

## McGILL UNIVERSITY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

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The connection between McGill University and the educational institutions of British Columbia began in 1896, when a formal application was made by the Vancouver School Board for affiliation. This application was made under the terms of the Public School Act of that Province. Section 63 of the Public School Act of 1896 provided that "Any Collegiate Institute Board may enter into affiliation with any one or more of the recognized universities of the Dominion of Canada, subject to the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, which may by its charter and regulation be authorized to admit such Boards to affiliation." This provision was also re-affirmed in the Public School Act of 1905. Under the arrangement it is permitted to substitute for the Intermediate, Senior, and Senior Academic Grades of the High School course the courses for matriculation, First Year and Second Year in Arts respectively. Previous to 1896 some correspondence had passed between members of the Vancouver School Board and the Principal of the University; and Mr. A. H. B. MacGowan, M.P.P., one of the friends of education in British Columbia, then a member of that Board, while in Montreal on business, had discussed the matter with representatives of the University. No definite action, however, was taken until after the passage of the Act referred to above. Some time later Principal Peterson visited British Columbia and the formal affiliation was consummated for the First Year in Arts. This arrangement was later extended to the Second Year also, after careful consideration of the conditions under which the teaching at Vancouver could be made, as nearly as possible, equivalent, in the branches selected, to that given at Montreal.

In taking this step the University was acting in harmony with her avowed policy of assisting in every way possible in the development of educational work; she was but extending beyond the Province of Quebec the privilege which had been granted to Morrin College, Quebec, Stanstead Wesleyan College, Stanstead, and St. Francis College, Richmond.

In 1902 the Victoria High School, having attained to the standing of a collegiate institute under the School Act of British Columbia, also