



# COLLEGE OF APPLIED BIOLOGY

Professional Accountability

Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant  
Room 133 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

September 27, 2017

Dear Minister;

On behalf of the members of the College of Applied Biology (the College), I congratulate you on your appointment as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. The mandate of your ministry is critical to ensuring that every citizen of our province has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

As the regulator for over 2,300 Registered Professional Biologists (RPBios), Registered Biology Technologists (RBTechs), and Applied Biology Technicians (ABTs), the College of Applied Biology ensures members provide their professional expertise in study design, data collection, and resource management decisions, policies, and assessments. Applied biology professionals are essential to ensuring that BC's forests and wildlife are managed in a scientifically credible manner.

As noted in your appointment letter, the Premier has given you the challenge of expanding science and technology related programs, and increasing the number of skilled workers in BC's economically important forest resource sector. The College – in partnership with many academic institutions across BC – is already working to achieve this goal by developing an accreditation program which assesses the academic expertise needed to ensure that skilled workers are available in the forest resource sector.

Through these partnerships, the College has assessed and accredited several degree-granting programs to give graduates the assurance that they meet the academic standards for registration as a Registered Professional Biologist. In some cases, the institution has modified their program to ensure that it meets the College's standards. The College has also developed an accreditation mechanism for two-year diploma programs, such as those offered at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. This assures students at these institutions that their program meets the academic standards for registration as a Registered Biology Technologist.

As well, the College has delivered presentations to inform community members of opportunities in applied biology in remote communities such as Kingcome Inlet. Such information sharing can assist individuals in accessing education opportunities that lead to professional designation as a skilled worker in the forest resource sector.



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The College's Executive would be pleased to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how the College of Applied Biology can work with you and your officials to ensure vibrant educational opportunities that lead to good jobs are available across British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Craig, PhD, RPBio  
President, College of Applied Biology  
[www.cab-bc.org](http://www.cab-bc.org)

Cc Hon. George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
Christine Houghton, Executive Director, College of Applied Biology  
Brian Clark, Executive Vice President, College of Applied Biology  
Alexandra Tait, Vice-President, College of Applied Biology