



BC Student Outcomes
Research Forum

2022/2023
ANNUAL
REPORT

Presented to the
BC Student Outcomes Research Forum
Annual General Meeting
June 14, 2023

Message from the Co-Chairs

Ajit Batra (OKAN) and Leila Hazemi (PSFS)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners for their dedication and continuous support to ensure the ongoing success of the BC Student Outcomes Program.

During the past year, a great amount of additional work has been accomplished including the completion of several pilot projects developed to improve our program performance. We appreciate Forum members and BC Stats' commitment to mitigate the impact of declining response rates within our surveys. Although survey response rates for the BC Student Outcomes Program have remained high, it has been more challenging to achieve our target response rates during the last few survey cycles.

In the year ahead, we look forward to the BC Student Outcomes Program continuing to improve while serving its purpose to ensure reliable data for public post-secondary education accountability as aligned to our mission of designing, conducting, and delivering high-quality student outcomes research to support decision-making that enables successful educational experiences and a skilled labour force for British Columbia. We will continue to drive forward with work to support the maintenance and/or improvement of our survey response rates.

Forum Activities

June 2022 BC Student Outcomes Research Forum Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 2022 Forum AGM was an online half-day meeting held on June 16, 2022.

Key highlights from the 2022 Forum AGM include:

- The Plan for the 2022 Survey Cycle for the BC Student Outcomes Program was presented and approved. This plan covers all four of the survey groups (Apprenticeship (APP), Trades Foundation and Trades-Related Vocational (TFTRV), Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate (DAC), and Baccalaureate Graduates (BGS)) and includes topics related to scope, schedule, resources, program risks, change management and budget.
- A three-year rolling budget for 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 was also presented and approved at the AGM.
- The Terms of Reference for the BC Student Outcomes Research Forum were reviewed and approved. This document is reviewed every three years, and in 2022, only minor changes were made.
- A discussion was held on addressing declining survey response rates. A number of issues were identified as impacting BC Student Outcomes Program survey response rates, and the need for a strategy was addressed. The theme of the discussion was *You Had Me at Hello: Addressing*

declining response rates and included topics related to: 1) What is impacting response rates for our Student Outcomes surveys?, 2) New Ways of Contact, and 3) Survey Governance.

- In 2022/2023, new Information Sharing Agreements (ISAs) were signed to allow for greater data sharing between institutions, SkilledTradesBC and the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS).

Forum Teams Work 2022/2023

The **Management Team** activities throughout the year included:

- Monitoring the milestones and data collection progress of the four surveys;
- Developing action items to increase, or at least maintain, our survey response rates as per ideas discussed at the 2022 Forum AGM (these action items are part of a three-year strategy);
- Working with the BC Behavioural Insights Group (BC BIG) within the Public Service Agency of the BC Government to support a pilot project with our survey invitation emails;
- Exploring the incorporation of further private post-secondary institutions as an option within the BC Student Outcomes Program;
- Discussing the option of having the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills access BC Student Outcomes Program data, as a pilot project, in BC Stats' secure analytics environment to link to other data sources;
- Approving a three-year schedule of annual reports (and other deliverables);
- Reviewing the threshold of when to consult with BCIRP and/or IRPDA on items related to the BC Student Outcomes Program;
- Building a potential recognition program for Forum members; and
- Planning for the 2023 Forum AGM including approval of the Plan for the 2023 Survey Cycle (Including Budget).

The **Priorities Working Group** completed the implementation of the five recommendations that were approved at the 2021 Forum AGM. For reference, the recommendations included the following: Move to a three-year rolling budget plan, Forum teams to find efficiencies to reduce administrative support (including fewer/shorter meetings, less administrative support, etc.), Pause and rotate annual reports, In-person Forum meeting (i.e., AGM) every 2 years, virtual meeting in other years, and Continue to investigate other sources of revenue. The Priorities Working Group will formally stop at the end of the 2023 Survey Cycle.

The **Survey Team** continued their work reviewing the annual questionnaires for all four surveys. A prior recommendation to change the definition of Main Job in the Baccalaureate Graduates Survey was implemented in the 2022 Survey Cycle.

The **Technical Team** continued their work on cohorts in their annual review of the cohort specifications. The Technical Team is continuing to monitor any changes to the Gender and Sex Data Standard and Indigenous Data Standard, and any impacts these changes may have on the BC

Student Outcomes Program cohort specifications with possible changes to be made for the 2024 Survey Cycle. The Technical Team also worked on non-response analysis and a pilot project of calling international former student telephone numbers.

The **Communication Team** continued to review and provide feedback on BC Student Outcomes Program publications including the 2022 DAC (Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate) Infographic Report and the 2022 Highlights. Additionally, they have been involved in testing a new public website for the BC Student Outcomes Program, which is currently under development.

The **Research and Analysis Team** continues to explore pathways for external researchers to access BC Student Outcomes Program data. The team also continues to work on research ideas in alignment with the *Anti-Racism Data Act* while outlining the current limitations within our surveys. This new law will help identify and address systemic racism and other inequities in provincial government programs and services.

BC Student Outcomes Program 2022/2023

The BC Student Outcomes Research Forum, through its working teams, provided valuable advice and oversight of the annual BC Student Outcomes Program surveys conducted for the 2022 Survey Cycle. Findings from these surveys are used by government and institutions for labour market analysis, program evaluation, planning, and accountability. Survey results are also available to help students make informed decisions about their personal and economic futures.

Collecting Outcomes Data

The 2022 **Survey of Former Apprenticeship Students** had a 47 percent response rate. Of 5,128 former apprentices eligible for the survey, 2,405 responded. They were surveyed within two years of completing their in-school training. The survey was conducted from January through the end of June 2022. Eligible former students were submitted from 14 public post-secondary institutions and 21 private training providers.

The 2022 **Survey of Former Trades Foundation and Trades-Related Vocational Students** had a total of 1,828 respondents, out of 3,866 former students who were eligible, making the response rate 47 percent overall. Of the 3,486 former Trades Foundation students who were eligible for the survey, 1,607 responded, resulting in a 46 percent response rate. There were 221 Trades-Related Vocational respondents, out of the 380 who were eligible, making the response rate for this group 58 percent. The survey was conducted from January through the end of May 2022, and 16 public post-secondary institutions participated. The former students were surveyed within two years of leaving their programs.

The 2022 **Survey of Former Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate Students** had 15,223 respondents, out of 31,181 former students who were eligible, making the response rate 49 percent. The survey was conducted from January through mid-July 2022, and 19 public post-secondary institutions participated. The former students were surveyed within two years of leaving their programs.

The 2022 **Baccalaureate Graduates Survey** of 2020 graduates had a response rate of 38 percent, with 9,423 respondents out of 24,752 who were eligible for the survey. Twenty-two (22) public post-secondary institutions participated. The survey was conducted from the end of August 2022 through to mid-February 2023.

Sharing Outcomes Data

WITH PARTNERS

BC Student Outcomes Program data were shared with partners through a range of tools. The most recent five years of data, for post-secondary institutions and the Ministry, were released through pivot tables, the Summary of Survey Results tool, fully labeled SPSS files, and CSV files.

- The 2018 to 2022 Apprenticeship, Trades Foundation, and Trades-Related Vocational Student Outcomes data were released via pivot tables, SPSS, and CSV on August 17, 2022, and the Summary of Survey Results tool was released September 15, 2022.
- The 2018 to 2022 Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate Student Outcomes data were released via pivot tables, SPSS, and CSV on September 20, 2022, and the Summary of Survey Results tool was released September 28, 2022.
- The 2018 to 2022 Baccalaureate Graduates Survey data were released via pivot tables, SPSS, and CSV on April 11, 2023. The Summary of Survey Results tool was also released April 11, 2023. With the finalization of the new Information Sharing Agreements (ISAs), the 2018 to 2022 Baccalaureate Graduates Survey data release included all participating institutions (including the research-intensive universities).

The [BC Student Outcomes Program public website](#) continues to be a key source of information for partners. Publications are posted here, as are the survey questionnaires. Background information on the BC Student Outcomes Program and the governing documents for the Research Forum are also available.

The **BC Student Outcomes Program SharePoint site** is used by authorized institutional researchers and Forum members to exchange files and share information. The Forum teams use it extensively as they conduct their work.

WITH THE PUBLIC

The **BC Student Outcomes Program Data Viewer** is a simple, dynamic interface that allows users to view recent student outcomes information from six student groups: apprenticeship, associate degree, bachelor's degree, certificate, diploma, and trades foundation. Results are available by student group, institution, program area, and program name. Aggregated data for the three most recent survey years are presented. The BC Student Outcomes Program Data Viewer tool for the public was updated with the 2020 to 2022 data in May 2023.

FOR OTHER RESEARCH

BC Student Outcomes Program data were provided for other research and initiatives: For researchers at post-secondary institutions, policymakers in government ministries,

representatives from education organizations, students, and other individuals who submitted requests for this data.

Using Outcomes Data

SYSTEM-WIDE REPORTS:

Available to the public through the BC Student Outcomes Program website

- 2022 BGS Reports by Institutions and Discipline
- 2022 BGS Reports by Program Area
- The 2022 Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate (DAC) Infographic Report
- The 2022 Highlights [To be posted June 2023]

PRESENTATION:

Available to the public through the BC Student Outcomes Program website

- An Introduction to B.C.'s Post-Secondary Student Surveys
- An Introduction to B.C.'s Post-Secondary Student Surveys (With presenter notes)

TECHNICAL REPORTS:

Available to partners through the BC Student Outcomes Program SharePoint site

- Methodology Reports
- 2022 APP Survey Refusals Analysis
- 2022 TFTRV Survey Refusals Analysis
- 2022 DAC Survey Refusals Analysis
- 2022 BGS Survey Refusals Analysis

Acknowledgments

The BC Student Outcomes Research Forum is a highly successful collaboration due to the contributions of time and expertise from many volunteers.

Thank you!

The Forum would like to acknowledge the following members who retired or left the Research Forum in 2022/2023 and thank them for their contributions to the BC Student Outcomes Program.

- Liny Chan (SFU)
- Kevin Chen (BCIT)
- Crystal Elton (PSFS)
- Ike Udevi-Aruevoru (CMTN)
- Larry Xiong (LANG)

PROGRAM STAFF

The BC Student Outcomes Research Forum is grateful to BC Stats staff for their management of the BC Student Outcomes Program. A special thanks to Amanda Barr for her contributions to this program over many years. Amanda has moved on to another position within BC Stats. To contact the BC Student Outcomes Program, please contact BCStudentOutcomes@gov.bc.ca.

Forum Team Membership (As of June 1, 2023)

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Co-Chairs:

Ajit Batra (OKAN), Leila Hazemi (PSFS)

Members:

Pam Bischoff (DOUG)	Brent Harris (UBC)	Sam Przygoda (PSFS)
Kristina Breuer (PSFS)	Stephanie McKeown (UBC)	Wes Skulmoski (NIC)
Sam Hannah (CAPU)	Zareen Naqvi (SFU)	Annay Slabikowska (UBC)

SURVEY TEAM

Co-Chairs:

Pam Bischoff (DOUG), Stephanie McKeown (UBC), Wes Skulmoski (NIC)

Members:

Courtney Fabri (LANG)	Shiva Mostafavi (BCIT)	Anna Tikina (BCCAT)
Stephanie Klassen (TRU)	Nik Must (PSFS)	Luka Wall (KPU)
Bob Lomas (CAM)	Sam Przygoda (PSFS)	Janice Wiebe (SFU)
Narcisa Medianu (SkilledTradesBC)	Clint Thomson (JIBC)	

TECHNICAL TEAM

Co-Chairs:

Annay Slabikowska (UBC), Sam Hannah (CAPU)

Members:

Norwinda Binuya-Barros (KPU)	Eric Johnson (CNC)	Bob Lomas (CAM)
Demin Chen (COTR)	Stephanie Klassen (TRU)	Varvara Romantseva (PSFS)
Priya Garcha (BCIT)	Ashley Lambert-Maberly (UBC)	Leanne Tan (SkilledTradesBC)
Lara Hu (PSFS)	Grace Lau (UBC)	

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Co-Chairs:

Brent Harris (UBC), Sam Przygoda (PSFS)

Members:

Chad Elofson (TRU)	Funda Isbuga Erel (DOUG)	Rae Tiessen (NVIT)
Wayne Hopwood (NIC)	Edgar Olaguer (KPU)	Janice Wiebe (SFU)
Lara Hu (PSFS)	Narcisa Medianu (SkilledTradesBC)	

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS TEAM

Co-Chairs:

Kristina Breuer (PSFS), Zareen Naqvi (SFU)

Members:

Norwinda Binuya-Barros (KPU)

Narcisa Medianu (SkilledTradesBC)

Varvara Romantseva (PSFS)

Pam Bischoff (DOUG)

Pennie Poon (LANG)

Anna Tikina (BCCAT)

Membership Changes – 2022/2023

(From June 1, 2022, to June 1, 2023)

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Jacynta Spicer (RRU) – stepped down

Kristina Breuer (PSFS) – joined

Sam Hannah (CAPU) – joined

SURVEY TEAM

Tracey Carmichael (JIBC) – stepped down

Clint Thomson (JIBC) – joined

Hui Wang (PSFS) – stepped down

Nik Must (PSFS) – joined

Shiva Mostafavi (BCIT) – joined

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS TEAM

Sam Przygoda (PSFS) – stepped down

Kristina Breuer (PSFS) – became Co-Chair

Varvara Romantseva (PSFS) – joined

TECHNICAL TEAM

Jacynta Spicer (RRU) – stepped down as Co-Chair

Sam Hannah (CAPU) – joined as Co-Chair

Ike Udevi-Aruevoru (CMTN) – stepped down

Kevin Chen (BCIT) – stepped down

Priya Garcha (BCIT) – joined

Hui Wang (PSFS) – stepped down

Varvara Romantseva (PSFS) – joined

Lara Hu (PSFS) – joined

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Beth Engel (SEL) – stepped down

Wayne Hopwood (NIC) – joined

Jason Holmes (TRU) – stepped down

Kristina Breuer (PSFS) – stepped down

Lara Hu (PSFS) – joined

INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATION FORUM REPRESENTATIVES

Coast Mountain College – *Troy Hanschen replaced Patricia Nuyten*

Langara College – *Courtney Fabri replaced Larry Xiong*

Highlights from the 2022 surveys

Student feedback is essential to maintain quality and relevance in the public post-secondary education system. Through surveying former students, the BC Student Outcomes Program provides the information needed to help shape public post-secondary education in British Columbia.

BACCALAUREATE GRADUATES

- 89% were satisfied with their education
- 91% said the quality of instruction was *very good* or *good*
- 84% were employed
- 85% of those employed said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE & UNIVERSITY TRANSFER STUDENTS

- 91% were satisfied with their education
- 95% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 78% of those who transferred were satisfied with their transfer experience
- 91% of those who took further education said their program prepared them for their studies

DIPLOMA STUDENTS

- 90% were satisfied with their education
- 94% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 87% of graduates were employed
- 84% of employed graduates said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs

CERTIFICATE STUDENTS

- 91% were satisfied with their education
- 95% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 88% of graduates were employed
- 89% of employed graduates said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs

APPRENTICESHIP STUDENTS

- 89% were satisfied with their education
- 93% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 95% were employed
- 92% of those employed said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs

TRADES FOUNDATION STUDENTS

- 88% were satisfied with their education
- 95% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 83% were employed
- 87% of those employed said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs

TRADES-RELATED VOCATIONAL STUDENTS

- 94% were satisfied with their education
- 94% said the quality of instruction was *very good*, *good*, or *adequate*
- 91% were employed
- 87% of those employed said the knowledge and skills they gained were useful in performing their jobs