

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX
Sent: February 25, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Cc: King, Leah EDUC:EX; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Subject: FW: Confucius Institute
Attachments: 215661 IBN-MRF Confucius Institutes in BC .pdf; RE: Redirect: Confucius Institute (213965); Our Ref. 117489 - Re: Confucius Institute at the British Columbia Institute of Technology

Please see attached Craig.

Marnie

From: King, Leah EDUC:EX <Leah.1.King@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 25, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Confucius Institute

Yes, it was redirected to AEST, I have attached the incoming here that they cc'd us on (ref 117489)

As well, there was an IBN drafted, attached (215661)

And a piece of correspondence written by Geoffrey: RE: Redirect: Confucius Institute (213965)

All were drafted/sent in 2019. Let me know if you need any more!

Leah

From: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 25, 2020 4:01 PM
To: King, Leah EDUC:EX <Leah.1.King@gov.bc.ca>; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Confucius Institute
Importance: High

We recently responded to an inquiry/complaint about the Confucius Institute, I believe.

Leah – can you please do a quick scan of our files right now as I will need to get back to Craig before the EOD...Dwayne can assist as necessary.

Thank you,
Marnie

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 25, 2020 2:09 PM

To: EDUC Correspondence EDUC:EX <EDUC.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>; Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>; Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Fillion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Confucius Institute

Hi,

We have an inquiry asking if the Ministry has ever had any complaints regarding the Confucius s Institute in BC's schools.

I am not aware of any complaints but have only been here 5 years. Please advise. Can someone scan for this?

Thanks,

Craig Sorochan
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Education
250-208-9130

From: CATHY BROWNE <cathy.browne@cbc.ca>

Sent: February 25, 2020 1:55 PM

To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>; CATHY BROWNE <cathy.browne@cbc.ca>

Subject: Confucius Institute

Hi Craig,

A follow-up question if you don't mind.

Has the Ministry ever had any complaints or concerns expressed about the Confucius Institute and its operations in BC?

Thank you!

Cathy

Cathy Browne
Associate Producer
CBC Vancouver
Pronouns: she/her/hers
604-662-6117 | cathy.browne@cbc.ca



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

DATE: October 18, 2019
CLIFF: 215661

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister – **FOR INFORMATION**

SUBJECT: Confucius Institutes in British Columbia

PURPOSE: To provide an overview of Confucius Institutes in BC

BACKGROUND:

- The Chinese government established Confucius Institutes (CIs) in 2004 to promote Chinese language and culture education, and to facilitate international exchange.
 - CIs are described as non-profit educational organizations funded by the Chinese Ministry of Education.
 - CI headquarters is in Beijing and run by the Office of Chinese Language Council International (also known as the Hanban).
- Approximately 500 CIs exist in over 100 countries, offering services including: language teaching; teacher training and teaching resources; Chinese language proficiency tests and language teacher certification examinations; information and advice regarding China's education and culture; and facilitation of exchange.
- In BC, EDUC is aware of one CI in School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) (SD43), established in 2009.
 - The BC Institute of Technology (BCIT) established a CI in 2006. A July 2019 report in the Vancouver Sun indicates it may now be closed.
 - School District No. 36 (Surrey) ran a Confucius Classroom from 2013 to 2015 through an agreement with BCIT. The classroom is longer operating.
- In August 2019, New Brunswick's Education Minister Dominic Cardy announced plans for removal of CIs from New Brunswick K-12 schools.
 - Some other jurisdictions and institutions in Canada (e.g., Toronto School Board, University of Manitoba, McMaster University) and abroad (e.g., New South Wales Department of Education) have taken similar action removing CIs.

DISCUSSION:

s.13

s.13

CONCLUSION:

s.13

Program ADM/Branch: Keith Godin, Governance and Analytics

Program Contact (for content): Marnie Mayhew, Independent Schools and International Education

Drafter: Geoffrey MacDonald, Independent Schools and International Education

Date: October 16, 2019

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

DATE: December 15, 2017

CLIFF: 198468

PREPARED FOR: Scott MacDonald - **FOR INFORMATION**

SUBJECT: Confucius Institutes in British Columbia

PURPOSE: Overview of Confucius Institutes in BC

BACKGROUND:

- The Chinese government established Confucius Institutes (CIs) in 2004 to promote Chinese language and culture education, as well as international exchange opportunities.
- The CI Headquarters is in Beijing and run by the Office of Chinese Language Council International (also known as the Hanban). CIs are non-profit educational institutions funded by the Chinese Ministry of Education, but the amount of funding that BC school districts receive is unknown.
- Approximately 500 CIs exist in over 100 countries, and they offer a range of services including: language teaching; teacher training and teaching resources; Chinese language proficiency tests and language teacher certification examinations; information and advice regarding China's education and culture; and facilitation of exchange activities.
- CIs typically operate in partnership with a host jurisdiction's post-secondary institution, but K-12 partnerships also exist. In BC, one CI has been housed at the BC Institute of Technology since 2006, and one in School District No. 43 - Coquitlam - since 2008.
- Confucius Classrooms (CCs) are similar to CIs, but are limited to one classroom per school and by funding opportunities. School District No. 36 - Surrey - has operated a CC since 2013. By comparison, Alberta has one CI and 20 CCs operating in the Edmonton Public Schools District.
- To establish a CI or CC, applications must demonstrate that: (a) the applicant is a legally registered organization with educational resources and capacity; (b) there is a demand for learning Chinese language and culture in the applicant's jurisdiction; and (c) the applicant is in a stable financial position.
- A newly established CI receives a funding injection from China, with subsequent costs typically shared by China and the host institution. The amount of funding in SDs 43 and 36 is not known.

DISCUSSION:

s.13

CONCLUSION:

s.13

Program ADM/Branch: Paul Squires, International Education
Program Contact (for content): Brian Jonker
Drafter: Geoffrey MacDonald
Date: December 11, 2017

List of Confucius Institutes in partnership with Institutes and School Districts in Canada

Quebec -Dawson College

Quebec - The University of Sherbrook

Halifax – Saint Mary’s University

Ottawa – Carleton University

Ontario – Brock University

Ontario - McMaster University

Ontario – University of Windsor

New Brunswick- University of Waterloo

BC – BCIT

BC - SD 43 Coquitlam

Alberta - Edmonton Public School Board – largest School Board in Alberta

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE) received a “Confucius Institute of the Year” award at the 6th Confucius Institute Conference held in Beijing in December 2011.

The award was accepted on behalf of the CIE and its host (Edmonton Public Schools), by Superintendent Edgar Schmidt.

The award recognized the work of the CIE in supporting and promoting Chinese language and culture education in schools, universities and for the general public. This work combined teacher training, cultural education, language resource support and the provision for over 1200 candidates per year for internationally recognized Chinese language assessments. The CIE also currently supports 14 Confucius Classrooms in 14 Edmonton Public Schools where 3000 students are learning the Chinese language.

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: December 2, 2019 11:24 AM
To: Duerksen, Dave EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Chinese education program running in Canadian schools - QUICK RESPONSE IF POSSIBLE

Importance: High

Hi Dave,

We received the following questions from Shawn. He's asking for a quick response.

I'm not certain about the parameters of the Ministry's powers with regard to the School Act. Can you (someone from your team) provide a response to the first question in relation to employing teachers and also have a look at my responses below in green to see if they are accurate?

Let me know if you require further information.

Thanks.
Dwayne

I hope this message finds you well. s.13

s.13

s.13; s.17

Thanks in advance,

Shawn

Shawn T. McMullin

He/him/his

Director of Professional Excellence and Outreach

Sector Policy & Performance Branch

Governance and Analytics Division

Ministry of Education

Phone: (604) 655-5729

From: Alice Kedves 2018 <s.22 >

Sent: December 1, 2019 4:05 PM

To: Matthew Cooke s.22 >

Cc: BCTC EDUC:EX <BCTC@gov.bc.ca>; Carolyn Broady <cbroady@bcsta.org>; cbroady <CBroady@wvschools.ca>; Janine Fraser <jjfraser74@gmail.com>; Jatinder Bis.22 >; Jay Dixon <jdixon@sd85.bc.ca>; Jim Iker <s.22 >; Jo Chrona <jchrona@fnesc.ca>; John Hall, s.22 >;

motownmarj s.22 >; Peter Van Huizen s.22 >; Postings, Shelaina EDUC:EX <Shelaina.Postings@gov.bc.ca>; Ralf St. Clair <rstclair@uvic.ca>; Rebecca Blais.22 s.22 >; Terry Berting s.22 >; Tom Longridge <tlongridge@sd79.bc.ca>;

McMullin, Shawn EDUC:EX <Shawn.McMullin@gov.bc.ca>; Dunham, Frank EDUC:EX <Frank.Dunham@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Chinese education program running in Canadian schools

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/confucius-institute-schools-funding-1.5370858>

I was just reading about this program, and noted that it is running in school districts. Many districts around Canada are pulling out due to concerns from CSIS and influencing curriculum- but what made me take note is that the Chinese government are sending Chinese teachers to teach the program and the Chinese government are paying the teachers not the School Districts. In effect the school districts are allowing non-Canadian or BC certified teachers to teach in BC schools.

Thoughts?

Alice

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 19, 2020 12:11 PM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Draft IN for review

Hi Marnie.

I spoke with Craig briefly this morning and let him know that we don't have anything new on this issue. I looked at the IN and I don't there's anything to add.

Dwayne

From: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2020 11:59 AM
To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Draft IN for review

I've reviewed...is there anything further you think we should add?

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 19, 2020 9:42 AM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Fillion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>; Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Draft IN for review

Hi Marnie,

I have drafted an IN re the SD 43 Confucius issue. I am not sure what else we would say so please add to this as needed.

Would be great to have this back for Wednesday afternoon.

Thank you,

Craig Sorochan
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Education
250-208-9130

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX
Sent: September 13, 2019 3:29 PM
To: O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX
Cc: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: For Review _ D4381218A IBN - 198468 - Confucius Institutes in BC - 20171215.pdf

Thanks for the chance to review, no concerns on my part. .
Cheers.

Sean Leslie
Communications Manager
Ministry of Education
Office: 250 356-8485
Cell: 250 893 4403

From: O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX
Sent: September 13, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX
Cc: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Subject: For Review _ D4381218A IBN - 198468 - Confucius Institutes in BC - 20171215.pdf

Hi both,
I noticed that the appendix referenced in the BN is not in Eapps.
I attached a copy, found in CLIFF, should you need to reference it.

From: O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX
Sent: September 13, 2019 12:10 PM
To: Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX <Sean.Leslie@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Dwayne EDUC:EX Cover (<Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>) <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: For Review _ D4381218A IBN - 198468 - Confucius Institutes in BC - 20171215.pdf

Hi Sean,
Following your earlier conversation with Dwayne regarding this subject, please see the attached documents for your review.
Thank you.
Jacqui.

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 21, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: IN for updating

Hi Craig. Hope all is going well.

For the Confucius IN, we have reviewed and there are no additions or other changes at this time. Marnie has approved.

For the IE IN, there are quite a few changes so we will have it back to you by Friday. Is EOD okay?

Dwayne

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2020 1:29 PM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>; Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: IN for updating

Hi,

We'll need the Confucius one tomorrow for our transition binder on Friday.

The International Students is less urgent and can be for Friday or Monday if possible.

Thanks,

Craig Sorochan
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Education
250-208-9130

From: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2020 1:27 PM
To: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>; Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: IN for updating

Thanks Craig,

Dwayne – can you please review and update as appropriate, then forward to me for sharing out.

When do you need this back by Craig?

Marnie

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 21, 2020 9:55 AM

To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>; Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>; Fillion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Fillion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: IN for updating

Hi,

I have highlighted some of the bullets in the attached note re international students that need updating. Do we some updates on how things have unfolded for international students?

Thanks,

Craig Sorochan

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Ministry of Education

250-208-9130

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 6, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Hi Marnie. To the best of my knowledge, nothing further that is publicly available to point to.

Basically, it is at the discretion of the district to enter into partnerships.

Thanks.
Dwayne

From: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 6, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Please advise if there is anything further we can add Dwayne...thanks.

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX <Craig.Sorochan@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 6, 2020 8:48 AM
To: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>; Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Hi Keith,

We have a media request in but we are not able to respond as per usual times because of the writ. We can point the reporter to pertinent info online.

I have inserted a link to the School Act. Is there anything further we can point to? Otherwise, I will send to Scott M. for approval.

Thanks,

Craig Sorochan
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Education
250-208-9130

Subject: EDUC Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Reporter : Nathaniel Vanderklippe, Globe and Mail - Beijing
NVanderklippe@globeandmail.com

Request: I'm a Beijing-based reporter with the Globe and Mail.

I'm preparing an article based on documents sent to me from an access to information request. The documents include emails and the text of agreements between School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) and the Confucius Institute.

The documents show that:

- The Confucius Institute has provided resources toward the bilingual programs at Walton Elementary School, Scott Creek Middle School and at least five secondary schools with bilingual programs (i.e., the Confucius Institute is involved with core educational programming, rather than simply after-school programming)
- SD43 has agreed to terms by which its Confucius Institute "must accept the assessment of the Headquarters on the teaching quality," giving Beijing a final say in instructional matters on Canadian soil
- Schools at SD43 have, in agreements to establish Confucius Classrooms, agreed to terms by which they are obligated "to apply to the Headquarters for a certain number of Chinese instructors and/or volunteers according to the needs of the Confucius Classroom." This would suggest that Beijing is involved in screening or selecting instructional staff for programming in Canada.
- Staff from the Chinese consulate have been included in Confucius Institute board discussions
- SD43 has agreed to terms by which its Confucius Institute can be terminated if it "severely harms the image and reputation of the Confucius Institute."
- The agreement stipulates that the Confucius Institute must respect Chinese law and "cultural custom," in addition to Canadian rules and mores.

My questions:

- Is the ministry aware that the Confucius Institute is involved with the bilingual programs at schools in SD43? Superintendent Patricia Gartland, in a Nov. 12, 2017 email, said these programs were "instituted with the support of the Confucius Institute." Does the ministry approve of the involvement of foreign government-backed programs/institutes in provincial classrooms?
- Does the ministry support the granting of rights of final teaching assessment to Beijing with regard to educational offerings delivered at provincial schools?
- Does the ministry support the involvement of the Chinese government in selecting and funding teachers who deliver instruction at provincial schools?
- Does the ministry believe it is acceptable for Chinese diplomats to participate in board meetings for the Confucius Institute?
- Is the ministry concerned that SD43 has signed contracts preventing it from conduct that could harm the Confucius Institute reputation, while subjecting provincial classrooms to Chinese standards of law and "cultural custom"? Are these agreements compatible with the academic freedoms and other liberties excepted in provincial schools?
- Does the ministry believe it is acceptable for the Confucius Institutes to continue to operate in B.C.?
- What, if anything, has the ministry done to ensure Confucius Institutes are not, as the U.S. State Department has recently said, used to advance "Beijing's global propaganda and malign influence campaign."

If there's anywhere I'm not clear, please let me know.

Recommendation: Send this response from the Ministry of Education:

Thank you for your request.

During the election period, all Government of B.C. communications are limited to health and public safety information, as well as statutory requirements.

All school districts in B.C. must abide by the School Act:

https://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96412_00

Deadline Thursday, October 8, 2020 12:00 PM

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 7, 2019 1:07 PM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX
Subject: Re: New IN

Sure, Marnie. Will pull previous version IBN and review for our 1:1 tomorrow if that works.

Thanks.
Dwayne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 7, 2019, at 12:54 PM, Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Dwayne...we already have an IBN prepared as I recall...can you please resend but have a quick review first to ensure it speaks to Keith's point below. I believe it does but am going on my memory of reviewing it a few weeks ago.

Thanks,
Marnie

From: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX
Sent: October 7, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX <Marnie.Mayhew@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX <Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: New IN

For the MO, can you please prepare an information note on the Confucius institute... should describe degree of presence, impact, issues, etc. Draft to me next week please.

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 18, 2019 10:07 AM
To: Angela Olson
Subject: RE: Quick call tmrw (Fri)?

Hi Angela,

Just a quick note to say thanks again for your time and thanks for putting me in touch with Daniel. We had a quick chat this morning and I don't think I'll need to bother you again on this one.

s.22 and I'm sure I'll connect with you again soon.

s.22

Dwayne

From: Angela Olson
Sent: October 18, 2019 12:31 AM
To: Daniel To
Cc: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Subject: Re: Quick call tmrw (Fri)?

Thanks, Daniel!

Angela Olson
Manager, International Education
Surrey Schools

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2019, at 3:51 PM, Daniel To <to_d@surreyschools.ca> wrote:

Hi Angela and Dwayne

Angela has described it perfectly. We are no longer associated with BCIT's Confucius Institute. Even while we were associated, we only offered for credit Mandarin 11 and Mandarin 12 with a B.C. Certified Teacher.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards,

Daniel

Daniel To | District Principal | Education Services | Surrey Schools
M 778.772.4992 | O 604.595.6436 | F 604.595.6400 | T @DanielToSD36

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the shared traditional territory of the Katzie, Semiahmoo and other Coast Salish Peoples where I work, play and learn.

<http://educationservicesschool.ca>

<http://surreysummer.ca>

Blog found at <https://www.drdanielto.com/blog>

From: Angela Olson <olson_angela@surreyschools.ca>
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 11:06:05 PM
To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Daniel To <to_d@surreyschools.ca>
Subject: Re: Quick call tmrw (Fri)?

Hi Dwayne!

To my knowledge, the Confucius Classroom used to run in Surrey under a signed agreement with BCIT (who I believe is/was? considered a Confucius Institute). I understand that contract between Surrey and BCIT is long expired. So while we still continue to offer a for-credit Mandarin language class, it's not Confucius. I am copying this to Dr. Daniel To who is the District Principal that this fell under to confirm if I captured this correctly.

Thanks Dwayne!

Angela

Angela Olson
Manager, International Education
Surrey Schools

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 18, 2019, at 2:57 PM, Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca> wrote:
>
> Hi Angela. Thanks for getting back to me^{s.22}
s.22
>
> I just had a quick question about the Confucius classroom that I believe used to run in Surrey SD. Don't require much detail so if you're comfortable providing by email, that's great.
>
> I was just wondering if it is still going in the district. And if not, when the end date was.
>
> Again, if email works, great. If better to chat by phone, let me know.
>
> Thanks for the time^{s.22}
>
> Dwayne
>
>
>

>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
>> On Oct 17, 2019, at 9:44 PM, Angela Olson <olson_angela@surreyschools.ca> wrote:
>>
>> s.22
>>
>> I am sure we can connect at some point. Happy to chat !
>>
>>
>> Angela Olson
>> Manager, International Education
>> Surrey Schools
>>
>> Sent from my iPhone
>>
>>>> On Oct 18, 2019, at 8:55 AM, Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca> wrote:
>>>>
>>>> Hi Angela,
>>>>
>>>> Hope all's going well for you.
>>>>
>>>> I'm wondering if you have time for a quick call tomorrow morning (Friday)? Shouldn't take too long (10mins or less).
>>>>
>>>> Alternatively, if you are currently out of country or otherwise unavailable, I've Cc-ed Danielle if she's available.
>>>>
>>>> Let me know if there's a time that works.
>>>>
>>>> Thanks very much.
>>>>
>>>> Dwayne
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> Sent from my iPhone

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: October 6, 2020 12:24 PM
To: Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX
Subject: RE: TIME SENSITIVE - Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Thanks, Nell! And thanks for the time on the call earlier today. Will keep you posted.

Dwayne

From: Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX <Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 6, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Duerksen, Dave EDUC:EX <Dave.Duerksen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: TIME SENSITIVE - Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Hi Dwayne,

The relevant section is 86(1). Suggest response along the lines of:

- Suggest they talk with the Board
- The Board is responsible for making its own decisions on these matters under Section 86 of the *School Act*.

Thanks.

Nell

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX <Dwayne.Cover@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 6, 2020 9:54 AM
To: Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX <Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE - Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius
Importance: High

Hi Nell. Hope your morning is going well!

GCPE has a media request regarding SD43 and their relationships with the Confucius Institute. Given that we are in interregnum, GCPE is only going to provide what is publicly available as opposed to a tailored response. Craig is going to include a link to the School Act.

Is there a specific section of the School Act that speaks to the autonomy of boards/districts in establishing their own partnerships? Any other relevant sections would be helpful as well.

Thanks!

Dwayne

Subject: EDUC Media Request: Coquitlam and Confucius

Reporter : Nathaniel Vanderklippe, Globe and Mail - Beijing
NVanderklippe@globeandmail.com

Request: I'm a Beijing-based reporter with the Globe and Mail.

I'm preparing an article based on documents sent to me from an access to information request. The documents include emails and the text of agreements between School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) and the Confucius Institute.

The documents show that:

- The Confucius Institute has provided resources toward the bilingual programs at Walton Elementary School, Scott Creek Middle School and at least five secondary schools with bilingual programs (i.e., the Confucius Institute is involved with core educational programming, rather than simply after-school programming)
- SD43 has agreed to terms by which its Confucius Institute "must accept the assessment of the Headquarters on the teaching quality," giving Beijing a final say in instructional matters on Canadian soil
- Schools at SD43 have, in agreements to establish Confucius Classrooms, agreed to terms by which they are obligated "to apply to the Headquarters for a certain number of Chinese instructors and/or volunteers according to the needs of the Confucius Classroom." This would suggest that Beijing is involved in screening or selecting instructional staff for programming in Canada.
- Staff from the Chinese consulate have been included in Confucius Institute board discussions
- SD43 has agreed to terms by which its Confucius Institute can be terminated if it "severely harms the image and reputation of the Confucius Institute."
- The agreement stipulates that the Confucius Institute must respect Chinese law and "cultural custom," in addition to Canadian rules and mores.

My questions:

- Is the ministry aware that the Confucius Institute is involved with the bilingual programs at schools in SD43? Superintendent Patricia Gartland, in a Nov. 12, 2017 email, said these programs were "instituted with the support of the Confucius Institute." Does the ministry approve of the involvement of foreign government-backed programs/institutes in provincial classrooms?
- Does the ministry support the granting of rights of final teaching assessment to Beijing with regard to educational offerings delivered at provincial schools?
- Does the ministry support the involvement of the Chinese government in selecting and funding teachers who deliver instruction at provincial schools?
- Does the ministry believe it is acceptable for Chinese diplomats to participate in board meetings for the Confucius Institute?
- Is the ministry concerned that SD43 has signed contracts preventing it from conduct that could harm the Confucius Institute reputation, while subjecting provincial classrooms to Chinese standards of law and "cultural custom"? Are these agreements compatible with the academic freedoms and other liberties expected in provincial schools?
- Does the ministry believe it is acceptable for the Confucius Institutes to continue to operate in B.C.?
- What, if anything, has the ministry done to ensure Confucius Institutes are not, as the U.S. State Department has recently said, used to advance "Beijing's global propaganda and malign influence campaign."

If there's anywhere I'm not clear, please let me know.

Recommendation: Send this response from the Ministry of Education:
Thank you for your request.

During the election period, all Government of B.C. communications are limited to health and public safety information, as well as statutory requirements.

All school districts in B.C. must abide by the School Act:

https://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96412_00

Deadline Thursday, October 8, 2020 12:00 PM

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Sent: October 15, 2020 12:13 PM
To: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX

Beijing uses B.C. schools to push agenda

Globe and Mail

Thursday, October 15, 2020

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By Nathan Vanderklippe

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O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Sent: September 18, 2019 9:59 AM
To: Duerksen, Dave EDUC:EX
Subject: NB Ministry of Education Decision re: Confucius Institute

Hi Dave,

Hope all is going well.

Thanks again for your time yesterday. Find link below for the CBC story on NB Ministry of Education decision.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/confucius-institute-programs-china-school-1.5259963>

Dwayne

O'Callaghan, Jacqueline EDUC:EX

From: Sorochan, Craig GCPE:EX
Sent: October 21, 2020 9:48 AM
To: Mayhew, Marnie EDUC:EX; Cover, Dwayne EDUC:EX
Subject: FYI

FYI – Globe article of note.

Universities, school boards across Canada defend ties with China's Confucius Institute
Globe and Mail
Wednesday, October 21, 2020

By Wendy Stueck & Xiao Xu
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