

Bringing Students Joy through Quality Improvement

Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School: British Columbia Chapters

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The Collaboration

British Columbia Patient Safety & Quality Council and IHI Open School British Columbia Chapters collaborate to offer scholarships that provide students with opportunities to attend a conference related to quality and safety.

Scholarship development through yearly PDSA cycles was completed in order to optimize outreach and increase the number of scholarship applicants. Inspire and allow students to understand how they can use quality improvement in their own projects chapters/day-to-day. Build community and support network early in their career.

BCPSQC & IHI Open Schools Health Care Improvement Scholarship

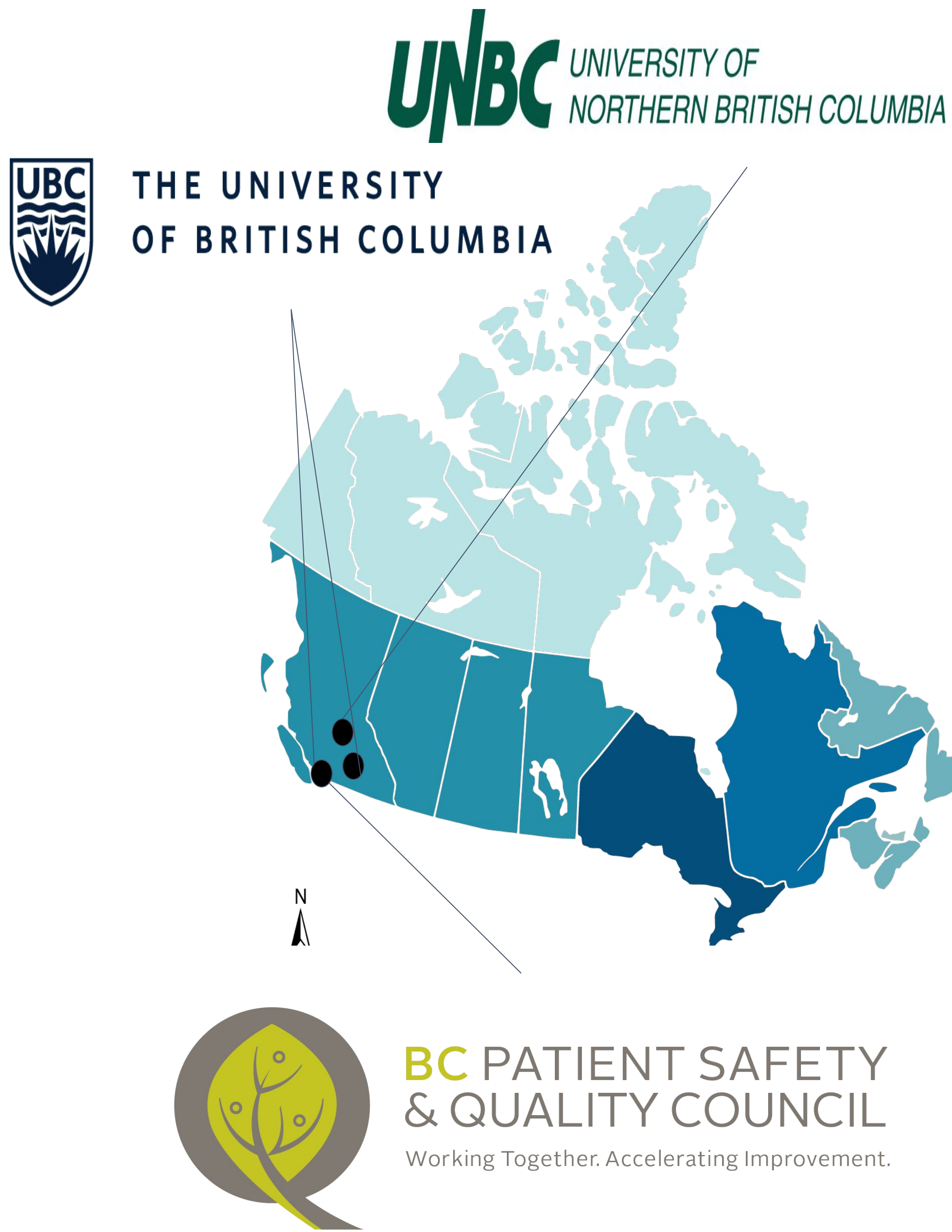


Aim for 2019/2020

- Increase number of 2019/2020 applicants by 50% by October 15, 2019.
- Improve recipient experience impacted their QI journey long-term.

Planned Tests of Change

- Change idea 1: Increase promotion using social media channels from all chapters
- Change idea 2: Open scholarships to any full-time student in British Columbia, regardless of IHI Open School membership
- Change idea 3: Simplify application process by creating a Google Doc Entry form (vs previous Word document application form)



Results

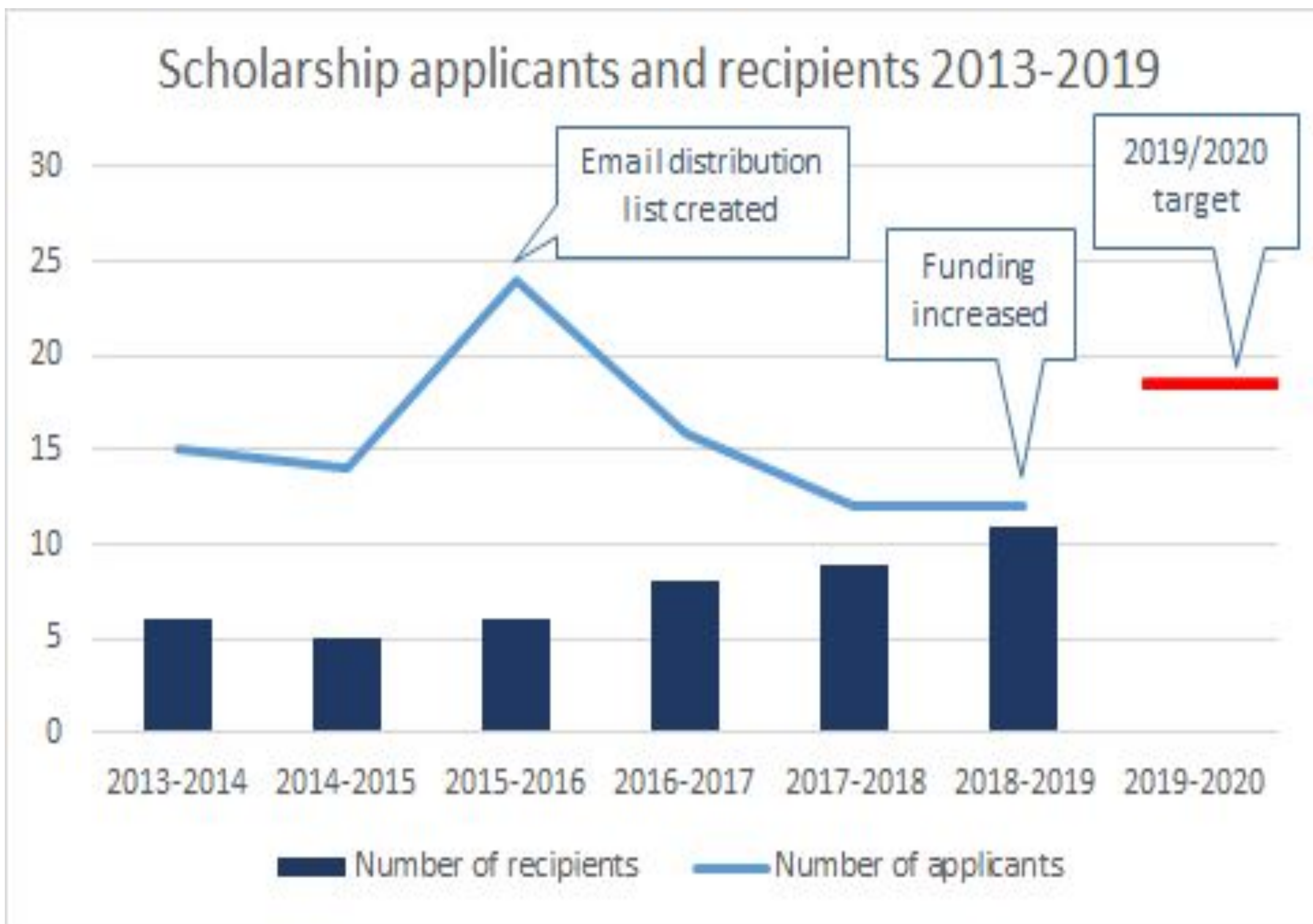


Figure 2. Graph regarding number of applicants vs recipients with noted trends during the time.

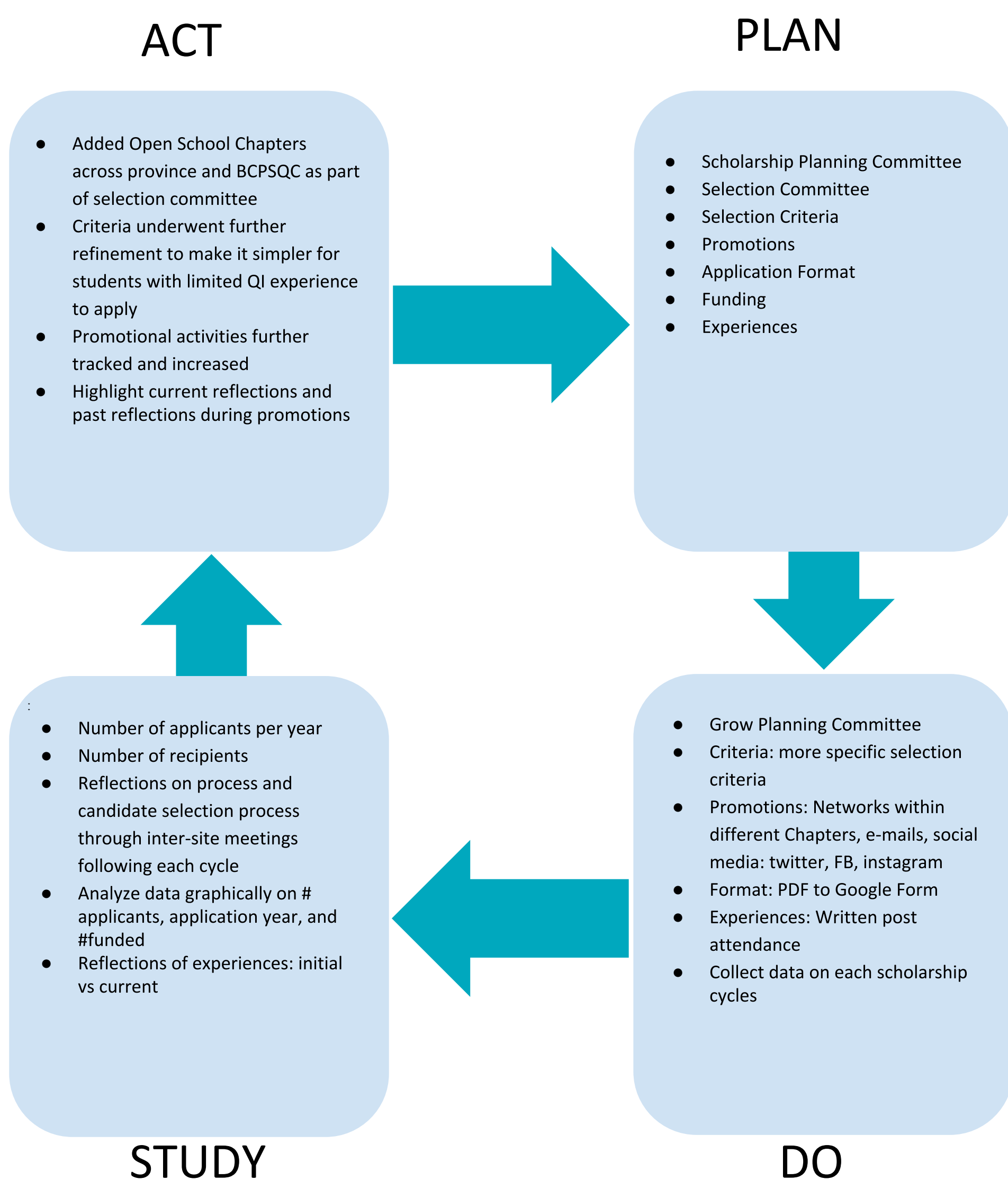


Figure 1. Plan-do-study-act cycles - summary of change ideas to date.

Student Feedback

2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	
"In many ways, the Quality Forum is a unique conference largely in part to the vast diversity of its attendees. The audience ranged from nurses, physicians, managers, researchers and students. However, it was interesting to see that despite the differences in profession, everyone had a shared interest in improving care for patients across the province."	"This scholarship meant more to me than just a title. Having the opportunity to connect with so many public health experts and doctors over the course of this event gave me the confidence as a patient but also an aspiring counsellor hope. This event offered me a lot of insightful understandings about what quality means in a health care setting. But above all, humility."	"Many people attribute quality improvement to an independent project or research initiative, with a specific question, goal and/or target in mind. However, the most inspiring message that I took away from attending the quality forum was that no act is too small to ensure improvements in the healthcare system. QI starts with people and can be initiated by anyone in the healthcare team."	"Before the IHI conference I had spent the last year and a half sitting in a lecture hall with very little patient care. This left me feeling very disconnected from my patients and exhausted from the sheer volume of knowledge I was trying to learn. The IHI International Conference gave me renewed energy and a clear reminder of why I went into medicine."	"The quality forum has helped me grow my perspective about quality improvement. I had always thought that to improve the health care system we need to think BIG and do BIG projects. Since then I have realized that even small changes can make a huge difference to so many people."	INITIAL
"As a healthcare student, the quality forum taught me a lot about why quality improvement can improve the care of patients. The quality forum allowed me to interact with many different types of healthcare professionals and learn more about their role and the issues that are important to them."	"The IHI UBC scholarship allowed me to attend the IHI National Forum in 2015. The exposure to a community committed to improving population health reinforced many of my personal values, and these have stuck with me throughout medical school. 5 years later and I'm hoping to have a career dedicated to exactly that - improving the health of our communities."	Attending the BCPSQC helped me discover the diversity and complexity of QI that exists. I was motivated and inspired to hear of the outstanding work being done in my own backyard, and was even more excited to learn how I could get involved. The teamwork and multidisciplinary nature of the work really showed me what a huge improvement we can make when we come together and collectively utilize our strengths and offer our expertise.	"The IHI conference gives you the tools and strategies to overcome the miles of red tape that block your path to making change. It makes quality improvement tangible and achievable. And the international forum is a unique opportunity to meet like minded people from across the globe who are also trying to improve healthcare. I would encourage all healthcare workers to explore IHI and QI early in their careers - I hope to see you at the next IHI conference!"	"The Vancouver Quality forum scholarship let me see how many people are dedicated to improving our health care system. Initiatives I learned there inspired my chapter and I to continue similar work in our Northern Rural community."	CURRENT

Figure 3. Quotes from from scholarship recipients - initial experiences following attending the conference and current reflections on the impact of this past experience.

Overall Impact

Number of Applicants	Scholarship Recipients
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Remained around the same each year.● Highest: 24 - 2015-2016● Lowest: 12 - 2017-2018 & 2018-2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Gradually increased over time● Highest: 11- 2018-2019● Lowest: 5 - 2017-2018 & 2018-2019
Total Impact	Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Total applications: 93● Total recipients: 45● Total funding: \$32,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increased funding from \$5,000 to \$7,500 in 2018-2019

Table 1. Overview of data on applicants, recipients, funding, and total impact throughout the time the scholarship has been available.

Acknowledgements



**BC PATIENT SAFETY
& QUALITY COUNCIL**
Working Together. Accelerating Improvement.

The BC Patient Safety & Quality Council is a strong partner and primary sponsor of this program bcpsqc.ca. As well as all the Open School Chapter members from 2013-2019 that dedicated countless hours to the development and growth of this program.

Open School Chapter Websites: ihiubc.com ihiubco.com ihiunbc.com