CMEC: Canadian Higher Education and Regulatory Bodies - Developing Capacities for Enhanced Portability and Digitization

PESC Data Summit, Fall 2019
Connecting the dots between mobility and credential recognition
Background information

- education in Canada
- about CMEC, CICIC, and ACESC
- international treaties
- teaching regulatory bodies
Responsibilities over education

- Education and the Constitution of Canada
- 21 ministries/departments responsible for education in Canada
- Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC)
## About CMEC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>when</th>
<th>• 1967</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>where</td>
<td>• Toronto, Canada</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| who | • all 13 provinces and territories are members  
 • a Chair is elected every two years |
| why | • forum for consultation and cooperation  
 • instrument for international representation |
| what | • leadership in education at the pan-Canadian and international levels |

Source: CMEC. [About us](#).
### About CICIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>when</th>
<th>• 1990</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>where</td>
<td>• unit of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who</td>
<td>• individuals, assessors, employers, others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| why | • international treaties  
• provincial/territorial government service |
| what | • information and referral services  
• improve consistency and capacity |

Source: CICIC. [About us](#).
Assessor.CICIC.ca
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>when</th>
<th>• periodic reviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>where</td>
<td>• Canada — public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who</td>
<td>• governance in assessment services and recognition bodies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| why  | • greater consistency of assessment outcomes  
|      | • support portability of assessments between organizations |
| what | • 54 guiding principles  
|      | • policy tool for organizations |

Source: CICIC. *Pan-Canadian Quality Assurance Framework for the Assessment of International Academic Credentials* (QAF).
Canada

- Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada (ACESC)
### About ACESC (cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>when</th>
<th>• mid-1990s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| where | • 4 public (AB, BC, ON, QC)  
      | • 2 private (ON, ON)  |
| who  | • 6 assessment services |
| why  | • document authentication and comparability  
      | • support competent recognition bodies in Canada |
| what | • expert, non-binding opinions  
      | • +260,000 assessment reports issued in 2017 |
International treaties (cont’d)

Europe

1979 Convention
• ratified in 1990

1997 Convention
• ratified in 2018

International treaties (cont’d)

2019 Global Convention

- UNESCO 40th Session of the General Conference, November 2019

Source: CICIC’s Web site.
Assessment and recognition in Canada

- recognition and assessment bodies
  - immigration
    - federal and provincial governments
  - further studies
    - universities
    - colleges
  - employment
    - regulatory authorities and associations
    - employers
Interdependencies

- study
- postsecondary institution
- professional certification
- professional regulatory body
- employer
- labour market
- skilled labour immigration
Interdependencies (cont’d)

- Consistency in assessment
- Trust between assessors

= Portability
Professional certification

- study
- postsecondary institution
- professional certification
- professional regulatory body
- labour market
- employer

skilled labour immigration
Professional certification (cont’d)

Canada

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement
- Fairness Commissioners

Source: Forum of Labour Market Ministers, Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
Considerations

Sector
- Reform through voluntary measures
- Efficiencies through higher processing volume (e.g., consistency, expertise)
- Assessment versus recognition (e.g., outsourcing assessment)

Institution
- Autonomy
- Capacity of smaller institutions
- Reduction in available resources
Criteria and procedures (cont’d)

- level
- workload
- quality
- profile
- learning outcomes

Source: CICIC. Compare the academic credential to those found in Canada.
Considerations

Sector
- Promoting the use of common criteria and procedures
- Shared resources and training

Institution
- Governance
- IT: system to collect precedents
- HR: change management and limited resources
Assessment community in Canada

postsecondary institution

professional regulatory body

employer

skilled labour immigration

University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies

ICAS

ICES

IQAS

WES

Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials