

## Acknowledgment of Traditional Territories

BCIT acknowledges the traditional territories of the Coast Salish Nations of Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and Squamish, on which our BCIT campuses are located.

Camosun College serves the communities of southern Vancouver Island and the south Gulf Islands that are located in the traditional territories of the Lkwungen (Esquimalt and Songhees), Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke and WSÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum) peoples.



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

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SCHOOL OF TRADES & TECHNOLOGY

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email both:  
bridgewatchrating\_enhanced@bcit.ca  
and  
BridgeWatchRating@camosun.ca

# BRIDGE WATCH RATING – ENHANCED SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION

The BCIT logo is displayed in white text on a dark blue background, positioned in the upper right area of the image. The background image shows a woman in a blue shirt operating a ship's bridge simulator, with multiple monitors displaying maritime data and a virtual harbor scene.



This initiative is made possible with a financial contribution from Transport Canada

## ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR COASTAL WATERS? THEN PERHAPS A CAREER AT SEA STARTING AS A DECK HAND IS FOR YOU?

Explore a marine career working on tugboats, ferries or deep sea vessels. With funding from the Government of Canada, through the Oceans Protection Plan's Marine Training Program, Indigenous people and women may be eligible for free or subsidized tuition, accommodation, course material and more. BCIT and our partners offer the Enhanced Bridge Watch Rating Program; the hands-on training required for a sea faring career with job placement support for graduates.

Students can train on both sides of the Salish Sea; North Vancouver and Victoria.

### Become a Deck Hand

The Bridge Watch Rating is the foundation to beginning your career at sea aboard commercial vessels. You will learn essential knowledge and skills related to the practice of seamanship, navigation, standards of safe working procedures, and the hazards associated with the marine environment.

The program is designed to provide entry-level personnel with base-level knowledge of seamanship to prepare for a career at sea with BC Ferries, the Canadian Coast Guard, or local tug operators. Successful completion of this program will also make you eligible for four months of Bridge Watch Rating sea time remission.

### Get the Skills You Need to Begin a Career at Sea

This 12 to 16-week (depending on electives) full-time program is based on three modular courses designed to prepare you for a career in the marine industry. You will gain hands-on skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- Keeping a lookout
- Steering the vessel
- Operating communication systems
- Anchoring and mooring
- Responding to emergencies
- Basic environmental protection procedures
- Assisting in cargo operations
- Handling ropes and chains

### Earn Training Certificates

This program will help you meet your training requirements for the following:

- BCIT Bridge Watch Rating Associate Certificate or Camosun Bridge Watch Rating Completion Certificate
- Transport Canada Bridge Watch Rating Training Certificate
- BCIT Recognition of Training in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS 2015)
- Industry Canada Restricted Operator's Certificate - Maritime Commercial (ROC - MC)
- Marine Basic First Aid Certificate (MBFA)
- STCW Basic Safety Training (BST)
- STCW Proficiency in Survival Craft (PSC)

### Additional or Elective Courses (depending on local community need)

- Leadership and Teamwork (LTW)
- Leadership and Managerial Skills (LMS)
- Passenger Safety Management (PSM)
- Vessel Personnel w/o Security Responsibilities (VPWOSR)
- Small Vessel Machinery Operator (SVMO) (preparatory only)
- Small Vessel Operator (SVO). (SVO will only be available at Camosun College, Victoria BC)
- Seafarers with Designated Security Duties
- Food Safe

### Application Process

1. Request an application form by emailing [bridgewatchrating\\_enhanced@bcit.ca](mailto:bridgewatchrating_enhanced@bcit.ca).
2. Submit your completed application form to [bridgewatchrating\\_enhanced@bcit.ca](mailto:bridgewatchrating_enhanced@bcit.ca) and supporting documentation (transcripts if available, Transport Canada Document Number and Medical Certificate from a Transport Canada approved physician).

The program will assess your application and arrange for your academic assessment with an approved invigilator near you. All fees for writing the assessment are covered.

Our objective is for our students to achieve their academic goals and be successful. The results of the assessment will determine if any additional educational support is necessary prior to the start of training. Applicants who meet minimum requirements will be offered training dates.

Upgrading and support (online with access to a tutor) will be offered to prepare applicants for the rigors of their training once minimum requirements have been met. For those who do not meet the minimum requirements upgrading assistance will be provided to prepare for an upcoming training date.

### Program Start

Multiple start dates are available throughout the year for optimal access.

### Class Hours

0830 - 1530, Monday - Friday (subject to change)

### Entrance Requirements

Applicants must meet all entrance requirements and will be accepted on a first qualified basis. When available intakes are full, qualified applicants are wait-listed. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

Entrance requirements:

- Academic Literacy Assessment for English and Math.
- Transport Canada Document Number (CDN) (<https://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/marinesafety/ssb-02-2016e.pdf>).
- Medical Certificate from a Transport Canada approved physician (<https://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/4/mme-mdm/eng/marine-medical-examiners/search>) indicating you are fit for Deck Service. (Support available for obtaining a medical certificate from a Transport Canada physician and reimbursement for medical certificate available upon acceptance into the program).
- For detailed entrance requirements visit [bcit.ca/study/programs/2933acert#overview](http://bcit.ca/study/programs/2933acert#overview)

### Program Cost

- All tuition and ancillary fees, bus pass and course materials are provided.
- Students from out-of-town and from remote Indigenous communities will receive accommodation, transportation, and meals for the time that they are displaced from their homes.

Some training will be offered 'in community' when possible.

To successfully complete this Transport Canada accredited program you must maintain 90% attendance and an aggregated 70% passing grade. To achieve full Transport Canada certification, Students receive four months remission on required sea time towards a Transport Canada Watch Rating Certificate, as well as STCW Basic Safety Training (BST) and STCW Proficiency in Survival Craft (PSC) training. The STCW BST and PSC will only be available at BCIT Marine Campus, North Vancouver, BC. An additional two months on a ship and 10 hours of steering time for ability is also required to write the Transport Canada certification exam for the full Bridge Watch Rating competency certificate.

