

Certification Inspection Report

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROGRAM

at

CANADA CHANGCHUN SHIYI SECONDARY SCHOOL

CHANGCHUN, JILIN PROVINCE

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

NOVEMBER 8 - 9, 2018

INTRODUCTION

On November 8-9, 2018, a certification inspection was completed on Canada Changchun Shiyi Secondary School (CCSSS) in Changchun, Jilin Province, People's Republic of China, referred to as the School in this report. The purpose of this inspection was to determine whether the requirements for the British Columbia (B.C.) education program have been met, according to the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement*. The inspector, appointed by the Executive Director of International Education and Independent Schools, British Columbia Ministry of Education (MoE) in accordance with the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement* (the Agreement), consisted of Dr. Laurie Anderson (the Inspector).

The School's B.C. program has an enrolment of 55 students, in grades 10, 11 and 12. The School is in its ninth year of operation as a B.C. Offshore school and is housed within a local public school, Changchun Shiyi High School (CSHS), that enrolls 4300 students. The B.C. program occupies the fifth floor of the building.

During their visit to the School, the Inspector reviewed all standards required in the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement* and *Operating Manual* and met with the offshore school representative (OSR), B.C. principal, B.C. teachers, the B.C. administrative staff, the School's director of marketing, the Chinese principal of the host school and the host school's director of international education.

The owner/operator, Sunny Bai, of Beijing Kezhi International Consulting, is responsible for the B.C. program. Mr. Bai owns five other B.C. offshore schools in China, as well as Lowell High School, a Group 4 independent school in Vancouver, B.C..



The B.C. program’s philosophy, objectives and special features include:

- A student-centered focus on learning and success for all students;
- The belief that all teachers are learners also;
- An emphasis on responsibility and independence;
- Inquiry-based learning as the foundational principle;
- English language acquisition at the centre of all learning;
- All subjects taught by B.C. teachers, including PE

The Inspector would like to thank Canada Changchun Shiyi Secondary School for its hospitality, cooperation and preparedness for the inspection visit.

The School has satisfactorily addressed requirements contained in the previous inspection report.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requirement Met <input type="checkbox"/> Requirement Not Met <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
<p>Comment:</p> <p>There were a series of significant requirements identified in the inspection carried out last year (2017). This necessitated a “re-inspection” carried out in March 2018, at which time the inspection team noted that the key concerns raised previously had all been addressed.</p>
<p>Commendation:</p> <p>The School, particularly the school principal, is commended for the prompt and effective remedial action taken to address the critical issues raised at last year’s inspection, and for strengthening the collaborative relationship with the principal of the host school.</p>

BUSINESS PLAN

The owner/operator has submitted a business plan to the B.C. Ministry of Education, confirming the sustainability of the program.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requirement Met <input type="checkbox"/> Requirement Not Met
<p>Comment:</p> <p>The School’s major focus in their business plan is to return to incremental growth after two years of enrolment decline. The decline in enrolment was partially attributable to external factors (overall enrolment numbers down in Changchun linked to birth rate decline; six grade 11 students being persuaded to transfer to an Australian school) and internal factors (problems identified in last year’s report that have been corrected).</p> <p>The School is committed to a comprehensive promotional plan, including social media, multiple opportunities to write the entrance exam, and direct meetings with interested parents. While keen to increase enrolment, the School is committed to maintaining their</p>



100% graduation rate, and academic standards that reflect the School's and the B.C. program's expectations.

Plans are in place to move the host school into a new building being built on the school grounds in the near future. The plan includes placing the B.C. offshore program into the first floor of the new building. This is seen as a positive step in attracting more students.

OWNERSHIP AND AGREEMENTS / BUILDING AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE 2.0

2.1 The owner/operator meets all requirements as set forth in the B.C. Global Education Program Offshore Schools Certification Agreement (the Agreement).

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The owner/operator meets the requirements articulated in the Agreement. The owner/operator owns a total of six offshore schools and a Group 4 independent school in Vancouver and has a decade of experience with the B.C. offshore school program.

2.2 The School meets local building, safety and cafeteria codes and regulations. The facilities are deemed to be suitable to support the B.C. program.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School complies with local regulations regarding building safety and cafeteria operations. Fire drills are held as per the B.C. protocols. The School's emergency plans identify contingencies for students and teachers in the event of an unplanned closure of the B.C. program. One of the options for students should the school close is the opportunity to transfer to the owner/operator's program in Vancouver, at Lowell High School.



ADMINISTRATION 3.0

3.1 Offshore school representative (OSR) - The owner/operator must appoint an individual to act as offshore school representative. This individual must be confirmed by the province and must meet all of the requirements set out in section 14 of the Agreement.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The offshore school representative (OSR) has years of experience in the role, and meets the OSR requirements outlined in the Agreement.

3.2 The principal meets the requirements as outlined in section 3.2 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The principal is in his fourth year at the School, and has extensive previous leadership experience in offshore schools in two countries and in two provinces in Canada.

The principal's tenure has provided the necessary continuity and stability for the B.C. program during a period of uncertainty and enrolment decline.

Commendation:

The principal is commended for his calm, steady leadership through the recent challenging period.

3.3 The School meets the administrative support requirements as outlined in section 3.3 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School meets the requirements for administrative support. This includes a bilingual B.C. program office assistant, a program marketing director and an international program director.



3.4 The School meets the Student Record requirements as outlined in section 3.4 of the Inspection Catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Inspector reviewed a large sample of the student records and found them to be complete as per inspection catalogue requirements. It was noted that students' PSR cards are filed separately from each students' main files. All files are stored in the combined principal and administrative staff office.

3.5 The School meets the teacher certification requirements as outlined in section 3.5 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Team confirms that all authorized persons under the Agreement possess valid and current certification under the B.C. Teacher Regulation Branch.

The teacher supply situation has improved since the previous school year when the School lacked a full complement of teachers. However, at the time of inspection, the School had hired four teachers whose Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB) Certificates of Qualification (COQ) applications were in process and are teaching with Ministry of Education Letters of Exemption. The Inspector confirmed that the Letters of Exemption from the Ministry of Education are on file, valid through to November 26, 2018. (Please note that one of the teachers received her formal TRB COQ during the inspection period, and the others are expected shortly.)

The teaching personnel situation was discussed with the principal and the OSR, and the need for a long-term plan for teacher recruitment acknowledged.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM 4.0

4.1 The School meets the requirements for curriculum implementation outlined in section 4.1 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Inspector noted the professionalism and commitment of the newly hired teachers to implement the new B.C. Education Plan in grade 10, and also tentatively in grade 11 and 12.



The School is focussed on inquiry-based learning as a means of introducing students to Big Ideas, Competencies and Skills of the new B.C. curricula. (The teaching staff dedicated three days of professional development prior to the school year exploring inquiry-based learning and afternoons are set aside during the year for the same purpose). Teachers' course overviews and lesson plans are re-configured to align with the new curriculum organizers.

The Inspector observed teachers using the new curricular frameworks, with a particular focus on applying inquiry-based learning. There were many examples of student work on classroom walls and in hallways. Teachers were observed integrating the First Peoples Principles of Learning, including hands-on group projects to re-create indigenous artifacts.

The School has an ally in the host Chinese school. The new principal of the host school has educational values aligned with the B.C. program, and is very supportive. The host school principal has also arranged for learning spaces to be re-configured to facilitate independent study and group work.

Commendation:

The School is commended for establishing a core team of capable professional educators committed to the new B.C. curriculum.

4.2 The School meets the requirements for English language assessment and acquisition as outlined in section 4.2 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School uses the English language entrance examination test developed for and used by all Kezhi schools in China. It has five sections, including an interview with the principal. The School provides 140 minutes of English language instruction daily and administers the Touchstone English language assessment three times during the school year (September, January and March) and adjusts student assignments accordingly. The School has an annual musical revue that reinforces English language acquisition in a different context.

4.3 The School meets the course credit requirements (equivalency, challenge, exemptions and BAA courses) as outlined in section 4.3 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School meets the course credit requirements and has approval for two BAA courses on file (YESFL10A and YESFL10B).



4.4 The School meets the course overview/course planning requirements as outlined in Schedule B Part I, 2. (d) of the Agreement; namely, that all B.C. program courses offered in the School meet or exceed the ministry learning outcomes/learning standards identified in the educational program guides for each course.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Inspector confirmed that teachers' course overviews and lesson plans were aligned with the new curricular frameworks. Course plans showed how Big Ideas and Core Competencies are taught in each lesson, and teachers' assessment practises to measure student acquisition of the related skills were clearly outlined.

The Inspector observed teachers engaging students in individual and group work, and using self and peer assessment strategies, written and verbal assessment strategies.

The School has conducted the numeracy assessment once with their grade 10 students, and a literacy assessment pilot examination is planned for later in November.

Commendation:

The School is commended for its creative use of classroom and common area space, and of virtual labs, to ensure Science course expectations are met.

4.5 The School meets the instructional time allotment requirements as outlined in section 4.5 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools, including the requirements set out in sections 1.1 to 6, with the exception of s. 4(5)(b), 4 (6), 5 (8)(a) and (d) and s. 5.3 of Ministerial Order 41/91, the Educational Standards Order, enacted under the Independent School Act.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School exceeds the instructional time allotment requirement for offshore schools. School is in session for 182 days a year with six hours of instruction daily.

Commendation:

The School is commended for maintaining small class sizes that are conducive to personalized learning and differentiated instruction.



4.6 The School meets the assessment methods requirements as outlined in section 4.6 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The Inspector witnessed a broad range of assessment practises, each reflective of the learning principles of the revised B.C. curriculum (self and peer assessment, daily reviews, regular tests and student presentations to demonstrate understanding of concepts covered) Student performance on the grade 12 English provincial exam is near the 25% discrepancy level, but records show year-over-year improvement. The teaching staff at the School, all in their first year there, are collaborating on both assessment practises overall and in English language development specifically.

4.7 The School meets the learning resources requirements as outlined in section 4.7 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School meets the learning resource requirements articulated in the inspection catalogue. The library has a growing collection of fiction, and students also use the space for their regular silent reading activities.

4.8 The School meets the student progress report requirements as outlined in section 4.8 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The progress reports used by the School meet the requirements of 4.8 of the inspection catalogue. The broad sample of report cards seen by the Inspector provides parents with clear information about their child's progress, areas of particular achievement and areas needing additional emphasis.



POLICY DEVELOPMENT 5.0**5.1 The School meets the parent/student handbook requirements as outlined in section 5.1 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The School has a bilingual parent-student handbook that meets the standards outlined in Section 5.1 of the inspection catalogue. The handbook covers all the pertinent areas parents and students need to know about: the School's philosophy, timetable, program requirements, procedures, assessment and evaluation, and expectations for behaviour.

5.2 The School meets the teacher handbook requirements as outlined in section 5.2 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met

Comment:

The teacher handbook meets the requirements articulated in the inspection catalogue, with detailed sections on teacher roles and responsibilities, discipline procedures, reporting to parents, and expectations for student assessment and evaluation.

COURSE ACCREDITED VIA DISTRIBUTED LEARNING 6.0**6.1 The School meets the distributed learning requirements as outlined in section 18 of the Agreement and Section 6 of the inspection catalogue for offshore schools.**

Requirement Met Requirement Not Met Not Applicable

Comment:

The School does not offer distributed learning (DL) courses at this time.



CONCLUSION

Commendations

The Inspection Team wishes to recognize the owner/operator, principal and staff of Canada Changchun Shiyi Secondary School for:

- Taking prompt and effective remedial action to address the critical issues raised at last year's inspection, and for strengthening the collaborative relationship with the principal of the host school;
- The calm, steady leadership provided by the principal during the recent challenging period;
- Recruiting and developing a core team of capable professional educators committed to the new B.C. curriculum;
- Using the classroom and common area space and virtual labs creatively, to ensure Science course expectations are met;
- Maintaining small class sizes, conducive to personalized learning and differentiated instruction.

SUMMATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The Offshore Inspector recommends to the Executive Director of International Education and Independent Schools that the British Columbia education program offered at Canada Changchun Shiyi Secondary School continue *to* be recognized as a British Columbia-certified school.

