
MINUTES OF THE BC TEACHERS' COUNCIL



January 30 to February 1, 2024

Last Revised: February 7, 2024

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JANUARY 30, 2024

ATTENDANCE

BCTC: Jatinder Bir, Jim Iker, Lisa Kishkan, Marjorie Dumont, Alice Kedves, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Michelle LaBounty, Vandy Britton, Shelley Balfour, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Adrienne Demers, Beverly Young, Sarvi Brent

Regrets: None

Guests:	Linda Beddouche	Director of Workforce Development, ECC
	Mimi Lin	Policy Analyst, Workforce Development, ECC
	Devin Roberts	Beaufort Delta Divisional Education Council (BDDEC)
	Marian Riedel	Vancouver Island University (VIU)
	Rachel Moll	Vancouver Island University (VIU)
	Bonnie Fuller	University of Northern BC (UNBC)
	John Yamamoto	University of British Columbia (UBC)
	Karen Ragoonaden	University of British Columbia (UBC)

Staff: Shawn McMullin, Matthew Cooke, Dijana Gres, Eric Tso, Kim Dionne

Public:	Daniel Shiu	BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
	Tory Handford	Thompson Rivers University (TRU)
	Leanne Bowes	BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)
	Brian Leonard	BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Assoc. (BCPVPA)
	Christine Stewart	BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)

The Chair, Jatinder Bir, called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

- **Land Acknowledgement**

The Chair acknowledged with gratitude the Territories of the Indigenous Peoples within our province, Traditional Keepers of this Land, and the many distinct First Nations with different cultures, languages and unique dialects.

- **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed all attendees who attended in-person or virtually.

- **Observance of International Day of Education (January 24)**

The Chair acknowledged that the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed January 24 as International Day of Education, in celebration of the role of education for peace and development.

The sixth International Day of Education was celebrated under the theme "Learning for Lasting Peace."

- **Approval of Agenda**

NEER/BRITTON

Motion: That the agenda for January 30, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED

- **Opening Question**

Given the recent wintery and snowy weather most of us have experienced, share one memorable snowy experience.

2. BUSINESS AND REPORTING OUT

- **Correspondence**

The BCTC reviewed correspondence received since their October 2023 meeting. Correspondence will be discussed under specific agenda items throughout the January 2024 meeting.

- **Chair's Report**

- **BCTC Annual Report 2022/23**

The Chair informed members that the report was released to the public on January 12, 2024. The report highlights the work of the BCTC between May 2022 and April 2023 with a focus on the BCTC workplan and goals.

The Vice-Chair suggested that the Annual Report be shared with certificate holders annually.

IKER/NEER

Motion: That the BCTC Annual Report be shared with certificate holders annually.

CARRIED

- **BCTC Elections 2024 – Information/Overview**

The Chair introduced the Director of Professional Excellence, Shawn McMullin, who provided an update on the BCTC elections and members' turnover and transition.

It was noted that Kim Dionne is the Election Officer and that Ministry staff have procured Simply Voting to facilitate the online election process.

- **BCTC Turnover and Transition**

This year, the BCTC will welcome new appointments from the following partner groups: ABCDE, BCPVPA, BCSSA and BCTF. The onboarding process will be conducted between April and May. Outgoing members will be welcome to attend the spring BCTC meeting with voice but no vote.

- **BCTC Meeting Dates – Spring, Fall 2024 and Winter 2025**

The Chair reminded the BCTC of the following BCTC meeting dates:

- Spring 2024: June 5-7, 2024
- Fall 2024: October 8-10, 2024

The members were provided with a few three-day options for the winter 2025 meeting for consideration. The decision was to be announced on Day 3 of the meeting.

○ **Chair and Vice-Chair's Participation in External Partner Meeting/Events**

The Chair and Vice-Chair reported about their participation at the following events:

- **October 2023**
 - K-12 Education Workforce Strategy meeting
 - Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education
- **February 2024**
 - Korean Educational Development Institute (KEDI) virtual meeting regarding the implementation of the Professional Standards for Education in BC.
 - Virtual meeting with the Credential Recognition Improvement Branch of the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills to discuss the development of regulations under the *International Credentials Recognition Act*.
 - K-12 Education Workforce Strategy meeting

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Council.

Brian Leonard, President of the BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association (BCPVPA), thanked the BCTC for their work.

4. REVIEW OF BCTC WORKPLAN STRATEGIES 2023-2024

• **Reflect on 2022-2023 goals and set goals for 2023-2024**

The BCTC reviewed their 2023/24 Workplan developed at the June 2023 BCTC meeting. The NTSWG proposed a minor change to Goal 4 of the workplan.

NEER/DUMONT

Motion: That the BCTC approve the amended BCTC Workplan 2023-2024.

CARRIED

BCTC 2023-2024 goals:	Status
Goal 1: To communicate and promote the <i>Professional Standards for BC Educators</i> .	Ongoing
Goal 2: To communicate and amplify Standard 9 and all it encompasses, including: decolonization, Reconciliation, anti-oppression, and anti-racism education.	Ongoing
Goal 3: To continue the review and revisions of the Certification Standards.	Ongoing
Goal 4: To collaborate with teacher education programs and education partners to consider ways to address the pertinent recommendations of the 2021/22 New Teacher Survey.	Amended

Goal 5: To continue to work with teacher education programs to explore ways to make BC teacher education programs more accessible including but not limited to online programming, blended learning and barriers to accessibility, including financial ones.	Amended Ongoing
Goal 6: To actively engage in professional learning so that Council members are better supported in understanding the role and mandate of BCTC, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the TRC Calls to Action and DRIPA, decolonization, Reconciliation, anti-oppression, and anti-racism, inclusion. 	Amended Ongoing

IKER/NEER

Motion: That the BCTC budget for 2024/25 includes additional funding to ensure creation of resources to support the implementation of goals as well as for additional staff support.

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CARRIED

DUMONT/MOLLINEAUX

Motion: That the BCTC approve the BCTC Goals and Implementation Strategies 2023/24.

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CARRIED

5. K-12 WORKFORCE UPDATE: PRESENTATION BY LINDA BEDDOUCHE, DIRECTOR OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, ECC

The Chair welcomed Linda Beddouche and Mimi Lin to provide an update on the draft Provincial K-12 Workforce Strategy, Rural Practicum Placement Awards and Internationally Educated Teachers Engagement Project.

The BCTC engaged in a dialogue regarding the following aspects of the Strategy:

- Funding, timelines and impacts on the education sector.
- Possible expansion beyond the currently specified geographical areas.
- Criteria for the TEPs to participate in the program.
- Statistics on the number of internationally trained teachers in the system and implications of work permit requirements on their certification and employment.
- Equity issues and barriers currently in place.

The Council thanked Linda and Mimi for their update and engaging members in dialogue.

6. TEP APPROVAL AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (TEPARC)

Lisa Kishkan provided an overview of the committee's work since the October 2023 meeting. The Chair advised that the BCTC will go into private to deliberate on a TEP Process B changes before them.

- **Review of Terms of Reference**

KISHKAN/NEER

Motion: That the BCTC approve minor changes to the Terms of Reference as proposed by TEPARC.

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CARRIED

- **Amendment to TEP Approval Standard 4.5 Practicum**

KISHKAN/HOLMES

Motion: That the BCTC amend Standard 4.5 to include a minimum number of 5 formal observations by the teacher education program.

..... CARRIED

- **Update of Cyclical Reviews**

- Structured Dialogue at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) — February 13, 2024. Lisa Kishkan and Mary Mollineaux will represent the BCTC.
- Structured Dialogue at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) — April 23, 2024. Bob Holmes and Danielle Neer will represent the BCTC.
- Maintenance Review at the Thompson Rivers University (TRU) — November 19-21, 2024. The Program Assessment Team will be determined by TEPARC after the June 2024 meeting.

- **Update of PAT Pool Educators from the Field**

The PAT pool list of Educators from the Field has expired. The Call for Nominations was issued in January 2024 to replenish the PAT pool. ABCDE already provided the list of Teacher Education Experts.

- **Program Change Requests**

The following program change requests were received since the October 2023 meeting. The BCTC will deliberate in-private on recommendations prepared by the committee:

- UNBC Notice of Intent – B.Ed. Course Changes
- UFV Notice of Intent – Pilot Hybrid Delivery Model Changes
- UBC Notice of Intent – B.Ed. Hybrid Delivery Model (Term 1 & 4) Changes
- VIU Notice of Intent – NWT Rural and Remote (BDDEC Partnership) Elementary Program
- TRU Notice of Intent – Elementary B.Ed. Program Changes
- Dialogue Related to an upcoming UNBC Notice of Intent – NEW Northern Cohort
- UVic French Language Rider Notice of Information

The Chair welcomed TEP representatives in attendance to comment and respond to questions.

Motions coming out of private will be reported in public on January 31, 2024.

BERTING/DUMONT

Motion: To move into private at 2:04 p.m.

..... CARRIED

MOLLINEAUX

Motion: To move out of private at 4:00 p.m.

..... CARRIED

7. REVIEW OF MINUTES – DEFERRED TO DAY 2

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8. ADJOURNMENT

HOLMES/BRITTON

Motion: That the meeting of January 30, 2024 be adjourned.

..... CARRIED

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 4:00 PM

JANUARY 31, 2024

ATTENDANCE

BCTC:	Jatinder Bir, Jim Iker, Lisa Kishkan, Marjorie Dumont, Alice Kedves, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Michelle LaBounty, Vandy Britton, Shelley Balfour, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Adrienne Demers, Beverly Young, Sarvi Brent	
Regrets:	None	
Guests:	Andrew Crawford Jacquie Buitelaar Cynthia McCarthy	Director of Certification (ECC) Trinity Western University (TWU) Trinity Western University (TWU)
Staff:	Shawn McMullin, Matthew Cooke, Dijana Gres, Eric Tso, Kim Dionne	
Public:	Daniel Shiu Sonia Lachar Tricia Stobbe Bonnie Fuller Megan Caldwell	BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) Christian Educators of BC (CEBC) University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)

The Chair, Jatinder Bir, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

- **Land Acknowledgement**

Jim Iker acknowledged with gratitude the Territories of the Indigenous Peoples within our province, Traditional Keepers of this Land, and the many distinct First Nations with different cultures, languages and unique dialects.

- **Observance of World Interfaith Harmony Week**

The Chair acknowledged that this is an annual event observed during the first week of February, as proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2010. The Chair provided an overview of the event and noted that it is intended to promote peace and harmony between all people regardless of faith.

- **Approval of Agenda**

BRITTON/DUMONT

Motion: That the agenda for January 31, 2024 be approved.

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CARRIED

- **Opening Question — Cont'd**

Given the recent wintery and snowy weather most of us have experienced, share one memorable snowy experience.

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- **Reporting on Motions coming out of private (TEPARC)**

LABOUNTY

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve UNBC Notice of Intent – B.Ed. Course as a Minor Program Change.

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CARRIED

MOLLINEAUX

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve UFV Notice of Intent — Pilot Hybrid Delivery Model as a Minor Program Change.

.....
CARRIED

BALFOUR

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve UBC Notice of Intent — Hybrid Delivery Model as a Minor Program Change.

.....
CARRIED

CORNTHWAITE

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve VIU Notice of Intent — New NWT (BDDEC) Rural and Remote Elementary Cohort as a Minor Program Change.

.....
CARRIED

MOLLINEAUX

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve TRU Notice of Intent — Elementary B.Ed. Program as a Minor Program Change.

.....
CARRIED

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Council. No comments were made from the public. The Chair acknowledged that it was Beverly Young’s last BCTC meeting and thanked her for her service.

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3. PROFESSIONAL AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS STEERING COMMITTEE (PCSSC)

Vandy Britton, Marjorie Dumont and Jim Iker provided an overview of the committee’s work since the October 2023 meeting.

- Terms of Reference were reviewed with no changes.
- **Certification Standards Review**
 - Professional Preparation and Familiarization sections of the Standards (Phase 3 Submission) was allowed by the Minister on December 4, 2023.
 - The BCTC continues to work with BCTC external legal counsel on the review and revisions of the Validity of Certificates of Qualifications sections (Phase 4 Submission). Phase 4 also includes overall realignment and restructuring of the Standards for clarity, removal of redundancies, renumbering and general tidy-up.

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- BCTC reviewed and discussed the latest draft of Revised/Realigned Certification Standards document.
 - PCSSC will begin working on Academic Preparations sections of the Standards (Phase 5 Submission) with the goal of bringing draft revisions for BCTC consideration at the June or October 2024 BCTC meeting.
 - BCTC discussed potential improvements to the annual fee payment process between the TRB and employers to reduce certificate cancellations due to non-payment of fees.
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4. DIALOGUE WITH DIRECTOR OF CERTIFICATION, ANDREW CRAWFORD – LETTERS OF PERMISSION

The Chair welcomed Andrew Crawford, the Director of Certification, from the Teacher Regulation Branch of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, who joined the meeting virtually to present about the Letters of Permission (LOP).

The BCTC engaged in dialogue regarding the following:

- Possible loopholes in the LOP application process.
- Option to bring international applicants into the system via LOP.
- Proposed considerations for the BCTC within the Provincial K-12 Workforce Strategy (new certificate type or long-term LOPs).
- Possible legislation amendment to restrict the unauthorized persons from teaching longer than 20 consecutive days in total.

The Council thanked Andrew Crawford for the collaborative dialogue.

5. STRUCTURED DIALOGUE – TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY (TWU)

Jatinder Bir and Jim Iker delivered a report on the Structured Dialogue conducted at TWU's Langley campus on November 30, 2023.

The Chair welcomed Jacquie Buitelaar, Associate Dean & Professional Year Coordinator, and Cynthia McCarthy, Professional Year Coordinator from TWU to comment and respond to questions.

6. EXTERNAL TABLE / ACTIVITY REPORT OUTS

- Marjorie Dumont informed the BCTC that the K-12 Indigenous Education Partners Table has not met since the March 2022 meeting.

BRITTON/BERTING

Motion: That the BCTC reach out to the Superintendent and Associate Superintendent of Indigenous Education in the Ministry for clarification regarding the status of K-12 Indigenous Education Partners Table.

CARRIED

- Vandy Britton informed the BCTC that the next ABCDE Teacher Education Roundtable will be hosted by the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO) in Kelowna on April 25-26, 2024. An expression of interest will be circulated in due course.

7. PROFESSIONAL STANDARD 9 AWARENESS WORKING GROUP (PS9AWG)

Marjorie Dumont and Jim Iker provided an overview of the PS9AWG work since the October 2023 meeting. The Chair extended an invitation to Anne Tenning and Mary Mollineaux to speak to the ongoing group work.

- **Stream 2 - Standard 9: Online Interactive Learning Experience**

- Stream 2 project includes the creation of an online interactive learning site for BC educators. A holistic approach grounded in traditional Indigenous story will be used in the web experience.
- PS9AWG approved in principle, a name for the interactive learning site — *Professional Standard 9: Journey of Deeper Understandings*.
- Indigenous educator, Dr. Meredith Rusk, who has been contracted as the Creative Director for this project, will be in collaboration with KJB Digital and the PS9AWG on the project.
- PS9AWG is hopeful that the initial iteration of *Professional Standard 9: Journey of Deeper Understandings* will be ready for launch sometime between the summer or early fall of 2024.

8. REVIEW OF MINUTES

NEER/DUMONT

Motion: That the minutes from January 30 and 31, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT

BIR/BRITTON

Motion: That the meeting of January 31, 2024 be adjourned.

CARRIED

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 2:55 PM

FEBRUARY 1, 2024

ATTENDANCE

BCTC: Jatinder Bir, Jim Iker, Lisa Kishkan, Marjorie Dumont, Alice Kedves, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Michelle LaBounty, Vandy Britton, Shelley Balfour, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Adrienne Demers, Sarvi Brent

Regrets: Beverly Young

Guests: Ana Mohammed BC Commissioner for Teacher Regulation
Cathy McMillan Dyslexia BC

Staff: Shawn McMullin, Matthew Cooke, Dijana Gres, Eric Tso, Sally Mercer, Kim Dionne

Public: Daniel Shiu BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
Rebecca Blair BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
Cindy Gleb BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
Deneka Michaud BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)
Brian Leonard BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Assoc. (BCPVPA)
Christine Stewart BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
Tricia Stobbe Christian Educators of BC (CEBC)

The Chair, Jatinder Bir, called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

• **Land Acknowledgement**

Marjorie Dumont acknowledged with gratitude the Territories of the Indigenous Peoples within our province, Traditional Keepers of this Land, and the many distinct First Nations with different cultures, languages and unique dialects.

• **Observance of Black History Month in Canada**

The Chair acknowledged that February is Black History Month. It was noted that Black History Month is an annual celebration meant to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of historical and contemporary people of African descent.

The 2024 theme for Black History Month is *Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build*.

• **Approval of Agenda**

BALFOUR/NEER

Motion: That the agenda for February 1, 2024 be approved.

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CARRIED

• **Future Meeting Dates – Decision**

BCTC members voted on their preferred dates for the Winter 2025 meeting. The Chair confirmed that the winter meeting of the BCTC will be held on February 5-7, 2025.

• **Opening Question – Cont'd**

Given the recent wintery and snowy weather most of us have experienced, share one memorable snowy experience.

• **Amendment to TEP Approval Standard 4.5 Practicum**

NEER/KISHKAN

Motion: That the BCTC begin the process to amend Teacher Education Program Approval Standard 4.5 to include a minimum number of 5 formal observations in the Summative Practicum by the teacher education programs.

CARRIED

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Council.

Daniel Shiu, Assistant Director, Professional and Social Issues Division of the BC Teachers' Federation, thanked the BCTC for their work.

3. REVIEW OF BCTC WORKPLAN STRATEGIES 2023-2024 (CONT'D)

The BCTC continued to review and amend the Workplan Strategies.

NEER/BRITTON

Motion: That the BCTC engage in a minimum of one half-day learning opportunity in support of Goal 5 regarding online and blended educational delivery.

CARRIED

NEER/BRITTON

Motion: That the BCTC engage in a minimum of one half-day session at the BCTC Spring meeting to begin work on a common vision in order to guide Teacher Education Programs in their mode of delivery of curriculum which may include hybrid and online learning.

CARRIED

BALFOUR/DEMERS

Motion: That the BCTC engage in one half-day professional learning session with BCTC external legal counsel specific to the principles of administrative law and the BCTC's mandate under the *Teachers Act* at the BCTC Spring meeting.

CARRIED

BRITTON/KISHKAN

Motion: That the BCTC have four consecutive days at the Spring meeting to accommodate for three half-day learning sessions. However, if four days are not possible, the BCTC will proceed with one full day in May and maintain the three-day meeting in June.

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CARRIED

4. NEW TEACHER SURVEY WORKING GROUP (NTSWG)

Jim Iker and Michelle LaBounty provided an overview of the group's work since the October 2023 meeting, with support of Shelley Balfour and TRB staff member Matthew Cooke.

- **Review of Terms of Reference**

LABOUNTY/BALFOUR

Motion: That the BCTC approve minor changes to the Terms of Reference as proposed by NTSWG.

.....
CARRIED

- **New Teacher Survey Recommendations - BCTC Workshop** (December 6, 2023, in-person)

The workshop focused on the following themes:

- Theme #1 - Program Content and Delivery
- Theme #2 - Program to Work Transition
- Theme #3 - Early Career Working Conditions
- Theme #4 - Professional Development-Learning
- Theme #5 - Further Information Needed

KISHKAN/LABOUNTY

Motion: That the BCTC refer the subsequent work on the New Teacher Survey recommendations back to the NTSWG for further analysis with a goal of identifying pertinent action items, to be brought forward to the BCTC for consideration at a future meeting.

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CARRIED

5. DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMISSIONER FOR TEACHER REGULATION

The Chair welcomed Ana Mohammed, the Commissioner for Teacher Regulation, who joined the meeting in person to provide an update from her office. The Commissioner and the BCTC reviewed the statistical data related to the complaints, reports and discipline outcomes, and discussed the following:

- School districts' use of Professional Standards to discipline teachers.
- Opportunity for the Commissioner to respond to the targeting of Indigenous and BIPOC teachers.
- Additional training for employers to conduct investigations and Commissioner's role in the oversight of district investigations.

The Council thanked the Commissioner for attending and engaging in dialogue.

6. EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES: DYSLEXIA IN BC REPORT

The Chair welcomed Cathy McMillan, founder of Dyslexia in BC, who joined the meeting in person to present about the report released recently by Dyslexia BC and entitled *Educational Experiences and Challenges: Dyslexia in British Columbia*.

The BCTC members were encouraged to read the Report which can be found here:

- [Reports | Dyslexia BC](#)
-

7. TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS WORKING GROUP (TEPWG)

BCTC Chair and ABCDE representative, Vandy Britton, provided an overview of the TEPWG work since the October 2023 meeting.

- Terms of Reference were reviewed with no changes proposed.
 - Familiarization Course has been successfully rotating through BC TEPs.
 - ECC Bursaries for Summative Practicum Placements in Rural and Remote Locations.
 - Micro Credential Course Offerings (MCC).
 - Trend in Proposals to BCTC - Blended and Online Programs/Cohorts.
 - Letter from GAD ADM to ABCDE with cc to BCTC re: Supporting TEPs in BC.
 - Job Action at University Campuses – Virtual/Physical Picket Lines.
 - TEP Approval and Review (TEPAR) Framework is expected to be publicly posted on the BCTC webpage in the following weeks.
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8. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

KISHKAN/CORNTHWAITE

Motion: That the minutes from February 1, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

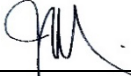
9. ADJOURNMENT

DUMONT/LABOUNTY

Motion: That the meeting of February 1, 2024 be adjourned.

CARRIED

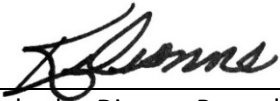
COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 3:08 PM



Jatinder Bir, Chair



Shawn McMullin, Director of Professional Excellence



Kimberley Dionne, Recording Secretary