



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On

THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION AND TWO-WAY EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

BETWEEN

HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA as represented by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

AND

THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills of the Province of British Columbia of Canada (British Columbia) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) of the Republic of the Philippines (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Participants" and individually as "Participant"),

ACKNOWLEDGING the mutual interest in carrying out collaboration activities for the benefit of higher education;

CONSIDERING the strong educational, cultural, and economic ties between the Province of British Columbia and the Philippines;

STATING that multicultural and multilingual education is a powerful means of fostering understanding and solidarity between peoples, which helps in preserving cultural identity and promoting cultural enrichment;

RECOGNIZING the necessity to update the MOU between the Minister of Education, Skills and Training of the Province of British Columbia and the CHED, signed on 23 November 1997, which is effectively superseded by this MOU;

REAFFIRMING that the Participants strive for cooperation and promotion of post-secondary education, cultural values, and a better mutual understanding between residents of their jurisdictions; and

WISHING to foster a cooperative relationship between the Participants to promote mutual educational and academic exchange and strengthen relations in the post-secondary education sector, including college, institute, and university (post-secondary) institutions.

Have come to the following understanding:

1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Memorandum of Understanding are to:

- a) Identify areas of enhanced cooperation in educational exchange and promotion between the Participants; and
- b) Forge strong reciprocal relationships in support of cultural exchange and educational benefits.

2. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Participants intend to promote information exchange in the following areas:

- a) Educational policies, programs, frameworks, and regulations;
- b) Two-way educational exchange and promotion activities;
- c) Mutual visits; and
- d) Services provided by the Participants to educational institutions, as well as possible cooperation projects.

3. AREAS OF COOPERATION

Participants intend to review the feasibility of cooperation between post-secondary institutions for the promotion of two-way educational exchange and cooperation in priority areas and activities including but not limited to the following:

- a) Topics may include but are not limited to:
 - i. Indigenous People Education
 - ii. Maritime Education
 - iii. Aviation
 - iv. Animation
 - v. Sustainability (aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goals)
 - vi. Nursing
 - vii. Innovation
- b) Activities
 - I. Credentialing
 1. Facilitate the sharing of information regarding the assessment of qualifications, skills, or competencies of programs identified by either Participant.
 - II. Transnational Higher Education
 1. Participants intend to share information about and explore opportunities in transnational higher education, including as defined in Philippines Republic Act No. 11448.
 - III. Curriculum alignment
 1. Encourage post-secondary institutions to share information on curriculum assessment and best practices, and support institutions to examine and compare curriculum.
 - IV. Encourage the development of post-secondary institutional partnerships
 1. Encourage the development of mutually beneficial partnerships between post-secondary institutions, including co-delivery of programs.

V. Qualified Visiting Faculty, Researchers, and Instructors

1. Explore opportunities for qualified faculty, researchers and post-secondary instructors to practice or study in post-secondary institutions of the Province of British Columbia and the Philippines, including professional development, programs of study, and curricular development.

VI. Student Mobility

1. Promotion of opportunities for students to study in post-secondary institutions in the Province of British Columbia and the Philippines, and providing introductions to post-secondary institutions or other entities where appropriate.

VII. Quality Assurance Frameworks

1. Exploring opportunities to review the respective quality assurance frameworks to ensure high-quality educational exchange processes between the Participants.

VIII. Annual Meetings

1. Make best efforts to participate in annual meetings between relevant government officials of the Participants, either in person or virtually, to review educational co-operation opportunities.

IX. Other Promotion Activities May Include:

1. Exchanging invitations to education exhibitions and seminars;
2. Organizing two-way education missions and visits; and
3. Establishing links to each other's websites.

4. COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

- a) To facilitate direct dialogue, the Participants intend to each designate a representative within their respective focal offices for the coordination and efficient management of activities under this Memorandum of Understanding, sharing this respective contact to the other Participant within three (3) months of the signing:
 - i. For British Columbia, the International Education Unit, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills is the focal office; and
 - ii. For CHED, the International Affairs Service is the focal office;
- b) The Participants intend to develop a Workplan for cooperation activities, which may include the following information:
 - i. Lead contact information: Organization; Contact Name; Position; Email; Telephone; and
 - ii. Action Areas: Areas of cooperation identified in the MOU; Activities; Action; Responsibilities; Timelines; Resources; and Anticipated Outcomes.
- c) The Participants intend to arrange periodic meetings, to be set out in the Workplan, in person or virtually, to discuss the activities described in this Memorandum of Understanding, subject to availability of funds;
- d) For certainty, Participants intend to bear their own costs resulting from their participation in this Memorandum of Understanding.

5. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- a) This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to impose any legally binding obligations on the Participants;
- b) The Participants may amend this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual written agreement;
- c) The Participants intend to undertake public communication under this Memorandum of Understanding with the collaboration and agreement of both Participants;
- d) A Participant may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving three (3) months written notice to the other Participant; and
- e) The Participants intend to resolve any dispute arising out of the interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding amicably through consultation or negotiation by the Participants through diplomatic channels.

6. EFFECTIVE TERM

This Memorandum of Understanding takes effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect for four (4) years, unless terminated by either Participant.

Signed in duplicate in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada on _____, in English.

**For HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN
RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA as
represented by the Minister of
Post-Secondary Education and
Future Skills:**

[Original Signed]

The Honourable Lisa Beare,
Minister
Post-Secondary Education and
Future Skills,
British Columbia, Canada

**For the Commission on Higher
Education, Republic of the
Philippines**

[Original Signed]

Dr. J. Prospero De Vera III,
Chairperson
Commission on Higher Education,
Republic of the Philippines