



May 29, 2025  
Our Ref. 146068

Dr. Geoff Payne  
Board Chair  
BC Council for International Education  
603 - 409 Granville Street  
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2

Email Address:      [Geoff.Payne@unbc.ca](mailto:Geoff.Payne@unbc.ca)

Dear Dr. Geoff Payne:

On behalf of Premier Eby and Executive Council, I would like to extend my thanks to you and your board members for your organization's leadership, dedication, and expertise in which you serve the people of British Columbia.

Public sector organizations—including Crown corporations, Health Authorities and Post-Secondary Institutions—support British Columbians by delivering vital public services and are accountable to the public through their Minister responsible. Your continued leadership in advancing and preserving the public interest strengthens trust in public institutions.

This mandate letter, which I am sending in my capacity as Minister responsible for the British Columbia Council for International Education, communicates our government's priorities for the entire public sector and provides specific direction and expectations of your organization for the duration of Government's term.

Government's priority is to make a tangible difference in people's lives through growing the economy, creating good paying jobs, strengthening health care and making our communities and neighbourhoods safer for British Columbians. British Columbians expect public sector organizations to deliver responsible, quality services equitably in all regions across the province. This includes strategic stewardship in planning, operations, financial, risk, and human resource management including information security and privacy protection. Providing equitable service requires due consideration of the diverse needs of local communities with specific attention to the unique needs of rural, remote and First Nation communities.

.../2

In the current economic and fiscal context including the threat of U.S. tariffs and other global economic challenges affecting British Columbia families, your organization is to work with ministry staff to review all existing programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, efficient, sustainable, grow the economy, and help keep costs low for British Columbians. Public sector organizations are expected to adhere to the principles of: cost consciousness, accountability, appropriate compensation, service, and integrity. This includes following the spirit and intent of core government fiscal management practices to make all efforts to achieve administrative and operating efficiencies while delivering core programs and services.

Strategic stewardship requires public sector organizations keep up-to-date systems and implement effective cybersecurity practices, including maintaining information management and cybersecurity policies, guidelines, and standards; assessing enterprise risk for high-value information and services, including confidential and sensitive data; and continuously evaluating and updating security practices to align with industry standards. The [Office of the Chief Information Officer](#) within the Ministry of Citizens Services is available to support and offer guidance to your organization in any of these areas including communication protocols with core government.

As required by the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, you must ensure your organization implements plans and strategies for minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and managing climate risk. Your organization is expected to work with my ministry to report out on these plans and activities as required by legislation. Public sector organizations will continue to take action on climate change, a commitment that remains foundational and key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples and our commitment to advancing reconciliation. I expect your organization to comply with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, including implementing existing commitments made under it. I expect your organization to work in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests.

The Crown Agencies Secretariat (CAS) in the Ministry of Finance supports public sector organizations to operate effectively, in the public interest, and aligned with government's strategic direction and priorities. Within CAS, the [Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office](#) will continue to support your board on recruitment, appointments and professional development by ensuring board composition and governance reflects the diversity of our province.

I expect you to ensure the important priorities and areas of focus listed in this letter are incorporated into the practices of your organization and as you develop plans to address the following priorities:

- Support the British Columbia brand as a high-quality provider of international education. Support public post-secondary institutions through international missions, partner development, and student recruitment activities that align with British Columbia's academic, research, economic, and labour market priorities.
- Support institutions to respond to current market challenges by further developing partnerships in British Columbia's key markets, attracting inbound delegations, and coordinating in-province international recruitment activity through the BC Transfer System and K-12 sector.
- Support implementation of International Education Framework by delivering training and capacity building to meet British Columbia's higher standards of quality and student supports.

Each board member is asked to sign this letter to acknowledge this direction from government to your organization. The signed letter is to be posted publicly on your website by June 2025.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and your board colleagues to ensure the sustainable delivery of the services the public relies on.

Sincerely,



Honourable Anne Kang  
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

pc: Honourable David Eby, KC  
Premier  
[Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca)

Shannon Salter, Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the BC  
Public Service  
Office of the Premier  
[OOP.DMO@gov.bc.ca](mailto:OOP.DMO@gov.bc.ca)

Doug Scott, Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board  
Ministry of Finance  
[Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca)

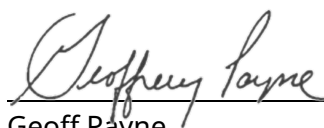
Elenore Arend, Associate Deputy Minister, Crown Agencies Secretariat  
Ministry of Finance  
[FINCASDM@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FINCASDM@gov.bc.ca)

Trevor Hughes, Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills  
[PSFS.DeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSFS.DeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca)

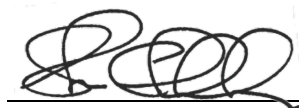
Chris Rathbone, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills  
[PSFS.ADMPost-SecondaryPolicyandPrgms@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSFS.ADMPost-SecondaryPolicyandPrgms@gov.bc.ca)

Randall Martin, Executive Director  
British Columbia Council for International Education  
[martin@bccie.bc.ca](mailto:martin@bccie.bc.ca)

Christina Barnett, Executive Assistant  
BC Council for International Education  
[cbarnett@bccie.bc.ca](mailto:cbarnett@bccie.bc.ca)



Geoff Payne  
Chair, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



Shawn Chisholm  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



Paul Block  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:




Paul Dangerfield  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



---

Jason Dewling  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



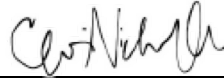
---

Sean Nosek  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



---

Chris Rathbone  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



---

Cloe Nicholls  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



---

Ajay Patel  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date:



---

Jeff Zabudsky  
Director, BC Council for  
International Education  
Date: