

---

# MINUTES OF THE BC TEACHERS' COUNCIL



October 8 to October 10, 2024

---

*Last Revised: October 18, 2024*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**October 8, 2024** ..... 3  
Attendance ..... 3  
1. Opening of the Meeting ..... 3  
2. Public Comment Period ..... 4  
3. Business and Reporting Out ..... 4  
4. Review of BCTC Workplan Strategies 2024-2025 ..... 6  
5. External Partners Report Out ..... 6  
6. Review of Minutes ..... 7  
7. Adjournment ..... 7

**October 9, 2024** ..... 8  
Attendance ..... 8  
1. Opening of the Meeting ..... 8  
2. Public Comment Period ..... 9  
3. Professional and Certification Standards Steering Committee (PCSSC) ..... 9  
4. TEP Approval and Review Committee (TEPARC) ..... 9  
5. BCTC In Private ..... 10  
6. Adjournment ..... 11

**October 10, 2024** ..... 12  
Attendance ..... 12  
8. Opening of the Meeting ..... 12  
9. Public Comment Period ..... 13  
10. Teacher Education Program Working Group (TEPWG) ..... 13  
11. Structured Dialogue Report Out ..... 13  
12. New Teacher Survey Working Group (NTSWG) ..... 13  
13. Review of the Minutes – Day 2 and Day 3 ..... 14  
14. Adjournment ..... 14

---

**OCTOBER 8, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

**BCTC:** Jim Iker, Adrienne Demers, Jatinder Bir, Lisa Kishkan, Jelana Bighorn, Carol Arnold, Gunita Gupta, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Michelle LaBounty, Vandy Britton, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Doug Sheppard, Sarvi Brent

**Regrets:** Anne Tenning (PM)

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

**Public:**

Daniel Shiu	BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
Shannon Behan	BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Assoc. (BCPVPA)
David Trumpower	University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO)
Janice St. Helene	Simon Fraser University (SFU)
Stephen Smith	Simon Fraser University (SFU)
Alissa Perry	BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

The Chair, Jim Iker, called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

**1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

- **Land Acknowledgement**

Chair 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 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

The Chair acknowledged that September 30 was the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component in the reconciliation process.

- **Observance of World Teachers' Day**

The Chair acknowledged that October 5, 2024, was World Teachers' Day which is observed annually on this day to celebrate all teachers around the globe and recognize the hard work, professionalism and commitment that teachers demonstrate every day in their classrooms. This year, the theme of World Teachers' Day is "*Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a new social contract for education.*"

- **Approval of Agenda**

**CORNTHWAITE/SHEPPARD**

Motion: That the agenda for October 8, 2024, be approved.

.....  
CARRIED

- **BCTC Sharing: Northern Practicum Awards Initiative**

The Chair informed members that, for this meeting, instead of the usual practice of starting the meeting with an opening question, there will be some promotional video material shared.

UBC has produced six short videos featuring teacher candidates who completed their summative practicum in a northern rural school and who were recipients of the northern practicum awards initiative that the Ministry is leading. On each of the 3 meeting days, two short videos will be shared that promote rural teaching and hopefully encourage more teacher candidates to consider doing their practicum in northern BC.

---

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

Public members introduced themselves.

---

## **3. BUSINESS AND REPORTING OUT**

- **Correspondence**

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

- **Chair's Report**

- **BCTC Annual Report 2023/24**

Chair informed the BCTC that the BCTC Annual Report 2023/24 focuses on the BCTC workplan and work completed between May 2023 and April 2024. The first draft has been recently reviewed and approved by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

The draft Report was shared with all BCTC members last week for review and feedback. The goal is to have the Report submitted to the Minister of Education and Child Care by early December 2024.

### **BIR/KISHKAN**

Motion: That the BCTC approve the BCTC Annual Report 2023/24 be sent for graphic design and further submitted to the Minister of Education and Child Care for review.

---

CARRIED

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

- Winter 2025: February 5-7, 2025
- Spring 2025: May 27-29, 2025
- Fall 2025: Dates to be determined

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

○ **Event Participation**

The Chair informed the BCTC about members' participation at the following events:

- Jim Iker and Gunita Gupta attended the UFV Mission Campus Launch/Open House on Saturday, September 14, 2024.
- Jim Iker and Adrienne Demers will attend the ABCDE Rural and Remote Education Symposium titled *Spotlight on Rural and Remote Education: Cultivating a Shared Responsibility*, to be held at the UBC campus on November 21, 2024.
- Information about Literacies Today, a free synchronous online literacy course for educators, was shared by Michelle LaBounty.
  - This is a pilot project that hopes to build teacher skills and knowledge, introduce and familiarize teachers with resources, and create provincial connections while also honouring their local context.
  - This matter relates to the following regulatory Standards specific to applicants and Certificate Holders under the BCTC's purview: Professional Standard 5 and Certification Standard S. 85(a).

**KISHKAN/BIR**

Motion: That BCTC send a letter out to all BC K-12 employers (including public school districts and independent schools) and education partners to inform them about a free online literacy course for educators titled "ELVLC Literacies Today: A Framework for Multiliteracies, Multimodalities, and AI", as an option for teachers who might be interested in some professional learning in this important area.

CARRIED

---

○ **Updates from the Ministry**

- The government is currently in the interregnum period due to the upcoming provincial elections. The Minister of Education and Child Care will be appointed after the elections.
  - Deputy Minister of Education and Child Care, Christina Zacharuk, has moved on from BC Public Service in September and has taken new position as CEO of the Research Universities' Council of BC (RUCBC).
  - Assistant Deputy Minister, Jennifer McCrea, is acting in this role until a new Deputy Minister is appointed after the elections. We thank Christina for her collaborative relationship with the Council and wish her all the best in her future career.
  - The Commissioner for Teacher Regulation, Ana Mohammed, resigned from her role in September. We thank Ana for regularly joining the BCTC meetings to engage in dialogue with members and provide updates from her office.
  - In accordance with *the Teachers Act*, an Acting Commissioner, Donnaree Nygard, has been designated to temporarily serve in this role. BCTC is planning to invite the Acting Commissioner to the February meeting to overview the Commissioner's Annual Report for 2023/24.
  - After the provincial election, the Ministry will initiate the recruitment process for a new Commissioner. At that time, the Ministry will collaborate and consult with the BCTC on the appointment.
-

**4. REVIEW OF BCTC WORKPLAN STRATEGIES 2024-2025**

The BCTC started reviewing and amending their implementation strategies for 2024-2025. The work will continue.

BCTC 2024-2025 goals:	Status
<b>Goal 1:</b> To communicate and promote the <i>Professional Standards for BC Educators</i> .	Ongoing
<b>Goal 2:</b> To communicate and amplify Standard 9 and all it encompasses, including: decolonization, Reconciliation, anti-oppression and anti-racism education.	Ongoing
<b>Goal 3:</b> To continue the review and revisions of the Certification Standards.	Ongoing
<b>Goal 4:</b> To engage BC TEPs and education partners on recommendations and action items stemming from the 2021/22 New Teacher Survey.	Amended
<b>Goal 5:</b> 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 removing barriers to accessibility, including financial ones.	Ongoing
<b>Goal 6:</b> 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"> <li>• the TRC Calls to Action, DRIPA and Distinctions Based Approach,</li> <li>• decolonization, Reconciliation, anti-oppression, and anti-racism,</li> <li>• inclusion.</li> </ul>	Amended Ongoing

**5. EXTERNAL PARTNERS REPORT OUT**

- **BCSTA Rural and Remote Meeting**

Jim Iker attended August 19, 2024, on behalf of BCTC.

- **K-12 Workforce Work Groups**

- **Teacher Mentorship Work Group**

- Jim Iker attended on September 4, 2024, on behalf of BCTC.
- The meeting included some initial discussion on the vision and key considerations for re-establishing a provincial teacher mentorship program, along with ways to support successful implementation in the current workforce context.

- **Data Work Group**

- Jim Iker attended September 13, 2024, on behalf of BCTC.
- The goal of this working group is to establish a coordinated approach around the collection, analysis and utilization of workforce data at the provincial level.

- **Communications Work Group**
  - Adrienne Demers attended on September 17, 2024, on behalf of BCTC.
  - The role of Workforce Communications Working Group is to inform the development of a communications approach pertaining to recruitment and retention for careers in the K-12 sector.
- Election of BCTC representatives
  - A BCTC representative was elected/acclaimed for future participation in each of these Workforce Working Groups. Ministry staff facilitated and oversaw the election process.
    - **Workforce Teacher Mentorship Workgroup**  
Michelle LaBounty was elected.
    - **Workforce Data Workgroup**  
Gunita Gupta was acclaimed.
    - **Workforce Communications Work Group**  
Jatinder Bir was acclaimed.

---

**6. REVIEW OF MINUTES**

**CORNTHWAITE/BRITTON**

Motion: That the minutes from October 8, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

---

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**BIR/NEER**

Motion: That the meeting of October 8, 2024, be adjourned.

CARRIED

---

*COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 3:44 PM*

---

## OCTOBER 9, 2024

### ATTENDANCE

<b>BCTC:</b>	Jim Iker, Adrienne Demers, Jatinder Bir, Lisa Kishkan, Jelana Bighorn, Carol Arnold, Gunita Gupta, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Michelle LaBounty, Vandy Britton, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Doug Sheppard, Sarvi Brent	
<b>Guests:</b>	Michelle Daniel Motidyang	University of Northern BC (UNBC)
	Tina Fraser	UNBC
	Bonnie Fuller	UNBC
	David Litz	UNBC
	Melanie Baerg	UNBC
<b>Staff:</b>	Shawn McMullin, Matthew Cooke, Dijana Gres, Eric Tso, Vicki Wayne, Kim Dionne, Andrew Crawford	
<b>Public:</b>	Daniel Shiu	BC Teachers Federation (BCTF)
	Robin Tosczak	BCTF
	Shannon Behan	BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Assoc. (BCPVPA)
	Janice St. Helene	Simon Fraser University (SFU)
	Deneka Michaud	BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

The Vice Chair, Adrienne Demers, called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

- **Land Acknowledgement**

The Vice Chair, Adrienne Demers, 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 National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Gender Diverse People**

This day is dedicated to remembering and honouring the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and gender diverse people and their families. Everyone in our province deserves to live in safety, free from violence, yet thousands of Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit and gender diverse people have been murdered or have gone missing across Canada.

- **Observance of Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct 6-12) and World Mental Health Day (Oct 10)**

These events encourage global conversations about destigmatizing and prioritizing mental health at home and in the workplace. This week is a great opportunity to explore the mental health and substance use content for students, adults and school staff.



---

- **Approval of Agenda**

- NEER/HOLMES**

- Motion: That the agenda for October 9, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED

---

- **BCTC Sharing: Northern Practicum Awards Initiative – Continued**

---

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

Members of the public introduced themselves.

---

## 3. PROFESSIONAL AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS STEERING COMMITTEE (PCSSC)

Jatinder Bir and Michelle LaBounty provided an overview of the Committee's work since the June 2024 BCTC meeting.

- Committee Report Out – Updates and Recommendations
  - Certification Standards Review Update – Workplan, Chronology and Priority Themes
  - Request to add a new First Nation Language Authority
  - Request to update the English & French Language Proficiency sections – a new Language Competency Assessment for the Teacher Profession
  - Updates on Academic Preparation sections of the Certification Standards
  - Validity of Certificates and Review and Realignment of remaining sections

### **BIR/LABOUNTY**

Motion: That the *Haisla Culture and Language Authority* be added to the list of existing First Nation Language Authorities in the Certification Standards as the local language authority for certification of the Haisla Language.

CARRIED

---

### **LABOUNTY/BIR**

Motion: That the BCTC approve the inclusion of the *Language Competency Assessment for the Teaching Profession (LCATP)* in the Certification Standards as an additional option for fulfilling English and French language proficiency requirements.

CARRIED

---

## 4. TEP APPROVAL AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (TEPARC)

Danielle Neer and Vandy Britton provided an overview of the Committee's work since the June 2024 BCTC meeting.

- Committee Report Out and Recommendations

- Overview of upcoming Cyclical Reviews
  - UFV Structured Dialogue took place April 23, 2024. The agenda item was deferred at the June 2024 BCTC meeting and will be presented tomorrow by Danielle Neer and Bob Holmes.
  - UBC Structured Dialogue is scheduled to take place at the Vancouver campus on November 5, 2024. Lesya Balsevich and Carol Arnold will represent the BCTC.
  - TRU Maintenance Review will take place November 19-21, 2024. The Program Assessment Team includes BCTC members Jo Cornthwaite and Michelle LaBounty, as well as external TEP expert, Sheryl MacMath (UFV) and educator from the field, Leanne Atkinson (SD 58 Nicola-Similkameen).
- Changes to Existing Programs
  - UNBC Northern Cohort – TEPARC continues to have discussions with UNBC.
  - UNBC Regional B.Ed. Program (Prince Rupert Cohort) – BCTC will deliberate on this matter in-private.
  - UVic BEDILR Notice of Information – Approved as an Internal Change by TEPARC.
  - UFV French Language Practicum Notice of Information – Approved as an Internal Change by TEPARC.
- Follow-up session regarding online and blended TEP delivery to establish benchmarks to guide BC TEPs will be held on December 3, 2024.

**BRITTON/ARNOLD**

Motion: To move into private.

CARRIED

---

**HOLMES**

Motion: To move out of private at 11:54 am.

CARRIED

---

• **Reporting on Motions coming out of private**

**KISHKAN**

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve UNBC Notice of Intent - Regional B.Ed. Program (Prince Rupert Cohort) as a Minor Program Change.

CARRIED

---

**5. BCTC IN PRIVATE**

**CORNTHWAITE/BRITTON**

Motion: To move into private at 1:08 pm.

CARRIED

---

**CORNTHWAITE**

Motion: To move out of private at 3:58 pm.

CARRIED

---

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**BERTING/BRITTON**

Motion: That the meeting of October 9, 2024, be adjourned.

CARRIED

---

*COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 4:00 PM*

**OCTOBER 10, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

**BCTC:** Jim Iker, Adrienne Demers, Jatinder Bir, Lisa Kishkan, Jelana Bighorn, Carol Arnold, Gunita Gupta, Danielle Neer, Terence Berting, Anne Tenning, Vandy Britton, Mary Mollineaux, Lesya Balsevich, Bob Holmes, Jo Cornthwaite, Doug Sheppard, Sarvi Brent (PM), Michelle LaBounty (AM via Zoom)

**Guests:** Jaia Rai Beach Avenue Barristers

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

<b>Public:</b>	Daniel Shiu	BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)
	Christine Stewart	BCTF
	Clint Johnston	BCTF
	Shannon Behan	BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Assoc. (BCPVPA)
	Shawn Chisholm	Federation of Independent Employers' Association in BC (FISABC)
	Chris Beneteau	BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9.08 am.

**8. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

• **Land Acknowledgement**

Chair, 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.

• **Approval of Agenda**

**KISHKAN/BRITTON**

Motion: That the agenda for October 10, 2024, be approved with amendments.

..... CARRIED

• **Future Meeting Dates – Decision**

Council members voted on their preferred dates for the fall 2025 meeting.

**TENNING/HOLMES**

Motion: That the fall meeting dates be October 7-9, 2025 (Tue – Thu).

..... CARRIED

• **Opening BCTC Sharing: Northern Practicum Awards Initiative – Continued**

.....

---

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

Members of the public introduced themselves.

---

**10. TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP (TEPWG)**

BCTC Chair and ABCDE representative, Vandy Britton, provided an overview of the TEPWG work since the June 2024 BCTC meeting.

- Committee Report Out
    - ABCDE Annual General Meeting (AGM)
    - ECC Northern Bursary Initiative for Summative Practicum Placements in Rural and Remote Locations
    - Expression of Interest for Dispersed TEPs
    - Consultation with TEPs – Certification Standards Phase Four
    - Guidelines for BC TEP Blended Delivery Proposals
    - Update on Familiarization Course Implementation
    - Update on role changes at various TEPs
- 

**11. STRUCTURED DIALOGUE REPORT OUT**

- University of the Fraser Valley
    - BCTC members Bob Holmes and Danielle Neer provided a report out to the BCTC on the structured dialogue that was conducted in-person with UFV on April 23, 2024.
    - BCTC member and Associate Professor/Program Chair from UFV, Vandy Britton, was available in-person to provide comment and answer questions.
- 

**12. NEW TEACHER SURVEY WORKING GROUP (NTSWG)**

Lisa Kishkan and Terry Berting provided an overview of the group's work since the June 2024 BCTC meeting.

- Report Out – Updates and Recommendations
  - New Teacher Survey 2021/22 – Workplan
  - New Teacher Survey 2021/22 – Short Overview of Process
  - NTSWG Recommended Action Items

**KISHKAN/BERTING**

Motion: That the BCTC approve the BCTC specific action items coming from the New Teacher Survey 2021/22 Recommendations.

CARRIED

---

BCTC will continue their review of the remaining action items at a future meeting, possibly on December 3.

---

**IKER/DEMERS**

Motion: To move into private 1:07 pm.

CARRIED

---

**CORNTHWAITE**

Motion: To move out of private at 3:23 pm.

CARRIED

---

- **Reporting on Motions coming out of private**

**BRITTON**

Motion carried in private: That the BCTC approve the BCTC Implementation Strategies 2024/25 in accordance with the BCTC Workplan 2024/25.

CARRIED

---

---

**13. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES – DAY 2 AND DAY 3**

**GUPTA/BERTING**

Motion: That the minutes from October 9 and October 10, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

---

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

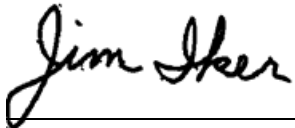
**CORNTHWAITE/SHEPPARD**

Motion: That the meeting of October 10, 2024, be adjourned.

CARRIED

---

*COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 3:35 PM*



---

Jim Iker, Chair



---

Shawn McMullin, Director of Professional Excellence



---

Vicki Wayne, Recording Secretary