
MINUTES OF THE BC TEACHERS' COUNCIL

Follow-up to June 10-12, 2020 Meeting



June 25, 2020

Last Revised: June 29, 2020

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June 25, 2020

ATTENDANCE

BCTC: Jim Iker, Matthew Cooke, Alice Kedves, Jo-Anne Chrona, Ralf St. Clair, John Hall, Shelaina Postings, Terry Berting, Jay Dixon, Janine Fraser, Adrienne Demers

Regrets: Carolyn Broady, Jatinder Kaur Bir, Tom Longridge, Marjorie Dumont, Joseph Colistro

Staff: Shawn McMullin, Frank Dunham, Dijana Gres, Vicki Wayne, Eric Tso, Sally Mercer

Guests: None

Public: None

The Chair, Jim Iker, called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING.

- **Acknowledgement with gratitude of the Territories of the Indigenous Peoples within our province.**

The Chair acknowledged with gratitude the Territories of the Indigenous Peoples within our province.

- **Approval of Agenda**

The Chair reminded members that this meeting is a follow-up to the June 10-12 meeting, with three main items on the agenda carried over from the last meeting. The Chair informed members that the draft agenda was circulated ahead of the meeting via email.

The Chair suggested that agenda be amended to change the order of two items.

HALL/FRASER

Motion: That the agenda for June 25, 2020 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

- **Review of Minutes from June 10-12 meeting**

The Chair asked the BCTC members to review the draft minutes from the June 10, 11 and 12, 2020 meeting. The Chair reminded the BCTC to ensure accuracy of the minutes.

HALL/DIXON

Motion: That the meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

- **Chair's Report Out**

- Correspondence

Chair informed the BCTC that the table of correspondence sent/received since the June 10-12 meeting is included in the agenda for members' review.

EDUC staff provided more information on specific correspondence.

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2. MINISTRY UPDATE ON TEACHER CERTIFICATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The Chair welcomed Shelaina Postings, Executive Director, Sector Policy & Performance Branch, to provide an update on the Teacher Certification Enhancement Project.

Shelaina Postings presented about the project purpose, vision and objectives, indicating that the main goal of the project is to remove certification backlog and improve delivery service. She provided an update on the recent improvements, including the operational aspect, applicant experience, software replacement and HR/culture improvement.

The dialogue with BCTC members also addressed the following: records management and retention, Teacher Certification Branch internal culture, and expected application processing timelines.

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3. TEP APPROVAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE (TEPASC)

- **Report Out and Recommendations**

BCTC member, Mathew Cooke, provided an overview of the TEPASC work since the February 2020 meeting regarding the TEP Approval Standards Review.

Current TEPASC considerations include finding the right balance between the programs' inputs and outputs, developing coherence between the TEP Approval Standards, Professional Standards and Certification Standards, and the overall aim of increasing clarity within the revised TEP Approval Standards. The option of using the Draft Revised TEP Approval Standards (currently version 5) for the purpose of the first Maintenance Review at UVic was also brought forward as a possibility.

TEPASC prefers to meet one more time before some recommendations are brought to the full BCTC.

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4. TEP WORKING GROUP (TEPWG)

- **Recommendations regarding the BC Teacher Education Programs' Plan for the 2020-21 academic year**

The Chair provided a report out regarding the TEP Working Group meeting on June 17, 2020.

As a result of a thorough and fruitful discussion, TEPWG came up with two recommendations to the BCTC and ABCDE for their consideration.

HALL/DIXON

Original Motion #1: That BCTC confirms the importance of in-school field experiences and expects face-to-face practicum to continue when the schools are able to accommodate teacher candidates. Field experiences are intended to develop and demonstrate the ability of teacher candidates to function in different learning modalities. When the implications of COVID for the 2020-21 academic year are more fully understood, the Teacher Education Programs may need to design field experiences to provide competence in both online and face-to-face contexts. TEPs and BCTC will engage in further dialogue to ensure that Teacher Candidates continue to meet the Professional Standards and Certification Standards.

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• **Amendments to the original motion and discussion:**

The Chair deferred to TEPWG member Ralf St. Clair to introduce the ABCDE proposed edits.

The BCTC members engaged in the discussion about the following:

- The expectation that the teacher candidates are treated as *teachers* rather than *adult students* during their fall 2020 practicum;
- That accommodations for those teacher candidates who may be immuno-compromised would not be fully possible as they would not be able to complete their school practicum this year.
- The possible scenario of 100% online schooling would need to be discussed at the given time.
- The expectation that practicum supervision would still be in-person and mandatory.

HALL/ST. CLAIR

Motion: That the ABCDE proposed edits be additionally amended.

..... CARRIED

HALL/DIXON

Amended Motion #1: That the BCTC confirms the importance of in-school field experiences and expects face-to-face teaching practica during the 2020-21 academic year to continue at schools in a manner that reflects the stage of the BC K-12 Education Restart Plan at that time. To build readiness and capacity for the ongoing COVID response and informed by the K-12 Education Restart Plan, Teacher Education Programs will include professional competencies in both online and face-to-face contexts in teacher education programs and practica. TEPs and BCTC will engage in further dialogue to ensure that Teacher Candidates continue to meet the Professional Standards and Certification Standards.

..... CARRIED

ST. CLAIR/HALL

Original Motion #2: That, given the circumstances of COVID-19 and the Provincial Health Officers' guidance, BCTC confirms online delivery of teacher education courses (not including field experience) during academic year 2020-21 will not invalidate current program approvals.

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ST. CLAIR/HALL

Amended Motion #2: That, given the circumstances of COVID-19 and in accordance with the Provincial Health Officers' guidance, BCTC confirms online delivery of teacher education courses (not including teaching practica) during academic year 2020-21 will not invalidate current program approvals.

..... CARRIED

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The BCTC agreed that the minutes be circulated to the members for their review after the meeting.

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6. ADJOURNMENT

BERTING/HALL

Motion: That the meeting of June 25, 2020 be adjourned.

..... CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM

It was noted that the meeting is NOT open to the public.



Jim Iker, Chair



Shawn McMullin, Director of Professional Excellence and Outreach



Dijana Gres, Recording Secretary