

Supporting International Students in their Post Secondary Search

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Building capacity for K-12 and PSEC



- Why
- A Look at Data
- Current State & Challenges
- Service & Support
- Possible Models
- Building Capacity & Moving Forward

Building capacity for K-12 and PSEC: Why?



- All working very hard to attract and retain international students to our schools and institutions
- Have mandates for growth, diversity and quality
- How can we further support these students and one another as students move through our system?
- Number of findings regarding international student pathways in BC*
 - Infrastructure (Data)
 - Stakeholder Cooperation
 - Student Perceptions
 - Academic Language Preparedness
 - Competition for Qualified Students

Guhr & Furtrado (2014)



“Stakeholders reported that there are qualified international students graduating from BC secondary schools who are genuinely interested in studying in BC. However, these students are recruited by institutions outside the province” (p.9)

Guhr & Furtado (2014)



“BC university recruiters can better collaborate with secondary school counselors to identify these potential students and strategically target recruitment efforts” (p. 9)

A look at numbers: Canada



Number and % of international students in Canada (2014)*

Province	Enrolment #	% international enrolment
BC	96,516	28.9%
AB	17,601	5.3%
SK	4,791	1.4%
MB	7,644	2.3%
ON	143,428	43%
QC	47,521	14.2%
NS	9,479	2.8%
NB	3,881	1.2%
NFL	2,088	0.6%

*A World of Learning: Canada's Performance and Potential in International Education 2015

A look at numbers: Canada



Level of Study of international students in Canada (2014)*

Level of Study	
Post Secondary	268,659
Secondary or less	52,354 (39,957 Secondary)
Other Studies	14,667
Quebec programs	466
Residents/Interns (Med)	223
Study Level not stated	128
Total Study Permit Holders	336,497

*A World of Learning: Canada's Performance and Potential in International Education 2015

A look at numbers: BC



- From the Student Transitions Project (Oct. 2014)
 - 112,800 international students in BC in 12/13
 - 1/3 (35-40%) of BC grade 12 grads enrolled in BC PSEC within 1 year
- From BC Ministry of Education (2016)
 - 18,711 international students in K-12

Think-Pair-Share



- Identify 3 Key Challenges in Supporting K to 12 Students in their Search for a Post-Secondary

Challenges: Communication



- Communication with School Counselors
- Communication with International Students
- Communication between K to 12 reps & Post Secondary reps

Challenges: \$\$\$



- Resources
- Time
- Priorities

Is this important your institution?

Current Practices: PSEC



Post Secondary Direct Approaches

- Connect with staff dedicated to the international student population
 - district offices
 - ‘international’ teachers
 - high school counsellors
- School visits and presentations – recruitment and yield
- Post secondary fairs in district
- PSI fairs
- Campus visits/tours
- Designated post secondary rep for each student
- Drop in appointments

Challenges



- Students only want ranked universities, not applying elsewhere
- Language levels/preparation
- Lack of information/clarity amongst students on pathway opportunities
- Need to be creative on how to help students not meeting requirements
- Identifying the international students in the high schools and being able to reach out to them to provide targeted support and service

Challenges



- Different models for support in high schools – counsellors or ‘international teacher’
 - Who to contact and work with?
 - Changing ‘international’ teachers each year
 - Personnel changes in schools – lose contact and have to start over establishing relationship
 - Direct contact with decision makers to arrange visit or event

K to12 INT'l Students: Savvy Consumers



- Influence of Study Abroad Agent
- Choices, choices, choices
- Expectation of institutional support during application process

However...



Identification of the Problem:

In BC, K to 12 sector & Post-Secondary Sector (International Education) have not built the capacity to work together to support student entry

How to Support Students?



Post-Secondary & K-12

- Play nice in the sandbox!
- Check egos at the door
- Make collaboration a priority

What's Working Well



- Working with agents
- Bringing students to campus
- Personal connection with counsellor/international teacher/school district rep
- Counsellor and district office initiatives (i.e. District Fairs)
- Opportunities to meet face to face, network, establish relationship (i.e. BCCIE, counsellor events)

Wish List



- K-12 reps to be more open to working with us
- Give options to students – community colleges, teaching-led universities
- Less promotion of other provinces, more support for BC education
- Building conversations between ‘international’ high school teacher and counsellor
- International student specific events in districts
- Publication about pathways

Suggested Starting Points



- Regional Branding
- Joint Marketing and Recruitment Events
- Sharing Agents

Uvic, Camosun, & Greater Victoria School District Joint Marketing and Recruitment



Uvic, Camosun, & Greater Victoria School District Joint Marketing and Recruitment



Old Model – New Wrinkle



School District Operated Education Fairs
Example: Delta School District Education
Fair



Example: Delta School District



School District Operated Education Fairs

- www.GoDelta.ca



Case Study: Lan Phuong



- Graduated Mount Douglas Secondary
June 2016



Case Study: Lan Phuong



- **Accepted:**
- UBC - International Economics
- UVic – Commerce
- McMaster – Commerce
- Carleton - Communication & Media Studies –
- Ryerson – Commerce
- **Opted to stay in BC and selected Uvic**

Case Study: Lan Phuong



Why BC?

Why Uvic?

- Influence of Agent
- Professional relationship between institutions

Building Capacity



Post Secondary: Get to know K to12 Sector

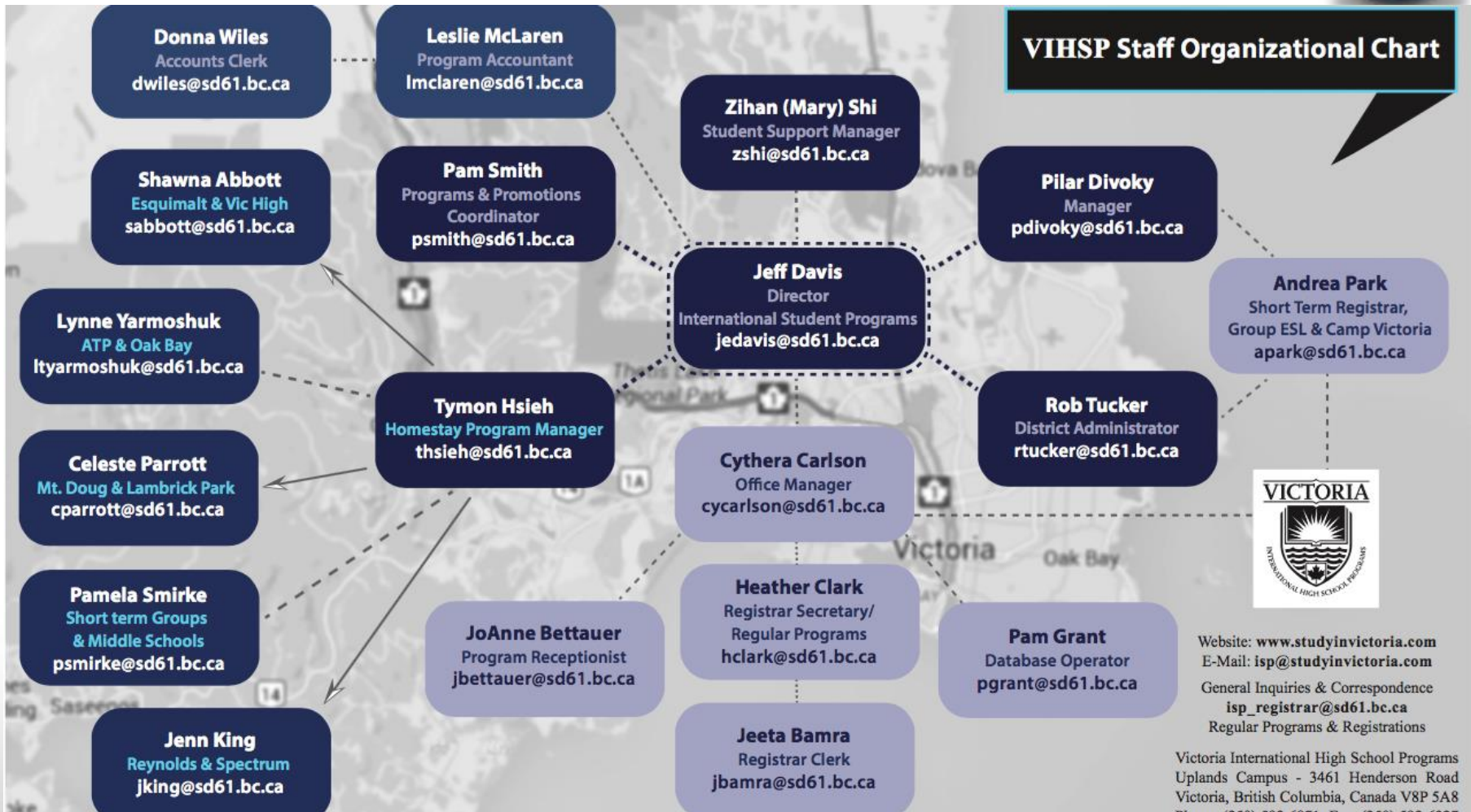
- Attend Canadian Association of Public Schools International annual conference



K-12 International Program Structure



VIHSP Staff Organizational Chart



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Building Capacity



K to 12: Get to know the Post-Secondary Sector

- Attend BCCIE Summer Seminar
- Consider staffing and resources to support these relationships

Moving Forward



- Strengthen and further commitment to communications
- Develop service support model that fits
- Committed dialogues quarterly
- Regular PSEC updates at International Student Program Counselor Meetings
- MOUs between PSEC & K-12 agreeing to collaborate on various projects
- Joint Brochures (with regional partners)

Thank you



- Simon Fraser University
- The University of Victoria
- Okanagan College
- Douglas College
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Delta School District
- Burnaby School District
- Saanich School District