

Patricia Bowron, MBA, BPE

Executive Director, International and Regional Development,
College of the Rockies, Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada

College of the Rockies is a globally-engaged public college located in the Rocky Mountains of British Columbia in Western Canada. The College serves over 11,000 students annually (approximately 2500 full time) in seven campuses, and offers certificates, diplomas, bachelor's degrees, graduate certificates and diplomas, and technical trades training.

The College is noted for its commitment to students and the quality of local, national and international partnerships. The College currently welcomes 11.5 % of its students from outside Canada. Their commitment to students was recognized in both 2013 and 2014 when COTR was ranked the #1 college in the world for international student satisfaction by the i-graduate International Student Barometer. In addition, a growing number of the College's faculty and students are involved in international project work. The College's excellence in international projects was recognised in 2014 when they received Colleges and Institutes Canada's Gold Internationalization Excellence Award for their innovative international programs and partnerships. In 2014, COTR was also awarded the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics' silver award for social development for their health work in Kenya.

Having over 30 years of management and leadership experience, Patricia Bowron's diverse roles have included academic, international and community development leadership, and she has worked in a variety of sectors including extractives, health, tourism and finance. As a member of the senior leadership team at College of the Rockies, Patricia is responsible for strategic business and partnership development initiatives at home and abroad.