

- » BC Assessment staff are available, upon request, to make presentations about the property assessment process and annual assessment roll to ethnic media, local government and community organizations to promote and publicize access to BC Assessment's services. B.C.'s ethnic media outlets are included on news release distribution lists and some BC Assessment spokespeople with language skills are trained to conduct interviews with select ethnic media outlets.
- » BC Assessment translated radio and print ads for select Punjabi and Chinese media outlets in the Lower Mainland to raise awareness for the property assessment process and release of the 2014 Assessment Roll.
- » BC Assessment often meets delegations from First Nations to share information with a variety of multicultural relationships

British Columbia Council for International Education

MANDATE

VISION

To profile B.C. as the education destination of choice for learners from around the globe and to promote global citizenry and internationalization at all levels in B.C.'s education system.

MISSION

The British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE) supports all participants in B.C.'s International Education (IE) sector and the provincial government to advance the IE interests of the Province of British Columbia.

CORE VALUES

BCCIE's core values guide its operations and are embedded in its organizational culture and include:

- » Internationalization
- » Global citizenry
- » Collaboration
- » Best Practices
- » Integrity.



BCCIE'S GOALS FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

One of BCCIE's goals for 2013/14 is to provide coordinated leadership for B.C.'s diverse IE sectors. One of the strategies to achieve this goal is to create an educational environment for Canadian students which encourages academic mobility, inclusion, global citizenry and positive intercultural engagement. To help build inclusion and cultural awareness, BCCIE encourages B.C. students to study in other countries and cultures through our work on the enhancement of the B.C. Study Abroad Consortium. In addition, BCCIE hosts professional development events that work to educate communities on the benefits of international students, resulting in the creation of more supportive and culturally aware communities throughout B.C.

Another major goal for 2013/14 is to provide effective training, service and communication for all stakeholders including K-12, post-secondary and language school educators, administrators and students. One of the strategies to achieve this goal is to provide effective professional development, service and research opportunities for the sector.

BCCIE hosts professional development events that support districts and institutions to create multicultural learning environments on topics such as how to create and maintain a successful orientation program for international students. In addition, BCCIE hosts a speaker series for the sector that brings in representatives from different countries around the world to provide an overview of the education market in their respective countries and also to talk about cultural differences which work to support and enhance an understanding and appreciation of other cultures here in B.C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITMENT TO MULTICULTURALISM

The nature of the work at BCCIE is well aligned with the values of multiculturalism and it encourages respect, tolerance and substantial knowledge of other cultures and creeds.

BCCIE incorporates this into its hiring practices wherever possible and considers linguistic diversity when posting all positions. In addition, executive management at BCCIE supports staff to engage in cultural experiences at work. Professional development opportunities hosted through BCCIE support internationalization and global citizenry, two of BCCIE's core values.

MULTICULTURALISM IN THE WORKPLACE

BCCIE values diversity in the workplace and employees at BCCIE come from a variety of cultural backgrounds including Chinese (Hong Kong, Taiwan and Peoples Republic of China), Peruvian, Punjabi and various European cultures. In addition to the variety of cultures represented at BCCIE, numerous languages are spoken among the staff including Mandarin, Cantonese, Taiwanese, Spanish, Indonesian, French, English, Punjabi and Portuguese.

Examples of internal diversity activities at BCCIE include Lunch and Learn sessions on topics relevant to the theme of multiculturalism as well as co-op placements for students to gain work experience. In 2013/14, BCCIE revised its HR policies to allow employees to use a portion of their annual professional development funds for language study. BCCIE partners with other international organizations such as the Asia Pacific Foundation and the Canadian Bureau for International Education to advance multiculturalism in B.C.

HIGHLIGHTS OF INITIATIVES

The nature of BCCIE's work promotes internationalization with the aim of attracting students to B.C. to study, and encourages more students from B.C. to study in other countries and cultures. Since our work encourages and supports more international students to study in communities across all of B.C., many of our ongoing activities can be considered to support advancing multiculturalism in B.C. through intercultural exchange.

The list below highlights some of BCCIE's regular activities during 2013/14 that support multiculturalism:

- » Enhanced the B.C. Study Abroad Consortium – a virtual consortium of post-secondary study abroad providers designed to encourage more B.C. students to study in other countries and a greater number of smaller institutions to become engaged in this activity. In 2013/14, BCCIE grew the membership with two additional institutions joining the Consortium and offered one study abroad scholarship to a B.C. student.
- » Supported the B.C. government's IE Strategy, launched in May of 2012 by working to increase the number of international students who choose to study in B.C. as well as supported those international students to study in different communities across B.C.
- » Organized and hosted speaker series – coordinated ambassadors to speak about topics related to IE and provide cultural and market overviews.
- » Acted as liaison with Foreign Consular Corps – regular outreach to consular corps in support of outreach to the communities they represent.
- » Organized and hosted professional development events, conferences and roundtables – many directly supportive of the goals of multiculturalism and advancing internationalization. BCCIE's annual conference, Summer Seminar, had a theme of "Re-Imagining the Narrative" of International Education in order to promote the sector's core values of internationalism and multiculturalism.
- » Supported both incoming and outgoing delegations. In fiscal 2013/14, BCCIE led two outgoing delegations to China, one to Mongolia and one to Brazil. In addition, BCCIE led or coordinated three familiarization tours with delegates from the United States and Vietnam. BCCIE also hosted eight incoming delegations from China, Japan, India, Indonesia and Latin America.

British Columbia Innovation Council

MANDATE

The British Columbia Innovation Council (BCIC) encourages the development and application of advanced or innovative technologies to meet the needs of industry in B.C. We accelerate technology commercialization by supporting start-ups and developing entrepreneurs. With our partners, BCIC delivers programs and initiatives that promote company growth resulting in jobs, increased revenue and economic development in B.C.

BCIC is a Crown Agency of the Province of British Columbia.

OUR VISION

To make B.C. a great place for technology entrepreneurs and innovators.

OUR MISSION

To build British Columbia's economy by accelerating the growth of B.C. ventures through the support of entrepreneurs and tech start-ups.

ACTIVITIES

BCIC supports technology start-ups and entrepreneurs through our programs, sponsorship and competitions that facilitate technology commercialization.

