



SUMMER SEMINAR 2009: A RETROSPECTIVE

Dear Colleague,

All of us at BCCIE want to sincerely thank you for making this year's Summer Seminar at the University of Victoria a great success. Your active participation, strong support, and excellent feedback were instrumental in shaping both the content and format of this year's event. In total, nearly **150 delegates** from across BC and Canada took advantage of Western Canada's leading professional development conference for international education practitioners. Highlights of the conference included the launching of a BCCIE Summer Seminar bursary program, the first-ever Pre-Conference Session for Newcomers, an array of concurrent session topics and special presentations by DFAIT and CIC, James Gorman's keynote address, and a festive closing banquet at which the inaugural BCCIE International Awards program was announced. To view **conference presentations**, and to view our Summer Seminar **photo gallery**, visit www.bccie.bc.ca.

We've closed the chapter on the 2009 Seminar and appreciate the very high response rate to our **post-Seminar survey**. Your detailed comments will shape the direction of next year's Seminar and will be our guide to ensuring that you continue to receive current, relevant professional development.

Here's a snapshot of what you told us:

- 30 % of you said the Summer Seminar was your first ever international education conference
- 46 % of you have less than 5 years experience in the international education field
- 55 % of you live and work outside the Lower Mainland
- 87 % of you felt the Seminar provided an above average opportunity to meet your PD goals
- 100 % of you are considering or strongly considering attending the 2010 Summer Seminar

We're pleased to share the good news that planning for next year's Seminar is now underway. Expect a formal announcement about dates and location in September as part of the launch of our 2009/2010 professional development series. Summer Seminar 2010 will feature an expanded number of concurrent session topics designed to appeal to wider audiences, an increased number of social and networking events, and a closer look at some of the pressing issues our industry faces, including enhanced crisis planning and ensuring our practise remains sustainable.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, or feedback about how BCCIE can improve the Summer Seminar experience for you or your colleagues, please contact us.

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