THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC Okanagan Curriculum Proposal Form
Change to Course or Program

Faculty/School: **Department/Unit:** **Faculty/School Approval Date: unknown** **Effective Session: 2009W**	**Date: 23 February 2009** **Contact Persons:** **Lyle Mueller, Director of Indigenization and Internationalization, UBC Okanagan** **250.807.9195** **lyle.mueller@ubc.ca** **&** **Fred Vogt, Associate Registrar** **250.807.9201** **fred.vogt@ubc.ca**
Proposed Calendar Entry: **Canadian Aboriginal Applicants** The University of British Columbia is dedicated to making the University's vast resources more accessible to Aboriginal people, and to improving the University's ability to meet their educational needs. The University recognizes that Aboriginal students make valuable contributions to its learning environment and therefore invites inquiries and applications from Aboriginal candidates to its many and diverse fields of study. UBC may consider applicants who do not meet the current competitive admission cut-off set by the individual faculties and schools, but who meet the University-wide	**Draft Calendar URL:** http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/calendar/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,14,0,0 **Note:** the text below as approved by the Okanagan Senate 2009 02 11 as is pending Calendar entry. **Present Calendar Entry:** **Canadian Aboriginal Applicants** The University of British Columbia is dedicated to making the University's vast resources more accessible to Aboriginal people, and to improving the University's ability to meet their educational needs. The University recognizes that Aboriginal students make valuable contributions to its learning environment and therefore invites inquiries and applications from Aboriginal candidates to its many and diverse fields of study. UBC may consider applicants who do not meet the current competitive admission cut-off set by the individual faculties and schools, but who meet the University-wide academic minimum of 67% for first-year

academic minimum of 67% for first-year programs, or a grade point average of 2.0 (calculated on a 4.0-point scale) for applicants applying from a recognized post-secondary institution. Applicants must also satisfy program pre-requisites set by the individual faculties and schools. **UBC Okanagan may also consider Aboriginal applicants for first-year programs who have completed and passed at least 18 credits of post-secondary coursework with a minimum grade of (60% or "C") in each course. 12 credits of this coursework must be from UBC Okanagan courses, of which three credits must be from either Engl. 112 or Engl. 114. Applicants must also satisfy program pre-requisites and admission requirements set by the individual faculties and schools.** To be considered under this admission category, applicants must complete an Aboriginal Supplemental Application in addition to the application for admission to UBC. Applicants will be considered on an individual basis by the applicable faculty or school in consultation with a representative of UBC Okanagan Aboriginal Programs and Services. Achievements that indicate an ability to succeed at university such as educational history, cultural knowledge, community participation, work experience, and educational goals will be considered. For the purpose of application and admission to UBC Okanagan, and in accordance with the *Constitution Act, 1982*, Part II, Section 35(2), being Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (U.K.), 1982, c. 11, an Aboriginal applicant is an Indian, Inuit, or Métis person of Canada.	programs, or a grade point average of 2.0 (calculated on a 4.0-point scale) for applicants applying from a recognized post-secondary institution. Applicants must also satisfy program pre-requisites set by the individual faculties and schools. To be considered under this admission category, applicants must complete an Aboriginal Supplemental Application in addition to the application for admission to UBC. Applicants will be considered on an individual basis by the applicable faculty or school in consultation with a representative of UBC Okanagan Aboriginal Programs and Services. Achievements that indicate an ability to succeed at university such as educational history, cultural knowledge, community participation, work experience, and educational goals will be considered. For the purpose of application and admission to UBC Okanagan, and in accordance with the *Constitution Act, 1982*, Part II, Section 35(2), being Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (U.K.), 1982, c. 11, an Aboriginal applicant is an Indian, Inuit, or Métis person of Canada. **Type of Action:** Add to the current policy for admission of Canadian Aboriginal applicants to UBCO first-year degree programs.

	Rationale: The proposed addition to the admission policy will allow first-year degree program applications from Aboriginal students who have demonstrated their academic ability to be the equivalent of high school applicants by successfully completing the more rigorous than high school equivalent of at least four UBCO courses. 1. The present policy indicates that Canadian Aboriginal applicants from high school or other post-secondary institutions may be eligible for direct admission to a degree program if they meet university basic admission requirements but do not meet competitive cut-offs. 2. The BC Student Transitions Project Highlights published in June of 2006 made note of three important pieces of information: • There were 182 Aboriginal high school graduates in the Okanagan region in 2003/04. This was the largest population outside of the lower mainland. • Students who live in regions where there is only one university will tend to attend that institution. • Transition to university of Aboriginal high school students in the Okanagan region is among the lowest rate in BC. 3. One of the most significant barriers to participation of Aboriginal students in post-secondary education is the need to qualify with academic course grades. • Approximately 35% of Aboriginal students graduate from grade 12. • The BC Student Transitions Project Highlights published in June of 2006 points out that "in terms of secondary school grades, 84% of Aboriginal graduates (versus 56% of all 2003/04 graduates) had insufficient academic course grades to calculate their academic

	GPA." • Approximately 94% of Aboriginal students are not eligible for admission to UBCO using the current admission policy. The proposed addition to this admission policy will provide an opportunity for access to UBCO first-year degree programs for this large group of Aboriginal students. In addition, those Aboriginal students who apply for admission to UBCO using the Canadian Aboriginal Admission policy and are denied admission on this basis will have an alternative which will allow them to demonstrate their academic skills and earn admission to UBCO programs.