

For Immediate Release

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF EQA! BCCIE ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF NEW EQA WEBSITE

February 26, 2010

BCCIE is proud to announce the launch of the new EQA website to advance the province's post-secondary Education Quality Assurance Designation.

EQA is Canada's first education quality assurance designation and it identifies and promotes BC public and private post-secondary institutions that have met or exceeded provincial government quality assurance standards and offer consumer protection. The EQA brand is quickly becoming a standard seal recognizable worldwide, and the new EQA website further supports domestic and international students in making informed choices when choosing a post-secondary institution.

The new site, accessible at www.bceqa.ca, has a fresh clean aesthetic with a colour-coded design which enables users to easily identify which sections of the site contain information pertinent to their specific needs.

- Light Blue – Educator Information
- Orange – Student Information
- Green – EQA and BCCIE Information
- Grey – Administrative Forms and Information

Find out about the EQA Designation and BCCIE's role as administrator of EQA on the *What is EQA?* section of the site. Check out our bold new look and interactive features such as the interactive EQA Institutional Registry and 'Find a BC School' Map which are located in both the *Students* and *Educators'* segments. Keep abreast of quality assurance news and apply for EQA Designation online on the *Administrative* pages of the EQA website.

Both the interactive EQA Registry and 'Find a BC School' Map are designed to maximize our ability to profile and promote each EQA-designated post-secondary school to learners, educators, agents and governments in BC and around the globe. EQA-designated institutions are represented on the 'Find a BC School' Map on the EQA post-secondary website as well as the new BCCIE website, which also displays provincial K-12 school districts and institutions.

The EQA Registry allows students and international clientele to identify at-a-glance which BC post-secondary institutions have met provincial quality assurance criteria and offer consumer protection. Students can use the interactive 'Find a BC School' Map to readily locate an EQA-designated school in the BC community of their choice, which are colour-coded to highlight each of the five individually unique regions of the province. Each institution's profile on the Registry and Map has an active link to their website so students can access program information and contact school staff.

BC educators and institutions have full access to details about the advantages, related news, policies, procedures, and eligibility requirements for the EQA Designation in the *Educators* section of the site. The *Administrative* pages provide institutions with the opportunity to immediately submit an EQA Application online and personally update their EQA profile information at any time.

Use our new website to find out about EQA, contact EQA staff, access BCCIE and Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development websites and take a personal tour of the regions of BC and their EQA-designated schools on the rotating gallery of images on each page to experience why BC is *The Best is the Place on Earth to Study!*

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For More Information:

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