entities when appropriate.

# c) Quality assurance frameworks in education

- Exploring opportunities to review the respective quality assurance frameworks to ensure high-quality educational exchange processes between the Participants.
- d) Schools certified by the British Columbia Ministries in the State of Guanajuato of Mexico.
  - During the Memorandum of Understanding, the British Columbia Ministries
    may enter into a specific agreement with one or more legal entities
    operating within Guanajuato, Mexico, as long as they meet the respective
    legislation and regulations of British Columbia and Guanajuato; and
  - ii. The Guanajuato Ministry will recognize any school certified by the British Columbia Ministries established in the State of Guanajuato, Mexico, as long as they meet the relevant legislation and regulations.

#### 4. PROMOTION IN EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

The Participants intend to carry out the following cooperation activities:

- a) Exchange invitations to exhibitions and educational workshops;
- b) Organize mutual educational missions and visits;
- c) Encourage familiarization visits for visiting officials and counselors from schools and institutions; and
- d) Establish on the websites the link of the website of the other Participant.

#### 5. IMPLEMENTATION

The Participants intend to prepare a work plan for the cooperation activities of this Memorandum of Understanding, which includes the following:

- a) Cooperation activity to develop;
- b) Lead contact information: Organization; Contact name; Position; Email; Telephone;
- c) Work schedule; and
- d) Allocation of material resources, human and/or financial.

### 6. COORDINATION

To facilitate direct dialogue, the Participants will each designate a representative for the coordination and efficient management of the activities under this Memorandum of Understanding and will share the representative's contact information with the other Participant within three (3) months after signing.

The representatives designated by the Participants may hold periodic meetings, to be set in the work plan, face to face or virtually, to discuss the development of the activities described in this Memorandum of Understanding and to attend any aspect related to the interpretation or application thereof.

The designated representatives will keep the Participants informed about the results

obtained from the cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding.

## 7. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to impose binding legal obligations between the Participants.

The Participants intend to bear the expenses derived from their participation in the cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding, unless otherwise decided by both Participants in written consent.

The cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented in accordance with the current laws and regulations of the State of Guanajuato and the Province of British Columbia.

Any dispute arising from the interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation by the Participants.

#### 8. FINAL PROVISIONS

This Memorandum of Understanding takes effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect until September 25, 2024, unless any of the Participants notifies the other Participant of its decision to end its participation, by giving three (3) months prior written notice.

The Participants may modify this Memorandum of Understanding at their discretion, upon prior mutual written consent.

Signed by the respective parties on June 29, 2022, in New Westminster and Burnaby, British Columbia, in English and Spanish, both versions being equally valid.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA AS REPRESENTED BY THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CHILD
CARE AND THE MINISTRY OF
ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS
TRAINING OF THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA OF CANADA

# FOR THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF GUANAJUATO OF MEXICO

Honourable Jennifer
Whiteside

Minister of Education and Child Care

**Honourable Anne Kang** 

Minister of Advanced
Education and Skills Training

Jorge Enrique Hernández Meza

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