

2022 Board Meeting of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam

The board meeting of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam was successfully held at 6:30 pm, on June 15, 2022. The Confucius Institute in Coquitlam was hosted jointly by School District 43 of British Columbia (SD 43) and South China Normal University (SCNU). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Zoom on-line meeting was utilized for the meeting this year. The Chinese attendees to this meeting were: Zhong Min Yang, Chinese Board Chair of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam and Vice President of South China Normal University; Wei Hong Tan, Director of Confucius Institute Administration Office of South China Normal University; Hong Lei Qin, Deputy Director of Confucius Institute Administration Office of SCNU; Wei Ying Jiang, Vice Principal of Affiliated Elementary School of SCNU and Bing Sun, Chinese Director of CIC. The Canadian attendees were: Patricia Gartland, Canadian Board Chair of CIC and Superintendent of School District 43; Geoffrey Johnston, Principal of International Education of School District 43; Shawn Silverstone, Director of International marketing and Recruitment of School District 43; Douglas Lee; Director of International Marketing and Recruitment of School District 43; Wei Li, Director of CIC and Winsey Choi, Program Coordinator of CIC. Wei Hong Tan was the moderator for this meeting.

During the meeting, the board chairs from both sides gave warm greetings. Superintendent Patricia Gartland expressed her deep appreciation and recognition for the strong and long-time support from SCNU to Chinese language programs, on-line resource development and Chinese teacher training program of Confucius Institute in Coquitlam. She explained the achievements Confucius Institute made to provide the support to Chinese language programs of School District 43. This year, the first group of students from Chinese Bilingual Program will graduate from high school and this is the historical moment for K-12 Chinese bilingual program. At the same time, Patricia Gartland also mentioned that her past China trips had left her deep impression and good memories, especially her visit to the classrooms of the Affiliated Elementary School of South China Normal University.

In the greeting from Zhong Min Yang, Vice President of South China Normal University, he reviewed the history of the partnership between SCNU and SD 43 as well as the achievements made during the past years. President Yang emphasized their strong support to Confucius Institute in Coquitlam. He also introduced the programs and achievements of South China Normal University in their curriculum development and best practices. He is looking forward to further cooperation between the two institutions and enhancing the exchanging programs between China and Canada. He said that SCNU sincerely welcomes Superintendent Patricia Gartland, leaders, teachers and students of SD 43 to visit his university when the opportunity comes.

At the board meeting, Winsey Choi, program coordinator of Confucius Institute, presented 2021 financial report of the Confucius Institute. Chinese Director Bing Sun provided a report on CI 2022 budget. Wei Li, director of CI, reported on the highlights of CI projects and events as well as the support to Chinese language & culture programs at the schools and in the community. Then, Wei Ying Jiang, vice principal of Affiliated Elementary School of SCNU, gave an introduction of her school and the major achievements in the integration of the school curriculum and Chinese traditional culture.

During the open discussion, the representatives from both sides exchanged their ideas on the future development of their partnership. They all agreed to develop the school twinning relationship to enhance the basic education of these schools through cooperation. The meeting was ended with the success.

