Accreditation and Mutual Recognition of Qualifications: Canada and Australia

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Canada Day
4 November 2010
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>2006 % Overseas-Born In Australia</th>
<th>2001 % Overseas-Born In Australia (cf Canada)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48% (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>48% (51%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>46% (35%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>37% (36%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce/ business</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>36% (27%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>36% (49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td></td>
<td>36% (35%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts/ humanities</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31% (24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24% (23%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20% (15%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Context of Foreign Credential Recognition for Canada

1. Fertility rate:
   - 1.5 (compared to 1.96 for Australia)

2. Population growth rate by 2009:
   - 0.82% (compared to 2.1% in Australia)

3. Implications for future workforce supply:
   - 100% of net growth migration-dependent (2015)

4. Export education industry:
   - Very modest in scale
International Student Enrolments in Canada (2008) – Excluding Study Abroad

2004:
- 164,845

2008:
- 178,181

Canadian Experience Class:
- Introduced September 2008

BUT 2008 numbers excluding Study Abroad:
- 79,492 (compared to 74,027 in 2007)
- Just 31,368 in higher education
- Main sources = China, USA, South Korea, India, Saudi Arabia

Source: Unpublished data provided to L Hawthorne by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (2009)
Canadians Qualifying Overseas

Numbers:
- Growing!

Categories:
- ‘Low achievers’ - location
- ‘Near misses’ - location
- ‘Elites’ – UoM plus?

Return to Canada:
- As ‘foreign qualified’
- No citizen ‘bonus’

Scale of Canadian enrolments in Australia:
- 2008: 3,979 (3,021 in degrees)
- Medical and allied health case study

Scale of Australian enrolments in Canada:
- 2008: 409 (170 in degrees)
Canada as an Australian Market:
Medical Case Study

2000:
- 258 students (all medical/ allied health degrees)

2004:
- 529

2008:
- 886 (fifth top source)
- Third top source in medicine

2010-11:
- Sole strong source Australia-wide for graduate medical students (12 universities)
- Malaysia? Singapore? Trends compared to Canada and the US
- UQ: 93 Year 1 students (2010), 104 Year 1 students (2011)
## Case Study: International Student Demand for Australian Graduate Entry Medical Degrees (2007)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Country</th>
<th>Sydney</th>
<th>Queensland</th>
<th>Flinders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HK</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (all)</strong></td>
<td><strong>162</strong></td>
<td><strong>189</strong></td>
<td><strong>51</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Issues for Canadian International Students – Typical Interview

Repatriation:

- Foreign credential recognition
- No citizen ‘fast track’

Context:

- Governance setting: Relative to Australia/13 provinces
- Provincial powers – Level of autonomy
- ‘Mutual recognition’ - Favours USA (NAFTA)
- Barriers to domestic recognition pan-Canada: Eg accounting
- Regulated professions (number relative to Australia): Eg Engineering
- National exam system – End of degree courses
Case Study 1: Engineering

Multilateral agreements:
- Washington Accord

Australia-Canada recognition:
- Australia – virtually automatic
- Canada?

Typical pathway to professional practice for foreign qualified engineers:
- Exam/s
- Year of professional engineering experience
- Strategies to short-circuit? (eg UoM electives completed in Canada?)
Case Study 2: Medicine

Exams (Medical Council of Canada):
- MCQ
- Clinical

Residency:
- CARMS – Australian outreach
- Placement rates – 53% average (reality?)

Developments:
- MCC-Australian Medical Council joint global exams (2007+)
- Ontario (main source/ main destination) - CEHPEA
- Recognition of Australian internships
- Specialist training– growing recognition
✅ IMGs: One size fits all

Fast ? Medium X Slow

Specialists
Strategies to Maximise Recognition of Graduate Degrees on Return to Canada

1. **Information outreach:**
   - To Canadian regulatory bodies
   - National and provincial
   - Target source provinces

2. **Elective placements in Canada:**
   - Embedded in UoM degrees – leverage off institutional partnerships in key feeder provinces
   - Pre-negotiated with regulatory bodies

3. **Internship access (medicine):**
   - Best practice case study: MDHS strategy
   - National research/ public advocacy/ student support
4. Information provision on employment:
   - Employer demand for Australian training (relative to other immigrant groups)
   - 2006 Census data –
     Top 3 source countries for professional outcomes = South Africa, Australia, UK/Ireland
     Exceed US-trained

5. Federal initiatives in Canada:
   - Foreign Credential Recognition initiate x 6 years
   - ‘Drivers’
   - Evaluations = Progress to date (2008, 2009)
Additional Promising Developments

4. Medicine:
   - MCC-AMC shared exams – sole global partners
   - Residency/ internship recognition
   - Ontario fast-track options (CEHPEA)
   - Specialist recognition

5. Dentistry:
   - April 2010 mutual recognition
   - Current decision – waive national exam?

6. Provincial-led reform:
   - Ontario
   - Alberta
Broader Developments: The Demographic Imperative for Canada

Australian High Commission in Ottawa:
- Mission priority
- Political/ trade context – Canada (EU bloc?)
- ‘Round Table’ – April 2011 (Melbourne)
- Director FCR Office – Tailored meetings

UNESCO
- Nine country study on FCR (including Canada and Australia)
- International qualification framework