



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

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May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010

The Honourable John Milloy  
Minister, Training, Colleges and Universities  
900 Bay Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister:

**Re: Application from Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning for consent to offer a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting): Recommendation to Grant Consent**

Pursuant to section 5(1) of the *Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000*, Humber College applied for your consent to offer a Bachelor of Applied Business (Accounting). In accordance with section 5.2 of the Act, the application was referred on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to the Board for its review and recommendation. The Board reviewed the application in accordance with its *Handbook for Ontario Colleges, February 2006*, and gave consideration to the application on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The Board recommended that you grant consent to Humber College and that the consent be subject to certain conditions, including that Humber report on commitments made during the review.

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, you asked the Board for advice on whether consent could be granted under the normal standard terms and conditions, without a report on commitments as recommended by the Board. In addition to the commitments made in its application materials, the College made several commitments during the course of this review, including to:

- hire faculty with Ph.D.s in Accounting, and support existing faculty to maintain currency in the discipline; and
- provide appropriate funding for learning materials.

The Board considered the applicant's commitments at its January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting in light of your request.

In addition, after the Board made its July 2009 recommendation to you to grant consent, Humber asked the Board to consider an alternate nomenclature for the program: Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting).

Based on:

- the applicant's submission;
- the findings of the Quality Assessment Panel appointed by the Board to assess this program against the Board's standards and benchmarks for an honours baccalaureate in an applied area of studies;
- the applicant's response to the panel's report;
- any additional materials provided by the applicant to the Board;
- any commitments made by the applicant during the review process;
- the Board's assessment of the information;

And based on:

- the applicant's request to change the program nomenclature;
- the findings of the Nomenclature Assessment Panel appointed by the Board to assess this nomenclature against the Board's standard and benchmarks for nomenclature;
- the applicant's response to the panel's report;
- any additional materials provided by the applicant to the Board;
- any commitments made by the applicant during the review process; and
- the Board's assessment of the information;

the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board finds that the proposed program meets the Board's standards, and recommends that you grant consent to Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning to offer a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting), at its Lakeshore Campus at 3199 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto, ON M8V 1K8.

The Board's recommendations are predicated on an assumption and the Minister's requirement that the College will meet the terms and conditions of consent which require it to honour all commitments made in the application and during the course of the review. Should these commitments, which include commitments to hire appropriate faculty, not be honoured, the program will not meet the Board's standards. The risks resulting from inadequate program quality are considerable and can range from individual risks to students who do not achieve the education they expect to the potential harm to the reputation of Ontario degrees. Given their importance, the Board recommends that you seek assurance from Humber that commitments made during the course of the review are honoured.

Should you decide to grant consent, the Board recommends that consent be conditional on Humber College revising its curriculum to ensure that the academic requirements of at least one relevant professional association (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario; Certified General Accountants of Ontario; and/or Certified Management Accountants of Ontario) are met, such that graduates who select the appropriate courses and achieve a

sufficient level of performance are capable of entering the professional program offered by the association(s).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale Patterson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dale Patterson,  
Chair

cc Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board  
Deborah Newman, Deputy Minister, MTCU  
Marie-Lison Fougère, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Programs  
Division, MTCU  
Nancy Naylor, Assistant Deputy Minister, Postsecondary Education Division, MTCU  
Martin Hicks, Director, Postsecondary Accountability Branch, MTCU