

## **DRAFT - NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION**

### INDIGENOUS EDUCATION PROTOCOL

**We the twenty- five post secondary institutions in British Columbia are committed to the advancement of Indigenous participation in higher learning at our institutions. We support the Ministry of Advanced Education's Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training and Policy Framework Action Plan.**

**Working in partnership with the Aboriginal community, we are committed to developing opportunities for Indigenous students that promote self-determination and success and to integrating Indigenous thought, perspectives and priorities throughout our curricula and operations.**

#### **Indigenous Knowledge and Participation**

- We recognise the value of intellectual and cultural property and traditions of Indigenous people. Through respectful and collaborative partnerships, we seek the inclusion of Indigenous thought, perspectives and priorities in curricula, teaching research and other endeavours.
- We value the role of Elders and Knowledge Keepers in upholding and protecting intellectual and cultural property, and seek their advice on curriculum and approaches to learning and research, to ensure that Indigenous views and values are understood and respected.
- We recognise the importance of Indigenous leadership in education and the need for Indigenous views and values to be respected at all levels of governance, and in decisions involving faculty, professional and administrative staff.
- We recognise the importance of working partnerships with First Nations, Métis communities, Aboriginal organizations, Aboriginal controlled private institutions, and business and industry to meet the needs of Indigenous people and communities.
- We recognise the importance of our role to lead Indigenous reconciliation locally, and will adopt, implement, and report annually on the *BC Indigenous Reconciliation Plan* developed at the 2016 symposium.

#### **Indigenous Access and Student Support**

- We recognise the challenges in transition from K-12 to post secondary education, and we are committed to removing barriers and improving opportunities for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students to attend our institutions.
- We recognise that Indigenous students often face exceptional challenges, and we are committed to assuring that they are well supported in their studies and lives in our institutions.

#### **Indigenous Awareness and Education of All Students**

- We recognise the importance and contributions of Indigenous scholars and other experts, and the need to develop across many fields and disciplines, more substantive awareness of Indigenous society and history, and ways to address the complex issues important to Indigenous people.
- We recognise our responsibility to provide all students with an education that will prepare them for productive and positive interactions with Indigenous people and communities, in their careers and in their lives as informed citizens. We recognise that the opportunities we create within and outside our classrooms, for positive and functional interactions among Indigenous students and others, will develop capacity for learning and for contributions to society and the future of Indigenous people.

Signed at the October 19, 2016 BC Post Secondary Truth and Reconciliation Symposium  
Wosk Centre for Dialogue

Signatures of Presidents