



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Admissions Procedure Addition

To: Curriculum and Program Review Committee

From: Joe Stokes, Associate Registrar, Enrolment Services

Re: Indigenous Admissions Practice

Date: September 2017

Motion

That CPRC approve the indigenous admissions practice as presented, to be effected for the September 2018 admissions cycle.

More universities are creating equity admissions practices for Indigenous students in Canada. Indigenous people represent the fastest growing demographic in Canada, but are the most underrepresented segment in university enrolments. The National Centre of Truth and Reconciliation recommends the development of a strategy to end the education gap between Indigenous peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians. The proposed admissions practice could help in developing greater equity in undergraduate admissions, and allow for more Indigenous students at the university.

Current practice

To be admitted to UOIT, students need to meet the minimum admissions requirements set by each Faculty. These requirements outline specific prerequisite courses by academic discipline, with a minimum overall average of 70%. As most programs at the university require an admissions average above the base requirement, indigenous students, who often present lower grade point averages, are often inadmissible to the university.

Proposed practice

Adopted largely from the Indigenous admissions policy that covers all academic disciplines at the University of British Columbia (UBC), and in concordance with many other access admissions policies in Canada, the Registrar's office proposes the following for consideration:

A student who has self-identified as Indigenous, who does not meet the competitive GPA for admission, but who still meets a minimum 70% high school grade point average, may apply to have a separate assessment conducted by a committee which includes a member from the Faculty of application, the Admissions office and the Indigenous Education and Cultural Services office (IECS). The committee will consider student history, cultural knowledge, work experience, educational goals, and other achievements in delivering a recommendation for admissibility.

N.B. This proposed practice is in concordance with other equity admissions procedures, such as admissions consideration for students with disabilities, or extenuating circumstances already in place at the university.

CC. Brad MacIsaac, AVP Planning and Registrar