



Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board
Commission d'évaluation de la qualité de l'éducation postsecondaire

9th Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay St
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Tel (416) 325-1686
Fax (416) 325-1711

9^e étage, édifice Mowat
900, rue Bay
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Tél (416) 325-1686
Télééc (416) 325-1711

November 12, 2002
The Honourable Dianne Cunningham
Minister, Training, Colleges and Universities
Government of Ontario
Mowat Block, 3rd Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister:

Re: Applied Degree Programs in the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology

Pursuant to section 5 of the *Post-Secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000*, and under the terms of the pilot project for applied degrees for Ontario's Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology, you forwarded 30 proposed applied degree programs from the Colleges in the second round of the project for the Board's review and recommendation. The Board began to consider the second round applications in the context of your letter of October 18, 2001, in which you requested the Board to initiate a competitive process as part of the pilot project to offer applied degrees in Ontario colleges and to recommend up to 12 programs. That instruction was amended by a letter dated October 21, 2002 in which you asked the Board to recommend "all of those programs beyond twelve that meet or can be revised to meet the Board's criteria and standards within a short period of time."

In response, the Board met on October 22 to identify programs where additional information, clarifications or very minor revisions could be made in a brief time to enable the proposals to meet the Board's standards. Having identified those programs, the Board instructed the Secretariat to contact the colleges involved to secure additional information, clarifications or minor revisions. Additional information was not sought in cases where either the required revisions would necessitate expert assessment or could not be addressed within a short period of time. In its meeting of November 4, 2002, the Board completed its review of the applications for ministerial consent to offer applied degree programs and formulated the recommendations contained in this letter.

Overview

During the entire pilot project, 52 applications were referred to the Board. With 12 programs in the first round and 23 in the second, a total of 35 programs have been recommended for consent. This high number indicates the capacity of the colleges to design and deliver good quality applied degree programs.

Of the 22 programs submitted in the first round, 6 were resubmitted in the second round. Four others that were not recommended in the first round, or resubmitted in the second round, require a recommendation from the Board. Accordingly, the Board is now recommending that those four programs not be granted Ministerial consent.

Following an extensive review of all 30 applications, the advice from expert panels and responses from applicant colleges, the Board decided on November 4, 2002 to recommend that:

- 23 of the proposed programs be granted Ministerial consent, and
- 7 of the proposed programs not be granted Ministerial consent.

The programs are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

Clarification of Board Standards

In several instances the Board's standards used the words "normally" and "appropriately." In the process of considering second round applications, the Board concluded that variations among the submissions on three requirements were too great and that the Board needed to clarify its minimum expectations as part of the process. The Board strongly recommends that the clarifications be made a condition of consent:

Benchmark 2.6: Admissions, Promotions and Graduation Requirements

Admission requirements are appropriate to the learning outcome goals of the program and the Applied Degree Level Standard, including OSSD or equivalent, 6 University or University/College courses at the grade 12 level, a minimum average of 65%, and additional requirements as required by programs.

Promotion/graduation requirements are appropriate to the learning outcome goals of the program and the Applied Degree Level Standard, including a minimum average of C+ (or equivalent) in courses in the main field of study and an average of C (or equivalent) in all other courses.

Benchmarks 4.3 and 4.4(a): Faculty Qualifications Policy

4.3 The applicant submits curriculum vitae of its faculty members demonstrating that faculty possess (a) advanced academic credentials (normally the terminal academic credential in the field) plus (b) any required or desired professional credentials and/or related work experience of substantial depth and range.

4.4(a) The applicant submits its policy on the academic/professional credentials required for hiring full-time continuing faculty teaching in a degree program, including at a minimum a requirement for at least one degree higher than a baccalaureate in a field of study related to the subject to be taught, all exceptions to be (a) justified in writing, (b) based on the absence of a related program credential in a university or other extraordinary circumstances, and (c) approved by the President in the spirit of the board's capacity to deliver standard.

Board Recommendations

1. That, based on
 - the applicant's submission;
 - findings of the Quality Assessment Panel appointed by the Board to assess this program against the Board's standards and benchmarks for an applied degree and the conditions for the pilot project set by the Minister,
 - the applicant's written response to the panel's report,
 - additional materials and commitments provided by the applicant to the Board, and
 - the Board's own assessment,the Board recommends the programs listed in Table 1 for Ministerial consent subject to the condition that the program be consistent or be made consistent with the Board's clarification of its requirements pertaining to Benchmarks 2.6, 4.3, and 4.4 (a).
2. That consent be granted to Cambrian College to offer a Bachelor of Technology (Science and Technology Education) also on the condition that changes to Regulation 184/97 will enable students graduating from the program to be eligible for admission into teacher certification programs.
3. That the terms and conditions of Ministerial consent for both rounds of the pilot project include the Board's clarifications of its minimum standards as outlined above; and

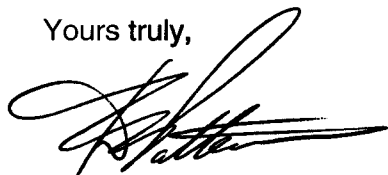
That colleges receiving consents should file with the Colleges Branch, no later than June 30, 2003, copies of all policies demonstrating conformity with these standards for reference when the programs are reviewed for renewed Ministerial consent.

4. THAT, based on:
 - the applicant's submission;
 - findings of the Quality Assessment Panel appointed by the Board to assess this program against the Board's standards and benchmarks for an applied degree and the conditions for the pilot project set by the Minister,
 - the applicant's written response to the panel's report,
 - additional materials and commitments provided by the applicant to the Board,
 - the Board's own assessment,the Board recommends that the programs listed in Table 2 not be granted Ministerial consent.

Finally, I would like to mention that Board members spent a considerable amount of time on these proposals, comparing them carefully and systematically against the Board's standards and benchmarks and against one another. The Board met weekly when necessary. I want to underline my personal gratitude for the remarkable diligence, dedication and commitment shown by the members.

I also want to convey my gratitude and that of other Board members for the tireless and thoroughly professional work of the Secretariat in supporting the Board. We could not have completed this task without the expertise and insight of Dr. Donald N. Baker and his senior policy advisors, Ann Dean, Dr. Suzanne Gordon, Dr. Virginia Hatchette, and Dr. Terry Miosi.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Patterson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dale Patterson
Chair

cc Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board
Kevin Costante, Deputy Minister
Jessica Hill, Assistant Deputy Minister
Janet Hope, Director, Colleges Branch

TABLE 1: PROGRAMS RECOMMENDED FOR MINISTERIAL CONSENT

Algonquin	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Photonics) [joint program with Niagara]
Cambrian	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Science and Technological Education) [with condition re regulation]
Centennial	Bachelor of Applied Business (Integrated Accounting and Information Technology Management)
	Bachelor of Applied Information Sciences (Software Systems – Design, Development, and Management)
La Cité Collégiale	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Biotechnologie)
Conestoga	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Architecture – Project and Facility Management)
	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Advanced Manufacturing Technologies – Wood and Composite Products)
Confederation-Negahneewin	Bachelor of Human Services (Indigenous Leadership and Community Development)
Fanshawe	Bachelor of Applied Arts (Integrated Land Planning Technologies)
George Brown	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Construction and Environment - Regulation and Compliance)
	Bachelor of Applied Business (Hospitality Operations Management) [joint program with Niagara]
Humber	Bachelor of Applied Business (Manufacturing Management)
	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Industrial Design)
Lambton	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Environmental Health and Safety)
	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Instrumentation and Control)
Loyalist	Bachelor of Applied Arts (Human Services Management)
Mohawk	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Internet Systems)
	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Technology Management)
Niagara	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Photonics) [joint program with Algonquin]
	Bachelor of Applied Business (Hospitality Operations Management) [joint program with George Brown]
Seneca	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Software Development)
	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Flight Program)
Sir Sandford Fleming	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Environmental Assessment and Management)
St. Clair	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Industrial Management)
St. Lawrence	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Microelectronics)

TABLE 2: PROGRAMS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR MINISTERIAL CONSENT

First Round	
Cambrian	Bachelor of Applied Arts (American Sign Language – English Interpreter)
Canadore	Bachelor of Applied Business (Hospitality Administration)
Centennial	Bachelor of Applied Environmental Studies (Integrated Environmental Management)
Sheridan	Bachelor of Applied Information Science (Information Systems Security)
Second Round	
Algonquin	Bachelor of Applied Arts (Interior Design)
Fanshawe	Bachelor of Applied Technology (Biotechnology)
Georgian	Bachelor of Applied Human Services (Police Studies)
Northern	B Bachelor of Applied Technology (Welding)
Sheridan	Bachelor of Applied Health Science (Athletic Therapy)
	Bachelor of Applied Arts (Illustration)
St. Lawrence	Bachelor of Applied Human Services (Behavioural Sciences)