

# Certification Inspection Report

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROGRAM

*at*

MAPLE LEAF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL - HAINAN

HAIKOU CITY, HAINAN PROVINCE

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

OCTOBER 30, 2017

## INTRODUCTION

On October 30, 2017, a certification inspection was completed on Maple Leaf International School-Hainan in Haikou City, Hainan, the People's Republic of China, termed MLIS-H or 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, British Columbia Ministry of Education (MoE) in accordance with the *B.C. Global Education Program – Offshore Schools Certification Agreement* (the Agreement), was Raymond Sutton.

The School's B.C. program has an enrolment of 17 students. Five of the students are in a full B.C. program, seven in a bridging program and five in a foundations program.

During his 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 Superintendent of the Maple Leaf Schools in China, the B.C. principal, the B.C. teachers and the appropriate Chinese staff.

The owner/operator, China Maple Leaf Educational Systems Ltd., (CMLES) is responsible for the B.C. program. CMLES operates a total of 75 schools, 72 of which are located in China. 13 of the schools in China offer the B.C. program.

CMLES operates a 3,300 K-12 Chinese program on the same campus as MLIS-H.

In this, the first year of operation for MLIS-H, the school offers only grade 10 to a limited number of students. The School intends to follow the philosophy that has been followed at the other CMLES schools: - "...based on the belief that through blending the best of the innovative and enquiry-based western educational model with the culturally rich and disciplined



traditional Chinese educational model, students will be best prepared to meet the challenges of living and working in an internationally diverse society.”

The Inspector would like to thank Maple Leaf International School-Hainan for its hospitality, cooperation and preparedness for the inspection visit.

**The School has satisfactorily addressed requirements contained in the previous inspection report.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met       Not Applicable

**Comment:**

This inspection was the initial certification inspection and therefore no previous inspection requirements to address.

**BUSINESS PLAN**

**The Owner/Operator has submitted a Business Plan to the B.C. Ministry of Education, confirming the sustainability of the program.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The extensive business plan, as laid out in the British Columbia Offshore School Program Annual Report, is based on the 20 plus years of experience CMLES has had operating B.C. program schools in China.

The School started in September 2017 enrolling grade 10 students in the full B.C. program as well as some students into a bridging and foundations program.

The School is planning to enroll grade 9 students with satisfactory assessment results into a pre-grade 10 program in the second semester in January 2018.

The B.C. program has lots of space on the newly renovated ground floor of a four-story classroom building. The Inspector reviewed with the administration the plans for the future development of the site. As the first stage, construction of a new purpose-built High School building has commenced. The new building, which will house the B.C. program, is scheduled to be ready for the start of the 2018-19 school year and will have a capacity of up to 1,000 students.

**Commendation:**

CMLES is to be commended on the thought that has gone into the design of the new high school facility, currently under construction and the plans for renovation or replacement of



the existing buildings on the Haikou campus.

## **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:**

Based on the documentation made available to and reviewed by the Inspector the owner/operator meets the criteria listed in section 5 and appendix A of the Agreement.

The Inspector reviewed a letter from the Hainan Provincial Department of Education dated August 18, 2017, giving approval for CMLES to establish a school offering the B.C. graduation program in Haikou City, Hainan.

### **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:**

Documentation relating to the local building, safety and cafeteria codes and regulations as outlined in the inspection catalogue were reviewed and confirmed to be valid.

## **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 the requirements set out in section 14 of the Agreement.**

Requirement Met       Requirement Not Met

**Comment:**

The offshore school representative is the same for all the Maple Leaf schools offering the B.C. program. He is a very experienced B.C. educator with considerable experience working in and with offshore schools.



### 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 was educated and received her teacher certification in B.C. after completing her studies, she moved to Moscow, Russia where she taught and administered in an international school for 11 years. In 2016 she accepted the position of principal at the Maple Leaf B.C. offshore high school in Henan. In 2017 she moved to Haikou to serve as the principal of the newly established MLIS-H.

Her role is clearly defined under the CMLES system and she is well supported by the central office of CMLES. She meets and in many cases, exceeds all the requirements as laid out in the inspection catalogue.

**Commendation:**

The principal is to be commended on the excellent preparation that took place prior to the Inspector's visit that made the inspection run smoothly.

### 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 principal is assisted by an extensive administrative support staff. Some of the support staff have been transferred from other Maple Leaf Schools to assist in the start-up of MLIS-H. In addition, she is supported by the CMLES superintendent, an assistant superintendent who focuses on curriculum support, and nine system wide subject coordinators.

**Commendation:**

CMLES is to be commended on the support that is being made available to the MLIS-H principal and staff.

### 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 hard copy student records were reviewed and found to be complete. An electronic backup



of the demographic and other data is maintained using *PowerSchool*.

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

**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:

CMLES is being very pro-active, as a system, to support teachers in the transition to the new B.C. grades 10-12 curriculum. The teachers at MLIS-H are using the current curriculum but it was very clear they are being well prepared to implement the new curriculum in grade 10 in September 2018 and in grades 11 and 12 in the following years.

Extensive professional development related to the new curriculum took place last year in all the Maple Leaf schools. The staff, presently at MLIS-H, took part in last year's professional development as they were all employed in other Maple Leaf schools. For this year Maple Leaf is providing opportunities for teachers from the 10 campuses that offer the B.C. Graduation Program to work together to develop overviews, timelines, big ideas, core competencies and assessment strategies for their subject areas. In addition, a wide range of workshops and webinars, on the new curriculum, have been planned.

The assistant superintendent and the subject coordinators are playing a vital part in the transformation process.

Commendation:

The School and CMLES are to be commended on the support that they are giving to assist teachers in the transformation to the new 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:**

CMLES has a system wide approach to assist their schools to improve student achievement in English. This approach includes the application of system wide strategies, an English language coordinator to support each campus and computer-assisted English learning for individuals. MLIS-H has implemented a reading program, *ReadTheory* which monitors and assesses student literacy.

The School has a graduated system for entry into the B.C. program. Based on their scores on the assessment test students are placed in the Foundations, Bridging or the full B.C. program. Before any students are accepted into the full B.C. program they are required to successfully complete the B.C. entrance exam and perform well in their interview with the B.C. principal.

Teachers are all very conscious of the need to make English proficiency a goal of every class in every subject. CMLES has provided support to the teachers in this regard.

The English Assessment test used at MLIS-H is the one used in all the Maple Leaf B.C. schools. The B.C. principal oversees the administration of the exam. The B.C. teachers and the principal work together with the ESL department to mark the exam. The principal has the final decision on the acceptance of students and in which program they will be placed.

**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 as outlined in the inspection catalogue.

The School offers several exempt courses:

Mandarin 10

Chinese Social Studies 10: Politics

Chinese Social Studies 10: Geography

Chinese Social Studies 10: History

The following BAA courses are offered at MLIS-H:

Developmental Reading 10,

Active Living 11

Canadian Academic Learning Essentials 10

Introduction to Math and Science10



**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 course overviews are traditional with clearly laid out, content, PLOs, resources, timelines and assessment strategies. In some courses teachers have developed links to some big ideas, core competencies and achievement indicators as they begin the transformation process. MLIS-H is very fortunate to have a very strong team of educators. All the teachers have had at least three years' experience in Maple Leaf schools in China. With support from the principal, they are working well together bringing consistency to their planning, implementing, managing, assessing and communicating with students and parents by using programs such as *Schoology*, *Planboard* and *WeChat*.

Commendation:

The experienced, strong team of educators who are working very well together to provide a firm foundation for the school and to transition to the new B.C. curriculum

**4.5 The School meets the instructional time allotments 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 2017-18 school year at MLIS-H is scheduled for 1128 hours. All courses offered exceed the minimum hours required.

**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:

As described in the inspection catalogue the School has clear policies and guidelines in place for ensuring student marks are an accurate reflection of the student's achievement in the B.C. program. These policies and guidelines are the same as used in the other Maple Leaf B.C.



schools.

At the time of the inspection the School had only been in operation for seven weeks but the individual teacher's marks indicated they were using the Maple Leaf guidelines.

As MLIS-H is a new school no data report was available.

#### **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 has all the textbooks it requires. Being a new school, the library is currently being stocked with a major order of books scheduled to be delivered during the first week of November. The School has access to *ProQuest – Canadian Curriculum Edition E-library* and *TumbleBook Cloud E-book Collection*.

MLIS-H has access to Science labs and computer labs as and when needed.

All students have a laptop computer and internet service is available throughout the School although at times it is slow.

CMLES has arranged that 600+ of their students, at the Dalian campus will be taking part in the pilot administration of the Graduation Numeracy Assessment scheduled for January 2018.

Findings from the pilot administration will be shared with the schools in the system. MLIS-H in consultation with the superintendent's office will then decide how to proceed with preparing to administer the Graduation Numeracy Assessment.

#### **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 School has not yet issued their first student progress report; this will take place towards the end of November. A draft copy of the progress report, which meets the requirements as laid out in the inspection catalogue, was made available to the Inspector.

Formal report cards are scheduled to be issued four times during the year. Parents can access the overall grades of their students through *PowerSchool*. Parents are contacted if students are experiencing difficulties and the School makes it very clear to parents that they have an "Open door policy" and that parents are very welcome to make an appointment at any time to discuss



their child's progress. Also, parents have access to their child's 'real time' progress including assignments, rubrics, feedback, scores and grades through the Schoology Learning Management System.

## 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 developed and published a very comprehensive student/parent handbook. Important parts of the handbook are also translated into Chinese.

**Commendation:**

The principal is commended on the excellent student/parent handbook that has been developed at MLIS-H.

### 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:**

CMLES has over the years developed a very comprehensive teacher handbook which has been made available to all teachers at MLIS-H. The handbook, as reviewed by the Inspector, has been updated for 2017-18 and contains all currently required information.

The handbook also clearly lays out policies and procedures for the evaluation of teachers and administrators.

## 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 any distributed learning courses.



## CONCLUSION

### Commendations

**The Inspector wishes to recognize the owner/operator, principal and staff of Maple Leaf International School - Hainan for:**

- the thought that has gone into the design of the new high school facility, currently under construction and the plans for renovation or replacement of the existing buildings on the Haikou campus
- the excellent preparation that took place prior to the Inspector's visit that made the inspection run smoothly including the complete and detailed school and teacher binders that were made available for the Inspector
- the support provided to the school principal and teachers by CMLES in the start-up of the School and in the transformation to the new curriculum
- The experienced, strong team of educators who are working very well together to provide a firm foundation for the school and to transition to the new B.C. curriculum
- the excellent Student/Parent Handbook that has been developed

### SUMMATIVE RECOMMENDATION

**The Offshore Inspector recommends to the Executive Director of International Education that the British Columbia education program offered at Maple Leaf International School - Hainan be recognized as a British Columbia- certified School.**

