

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON
THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF HIGHER AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION
BETWEEN
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Introduction

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia, Canada and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants") have been actively undertaking educational and academic cooperation and exchanges since the China-Canada Scholars Exchange Program was established in 1973;

WHEREAS the Participants wish to foster international initiatives between Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the Participants' respective jurisdictions;

WHEREAS the Participants wish to strengthen ties between Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions;

WHEREAS the Participants wish to promote cooperation in joint research, advanced training and in academic mobility and exchange of students and faculty;

WHEREAS in Canada the exclusive constitutional jurisdiction over education rests with provincial and territorial authorities; and

WHEREAS in Canada the exclusive constitutional jurisdiction over foreign policy and related international obligations rests with the Government of Canada.

THEREFORE, the Participants have reached the following understanding:

1. Definitions

In this Memorandum of Understanding:

- 1.1 "Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions" means those Higher and Post-secondary education institutions identified by each of the Participants from time to time pursuant to paragraph 2.3.
- 1.2 "MOU" means the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Mutual Recognition of Higher and Post-secondary Education Between The Province of British Columbia, Canada and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China*.
- 1.3 "Participants" means the Province of British Columbia as represented by the Assistant Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China as represented by the Deputy Director-General, Department of International Cooperation and Exchanges, Ministry of Education.
- 1.4 "Higher and Post-secondary education institutions" means universities, post-secondary colleges and institutes, and technical/vocational institutions offering bachelor's and graduate degrees, diplomas and/or certificates.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To facilitate the mutual recognition of certificates, diplomas and degrees awarded to students by Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the Participants' respective jurisdictions.
- 2.2 To provide information on opportunities for educational cooperation to Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions with the aim of facilitating academic mobility and cooperation between the Participants' respective jurisdictions.
- 2.3 To exchange a list of Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the Participants' respective jurisdictions. The Participants decide that the list will be maintained and updated regularly and will be accessible to the general public including, but not limited to, Higher and Post-secondary education institutions identified by the Participants from time to time as being included in the application of this MOU, as well as other organizations committed to promoting educational cooperation and exchanges.

3. Role of Institutions

- 3.1 The Participants acknowledge and respect the autonomy of Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions within their respective jurisdictions, for admission to academic, professional, and technical programs.
- 3.2 The Participants acknowledge and respect that Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions within their respective jurisdictions determine the qualifications, grades, and examination results required to enter all courses of study.
- 3.3 The Participants acknowledge and respect that the commitments in this MOU are subject to the Role of Institutions set out in this section.

4. MOU Profile

- 4.1 This MOU relates to all the Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the Province of British Columbia, and all the Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the People's Republic of China.
- 4.2 The Participants will promote academic mobility and exchange of students and faculty.
- 4.3 The Participants will encourage the transfer of earned student credits between Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in the Participants' respective jurisdictions.

5. Degrees and Admission

The Participants will encourage mutual recognition of certificates, diplomas and degrees between Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions in their respective jurisdictions such that:

- 5.1 Holders of bachelor's degrees from one Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions may be considered for admission to graduate and/or professional studies leading to master's degrees in the other Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions, subject to the specific requirements determined by the admitting institutions.
- 5.2 Holders of master's degrees from one Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions may be considered to pursue doctoral studies in the other Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions, subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institutions.
- 5.3 Holders of bachelor's degrees from one Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions who have achieved outstanding results and completed excellent research work may be considered for admission into further studies leading to doctoral degrees in the other Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions, subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institutions.

5.4 Holders of certificates or diplomas from one Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions may be able to enter undergraduate studies in the other Participant's Government-recognized Higher and Post-secondary education institutions, subject to specific requirements determined by the admitting institutions.

6. Information Services

6.1 Pursuant to the signing of this MOU, the Participants will consider the future creation of an information service to facilitate cooperation, the exchange of information, and the ongoing achievement of the objectives of the MOU, as outlined in section 2.

7. Effective Term

7.1 This Memorandum of Understanding

7.1.1 is effective on the date of execution and remains in effect for three (3) years;

7.1.2 may be modified, including extended, by agreement in writing signed by the Participants; and

7.1.3 may be terminated by either of the Participants by giving one month written notice to the other Participant.

The Participants acknowledge that this Memorandum of Understanding is only intended to promote cooperation between them, and does not create any legal, contractual or financial rights or obligations for either of the Participants.

SIGNED THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2014 IN DUPLICATE, IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA,
IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE,
THE TWO TEXTS HAVING EQUAL VALIDITY.

FOR THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA,
CANADA



Ms. Claire Avison
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Advanced Education
Government of British Columbia

FOR THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



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