

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

<b>Tab</b>	
<b>MINISTER’S SPEECH, MOTIONS and ESTIMATES PROCEDURE SUMMARY</b>	<b>Section 1</b>
<b>MANDATE COMMITMENTS and PRIORITIES</b>	<b>Section 2</b>
Work with post-secondary institutions to <b>support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19</b> pandemic and recovery (FTMS)	<b>1</b>
With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.’s <b>second medical school</b> to expand our healthcare workforce (PSPP)	<b>2</b>
Expand the <b>B.C. Access Grant</b> program by increasing eligibility to reduce barriers and make sure more people are able to access the skills they need for the jobs of the future (PSPP)	<b>3</b>
Create an <b>additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces</b> and update on current tech seat expansion in public post-secondary institutions (PSPP)	<b>4</b>
Keep student fee increases low by strengthening the existing <b>Tuition Fee Limit Policy</b> to make sure institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits (PSPP)	<b>5</b>
With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to <b>expand tuition waivers</b> to all former youth in care, regardless of age (PSPP)	<b>6</b>
Conduct a <b>funding review of post-secondary education</b> operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success (FTMS)	<b>7</b>
Continue to build 8,000 new <b>student housing units</b> as part of Homes for BC, our government's 10-year housing plan (FTMS)	<b>8</b>
Complete and implement the <b>CleanBC Workforce Readiness Plan</b> to train people for jobs in the low-carbon economy and help us meet our CleanBC commitments (WDST?)	<b>9</b>
Support the work of the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation to invest in <b>innovation clusters</b> , with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies (PSPP)	<b>10</b>
Support the work of the Minister of State for Child Care to implement and enhance the <b>Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy</b> (PSPP)	<b>11</b>
With support from the Minister of Labour, work with the Industry Training Authority to restore the <b>compulsory trades system (Skilled Trades Certification)</b> to improve safety and give more workers a path to apprenticeship completion (WDST)	<b>12</b>
Support the work of government to develop new <b>skills training and career opportunities</b> for people, including investments in new <b>tech spaces, ECE learning opportunities</b> and the new <b>Health Career Access Program</b> . (PSPP)	<b>13</b>

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

<b>Tab intentionally left blank</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>ESTIMATE NOTES</b>	<b>Section 3</b>
<b>Capital Investment</b>	
Capital Infrastructure (FTMS)	<b>15</b>
Student Housing - Mandate (FTMS)	<b>16</b>
<b>Economic Recovery</b>	
Co-op/Work Integrated Learning (PSPP)	<b>17</b>
Economic Plan (WDST + PSPP)	<b>18</b>
Future Ready Skills Plan (WDST + PSPP)	<b>19</b>
Grad Scholarships and Internships (PSPP)	<b>20</b>
Micro-credentials (PSPP)	<b>21</b>
<b>Tabs intentionally left blank</b>	<b>22-23</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>	
COVID 19 – Potential Financial Impacts on Public Post-Secondary Operating Budgets	<b>24</b>
COVID-19 Impact on Students and Institutions (FTMS)	<b>25</b>
COVID 19 – Return to Campus Guidelines for BC's Post-Secondary Institutions	<b>26</b>
Sector Emergency Management (FTMS)	<b>27</b>
<b>Indigenous Education and Training</b>	
Aboriginal Service Plan Program Reconceptualization (PSPP)	<b>28</b>
Indigenous Learner Supports (PSPP)	<b>29</b>
Indigenous Post-Secondary Institutions (PSPP)	<b>30</b>
Indigenous Skills Training and Education (WDST)	<b>31</b>
Reconciliation Overview (PSPP + WDST)	<b>32</b>
UNYA – NVIT (FTMS + PSPP)	<b>33</b>
<b>Tab intentionally left blank</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>International Education</b>	
International Students and COVID-19 Impacts (PSPP)	<b>35</b>

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

International Education and BCCIE (PSPP)	<b>36</b>
<b>Labour Market Statistics</b>	
Labour Market Impacts of COVID-19 (WDST)	<b>37</b>
Labour Market Outlook (WDST)	<b>38</b>
Labour Market Tightness (WDST)	<b>39</b>
Tabs intentionally left blank	<b>40-41</b>
<b>Post-Secondary Education Programs</b>	
Early Childhood Education - Mandate (PSPP)	<b>42</b>
Health Education Programs- Mandate (PSPP)	<b>43</b>
Indigenous and Racial Discrimination in Health Education (PSPP)	<b>44</b>
Second Medical School - Mandate (PSPP)	<b>45</b>
Technology Programs - Mandate (PSPP)	<b>46</b>
Veterinary Medicine (PSPP)	<b>47</b>
Tab intentionally left blank	<b>48</b>
<b>Post-Secondary Institutions</b>	
Funding Review - Mandate (FTMS + PSPP)	<b>49</b>
Coast Mountain College - Houston (PSPP)	<b>50</b>
College of New Caledonia - Burns Lake (PSSP)	<b>51</b>
Maple Ridge Needs Assessment (PSPP)	<b>52</b>
Thompson Rivers University - Williams Lake (PSPP)	<b>53</b>
Westshore Post-Secondary Access (PSPP)	<b>54</b>
Tabs intentionally left blank	<b>55-56</b>
<b>Student Supports</b>	
StudentAid Overview - SABC (PSPP)	<b>57</b>
BC Access Grant Expansion - Mandate (PSPP)	<b>58</b>

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

Tuition Waivers Expansion - Mandate (PSPP)	59
Student Mental Health Initiatives (PSPP)	60
Sexual Violence Policy (PSPP)	61
Tab intentionally left blank	62
<b>Trades and Workforce Skills Training Programs</b>	
Forestry & Old Growth (WDST)	63
LNG Workforce (WDST)	64
Skilled Trades Certification (WDST)	65
Trades Training Investments (WDST)	66
Workforce Development Programs (WDST)	67
Tab intentionally left blank	68
<b>Other</b>	
COVID-19 Impacts of Employee Vaccination Policy (G&CP)	69
Collective Bargaining (G&CP)	70
Chartered Professional Accountants BC (G&CP)	71
Post-Secondary Institution Board Appointments (G&CP)	72
Tabs intentionally left blank	73-75

<b>BUDGET / RESOURCE SUMMARY ESTIMATES NOTES</b>	<b>Section 4</b>
AEST Budget Summary - Fiscal 2021/22 – Quick Reference Guide	76
Ministry Resource Summary Fiscal 22-23	77
Recoveries and Revenue Fiscal 22-23	78
Vote 12 Ministry Operations Fiscal 22-23	79
Vote 12 Educational Institutions and Organizations	80
Vote 12 Student Services Programs	81
Vote 12 Private Training Institutions	82

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

Vote 12 Workforce Innovation and Skills Training	<b>83</b>
Vote 12 Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	<b>84</b>
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services	<b>85</b>
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services Minister's Office	<b>86</b>
Vote 46 Capital Funding	<b>87</b>
Institutional Financial Health – 5YR Net Income	<b>88</b>
<b>Tabs intentionally left blank</b>	<b>89-90</b>

### Estimates Process

In the weeks after the provincial budget is tabled by the Minister of Finance on February 22, ministries' estimates (i.e. budget allocations) will be reviewed and debated in the Committee of Supply, a committee of the whole comprising all Members except the Speaker. This process provides Members the opportunity to ask questions about ministry plans and proposed spending. The minister responsible is present to answer questions, with the assistance of senior ministry advisers. When there are no further questions, a vote is held to determine whether the ministry's budget should be approved. Once all the ministry estimates have been debated and voted on a Final Supply Bill is introduced to the Legislature.

As the Speaker is not present, a Member will be appointed to act as Chair of the estimate debates. The process for asking and answering questions is similar to the process used when the Speaker is present. Thus, the Member asking questions will direct the questions through the Chair to the Minister, and the Minister will respond by replying through the Chair to the Member.

The questioning of the Minister is shared among the Opposition critic(s) and opposition members. Coralee Oakes is the Liberal Party caucus member assigned to advanced education. The Green Party has not identified a specific member responsible for education and skills training.

Questions may range from broad policy issues to specific program and services spending matters to strictly local constituency concerns. Answering the questions often requires some deliberation. It is usual for the Minister to take time after the question is asked to consult with her officials before answering. There are instances when an answer cannot be provided at the time (e.g. the data is not readily available). In these cases, the Minister can indicate that she will provide a written answer to the Member (usually within a few days).

The Minister is supported by Ministry staff, including the Deputy Minister, Assistant Deputy Ministers, Executive Directors and Directors as required. These staff may come and go depending on the topics for debate.

The Minister will introduce a series of motions to open and close the estimates debates for the Ministry. These are provided in detail below.

Estimates – Motions

<p><b>Opening Introductions and remarks</b> Commencement of Estimates</p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> “Mr./Mdme. Chair, it is with great pleasure that I rise to present the 2022/23 spending estimates for the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training.”</p> <p>“Before I begin, I would like to introduce my Deputy Minister, Shannon Baskerville.”</p> <p>[Introduce other staff as appropriate].</p> <p>[Deliver a short speech on Ministry priorities and spending plans – GCPE to provide]</p>
<p><b>After Opening Remarks</b> to Begin Debate</p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> “Chair, I would be happy to receive comments, remarks and questions from the members of the Legislature.”</p>
<p><b>Adjournment of Estimates Debate</b></p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> “I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.”</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Motion approved.</p>
<p><b>Completion of Estimates Debate</b></p>	<p><b>Minister:</b> “I move that the committee rise and report resolution.”</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Motion approved.</p>

List of people who support the Minister:

- Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister
- Jason Butler Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, Technology and Management Services Division
- Nicola Lemmer, Assistant Deputy Minister of Post-Secondary Policy and Programs Division
- Bindi Sawchuk, Assistant Deputy Minister of Workforce Development and Skills Training Division
- Tony Loughran, Executive Lead of Governance, Legislation and Corporate Planning Division
- Executive Directors will be available

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training  
Estimates Debate Binder  
2022/23 Table of Contents

<b>Tab</b>	
<b>MANDATE COMMITMENTS and PRIORITIES</b>	<b>Section 2</b>
Work with post-secondary institutions to <b>support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19</b> pandemic and recovery	<b>1</b>
With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.'s <b>second medical school</b> to expand our healthcare workforce (PSPP)	<b>2</b>
Expand the <b>B.C. Access Grant</b> program by increasing eligibility to reduce barriers and make sure more people are able to access the skills they need for the jobs of the future (PSPP)	<b>3</b>
Create an <b>additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces</b> and update on current tech seat expansion in public post-secondary institutions (PSPP)	<b>4</b>
Keep student fee increases low by strengthening the existing <b>Tuition Fee Limit Policy</b> to make sure institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits (PSPP)	<b>5</b>
With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to <b>expand tuition waivers</b> to all former youth in care, regardless of age (PSPP)	<b>6</b>
Conduct a <b>funding review of post-secondary education</b> operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success (FTMS)	<b>7</b>
Continue to build 8,000 new <b>student housing units</b> as part of Homes for BC, our government's 10-year housing plan (FTMS)	<b>8</b>
Complete and implement the <b>CleanBC Workforce Readiness Plan</b> to train people for jobs in the low-carbon economy and help us meet our CleanBC commitments (WDST)	<b>9</b>
Support the work of the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation to invest in <b>innovation clusters</b> , with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies (PSPP)	<b>10</b>
Support the work of the Minister of State for Child Care to implement and enhance the <b>Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy</b> (PSPP)	<b>11</b>
With support from the Minister of Labour, work with the Industry Training Authority to restore the <b>compulsory trades system (Skilled Trades Certification)</b> to improve safety and give more workers a path to apprenticeship completion (WDST)	<b>12</b>
Support the work of government to develop new <b>skills training and career opportunities</b> for people, including investments in new <b>tech spaces, ECE</b> learning opportunities and the new <b>Health Career Access Program</b> . (PSPP)	<b>13</b>
Tab intentionally left blank	<b>14</b>



**Title:** Mandate Letter Commitment #1.

**Issue:** Work with post-secondary institutions to **support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19** pandemic and recovery

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **This commitment consists of three elements, two of which are complete and one is ongoing:**
  - 1. Supports for students implemented early in the pandemic (complete)**
    - Emergency Student Emergency Assistance Funding – see Tab 57
    - Indigenous Emergency Student Assistance Funding – see Tab 29
    - Here2Talk, a free 24/7 mental health counselling and referral service for post-secondary students – see Tab 60
    - Funding to support work-integrated learning placements for nearly 3,000 students, helping one of the hardest hit demographics gain meaningful employment – see Tab 17
  - 2. Safe operation of post-secondary institutions (complete)**
    - Ministry staff have worked in partnership with Institutions, the BC Centre for Disease Control, WorkSafeBC, the Provincial Health Office to produce the COVID-19 Go-Forward Guidelines and Return-To-Campus Guidelines for BC's Post-Secondary Sector – see Tab 26
  - 3. Creation of a new Digital Services Hub to connect education and skills training programs and pathways to high opportunity occupations and careers (ongoing)**
    - As announced in the BC Economic Plan, the provincial government is developing a Digital Services Hub to make it easier for British Columbians to access education and training for in-demand jobs – see Tab 19

**Title: Second Medical School**

**Issue: Mandate commitment to launch B.C.'s second medical school**

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **AEST is working in partnership with the Ministry of Health on the mandate commitment regarding B.C.'s second medical school.**
  - The Minister's mandate letter states: "With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.'s second medical school to expand our healthcare workforce".
  - During the 2020 election period, the BC NDP announced a commitment to a second medical school at Simon Fraser University (SFU), with a central facility at the Surrey campus and learning centres distributed across the Fraser Health Authority.
- **AEST works with the Ministry of Health to ensure funding for health education is aligned with health sector human resource needs and the provincial post-secondary education system.**
  - Government funds health education programs at public post-secondary institutions based on priorities established by the Ministry of Health as outlined in the Provincial Health Workforce Plan.
  - The Province's interdisciplinary team-based approach to care means that many different types of health professionals – doctors, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, pharmacists, and more – are all part of meeting the primary care needs of British Columbians.
- **Establishment of a second medical school is a multi-year commitment that will require time, consultation, and careful planning to accomplish successfully.**
  - The new medical school will need to align with the Provincial Health Workforce Plan. This will ensure the right supply, mix, and distribution of providers to meet service needs across B.C.

Advice/Recommendations

Con't/2

- **Supporting students to train for high demand health careers is one of our top priorities to ensure all British Columbians can access the care they need.**
  - Government remains committed to its significant annual investment into medical education to meet demand in communities across the province.
  - Each year, 288 students begin their undergraduate medical education at one of the four regional campuses: 192 students in the Vancouver Fraser Medical Program, and 32 students each in the Island, Northern and Southern Medical Programs.
- **Staff from AEST and the Ministry of Health are in the early stages of identifying next steps forward.**
  - Cabinet Confidences
  - Government’s contribution to a second medical school’s operating costs and capital funding are to be determined.
  - Consultation, planning, and program development continue to take place at SFU.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- The health workforce has been significantly impacted by COVID-19, amplifying pre-existing workforce challenges for many health occupations.

**Title:** B.C. Access Grant

**Issue:** Mandate Commitment highlights for B.C. Access Grant (BCAG)

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **The B.C. Access Grant is making post-secondary education more affordable for students.**
  - The B.C. Access Grant (BCAG) was launched September 2020 to support 40,000 students with roughly \$42 million in needs-based non-repayable financial assistance.
  - The new grant received strong support from the BC Federation of Students and the Alliance of BC Students, both of which had advocated for up-front grants.
  - At the beginning of COVID-19, the Government of Canada doubled its grant funding amounts to provide greater support to students through the pandemic. The increase in federal grants has resulted in less provincial funding (BCAG) being disbursed in the first year. This change resulted in the BCAG supporting 32,000 students with approximately \$36 million between September 2020 and August 2021.
  - Currently, low- and middle-income students studying full- or part-time in trades training and undergraduate certificate, diploma and degree programs at B.C.'s 25 public post-secondary institutions are eligible for the grant.
  - In the full-time student financial assistance award calculation, the BCAG replaces an equivalent amount of B.C. student loan, thus reducing the amount of loan students will have to repay at the end of their studies.
  - BCAG replaced the B.C. Completion Grant, which did not target students most in need and was not predictable nor transparent for students. In contrast, BCAG is needs-based, targets low/middle-income students, and increases the number of students eligible for support.
  
- **The Ministry's mandate direction is to "Expand the B.C. Access Grant program by increasing eligibility to reduce barriers and make sure more people are able to access the skills they need for the jobs of the future."**
  - The Ministry is evaluating the ongoing implementation of the BCAG in its two years of operation. These results will inform development of options to expand grant eligibility.
  - Students eligible for BCAG are eligible to receive other funding supports, such as 0% interest provincial student loans, federal loans, and other up-front needs-based grants.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, students have been able to access the new BCAG and the increased Federal Student Financial Assistance.

## Appendix 1: How the B.C. Access Grant Works

### Eligibility

To be eligible for BCAG, students must:

- meet basic StudentAid BC eligibility criteria;
- attend a B.C. public post-secondary institution;
- be enrolled full- or part-time in an undergraduate certificate, diploma, or degree program (Master's and PhD programs are not eligible); and
- demonstrate at least \$1 of provincial assessed financial need.

### Grant Amounts

- The B.C. Access Grant amount is based on a student's family income. As family income increases, the grant amount decreases.
- Grant maximums are:
  - Up to \$4,000 a year for students enrolled in programs less than two years in length.
  - Up to \$1,000 a year for students enrolled in programs two years in length or longer.
  - Up to \$1,000 a year for students studying part-time.
- BCAG replaces equivalent B.C. student loan amounts dollar-for-dollar in the student financial assistance award calculation.
- BCAG may exceed students' assessed need.

### Administration

- Students are automatically assessed for BCAG when they apply to StudentAid BC.
- B.C. Access Grant (BCAG) funding is currently disbursed via cheque, however, there are plans in the near future to have it disbursed via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).
- For study periods of 17 weeks or less, 100% of funding is provided at the start of the study period.
- For study periods longer than 17 weeks, 50% of funding is provided at the start of the study period and the remaining 50% at the mid-point of the study period.

**Title:** Technology Education

**Issue:** Update on the current technology programming expansion, mandate commitment for an additional 2,000 tech-relevant spaces, and government support for innovation and emerging industries.

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **Our post-secondary system produces world-class tech talent that supports a booming tech sector and opens doors to good-paying jobs.**
- **My Ministry has provided on-going funding to support 2,900 new technology programming spaces, improving access to education and supporting the tech sector with more homegrown talent (see Appendix 1).**
  - In 2017/18, we began a 6-year tech-related seat expansion.
  - Last year, we provided \$41.1 million in funding to support over 2,600 student spaces in tech-related programming.
  - We have reached a steady state of \$42M in on-going funding this year, the final year of the current expansion plan.
  - These new seats are distributed across the province in areas from software, electrical and biomedical engineering to cybersecurity, mechatronics, and advanced manufacturing.
  - By 2023, this is expected to result in 1,000 additional tech grads each year. In total, over 13,000 credentials are issued each year in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs.
  - The expansion aligns with recommendations for AEST’s budget in the “Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services” report: “Increase investments and opportunities for upskilling, reskilling, co-ops, and micro-credential programs as well.”
- **We are starting to plan the next technology programming seat expansion**
  - My Ministry has a clear mandate commitment to create an additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces at public post-secondary institutions.
  - “Tech-relevant” underscores the importance of a broad approach to the issue, which is not just about information technology or engineering, but a range of programming that reflects the breadth and diversity of the tech sector itself, and how technology is transforming every sector.
    - Examples include clean tech, life sciences, agritech, digital animation and visual effects.
  - The next tech expansion is about addressing the immediate openings in high-opportunity tech-related occupations, across the spectrum.

- We anticipate that public post-secondary institutions throughout the province will be involved in the expansion.
- My Ministry is engaging with stakeholders in developing the next expansion plan, beginning this Spring.
- **I look forward to working with the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation to support innovation and emerging sectors of the economy.**
  - My mandate letter includes the commitment to support the work of the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation to invest in innovation clusters, with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies.
  - Through Mission Three of the StrongerBC Economic Plan, Government is fostering innovation across the economy by supporting talent development and collaboration between the innovation ecosystem and other sectors of the economy.
  - Post-secondary institutions are an important part of the innovation ecosystem, and play an essential role in supporting the talent needs of both established and emerging sectors of the economy.
  - Graduate student scholarships and internships are further examples of the Ministry's support for innovation.

#### **COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- **COVID resulted in significant impact to technology programming**
  - COVID disproportionately impacted many tech programs, which use specialized equipment and require in-person sessions.
  - Technology programming, such as engineering and computer science, are challenging academically, and the additional stress and reduced in-person instructor time negatively affected enrolment figures.
  - My Ministry is working with post-secondary institutions to support students and institutions in meeting the current tech expansion outcomes.
  - My Ministry is providing funding for equipment to help transition tech programs to online delivery methods.

**Appendix 1: Current Technology-Related Program Expansion**

Institution	Name / Program Type	Expansion/ New	FTEs at Steady State	Additional Grads
Simon Fraser University (Surrey)	Undergraduate Sustainable Energy Engineering (Degrees)	New	320	80
Simon Fraser University (Surrey)	Graduate Sustainable Energy Engineering (Degrees)	New	120	60
University of British Columbia - Vancouver	Computer Science, Biomedical Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering (Degrees)	New/ Expansion	564	141
University of British Columbia - Okanagan	Manufacturing Engineering and Computer Science (Degrees)	New/ Expansion	156	39
British Columbia Institute of Technology	Short-term Information Technology (Diplomas)	New/ Expansion	300	150
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (Diplomas)	New	40	20
University of Victoria	Computer Science and Engineering (Degrees)	Expansion	500	125
Camosun College	Web Technologies Programming and Engineering Graphics Technician (Certificates)	New/ Expansion	40	40
University of Northern British Columbia	Civil and Environmental Engineering (Degrees)	New	280	70
College of New Caledonia	Civil Engineering Technologist (Diplomas)	New	50	25
Okanagan College	Animation (Diplomas)	New	30	15
Thompson Rivers University	Software Engineering (Degrees)	New	140	35
<b>Additional Niche Technology Programming</b>				
Capilano University	2D Animation/Visual Effects and 3D Animation (Diplomas)	Expansion	50	25
Douglas College	Computing Science (Diplomas)	New	40	20
Emily Carr University of Art and Design	Undergraduate and Graduate Design and Dynamic Media (Degrees)	New	40	20
Langara College	Bioinformatics (Diplomas); Web and Mobile App Design/Development (Diplomas); Data Analytics (Certificates)	Expansion	40	20
North Island College	Computer Information Systems (Certificates)	New	40	40
Selkirk College	Web Application Development (Certificates), Digital Fabrication and Design (Diplomas)	New	40	20
University of the Fraser Valley	Applied Bioinformatics, Coding (Certificates); Digital Fabrication (Diplomas); Graphic and Digital Design (Extended Minors/Minors); BA Media Arts (Degrees)	New/ Expansion	40	20
Vancouver Community College	Computer Systems Technology (Diplomas)	New	40	20
Vancouver Island University	Integrated Engineering Technologist (Diplomas); Information Technology and Applied Systems (Diplomas)	New/ Expansion	40	20

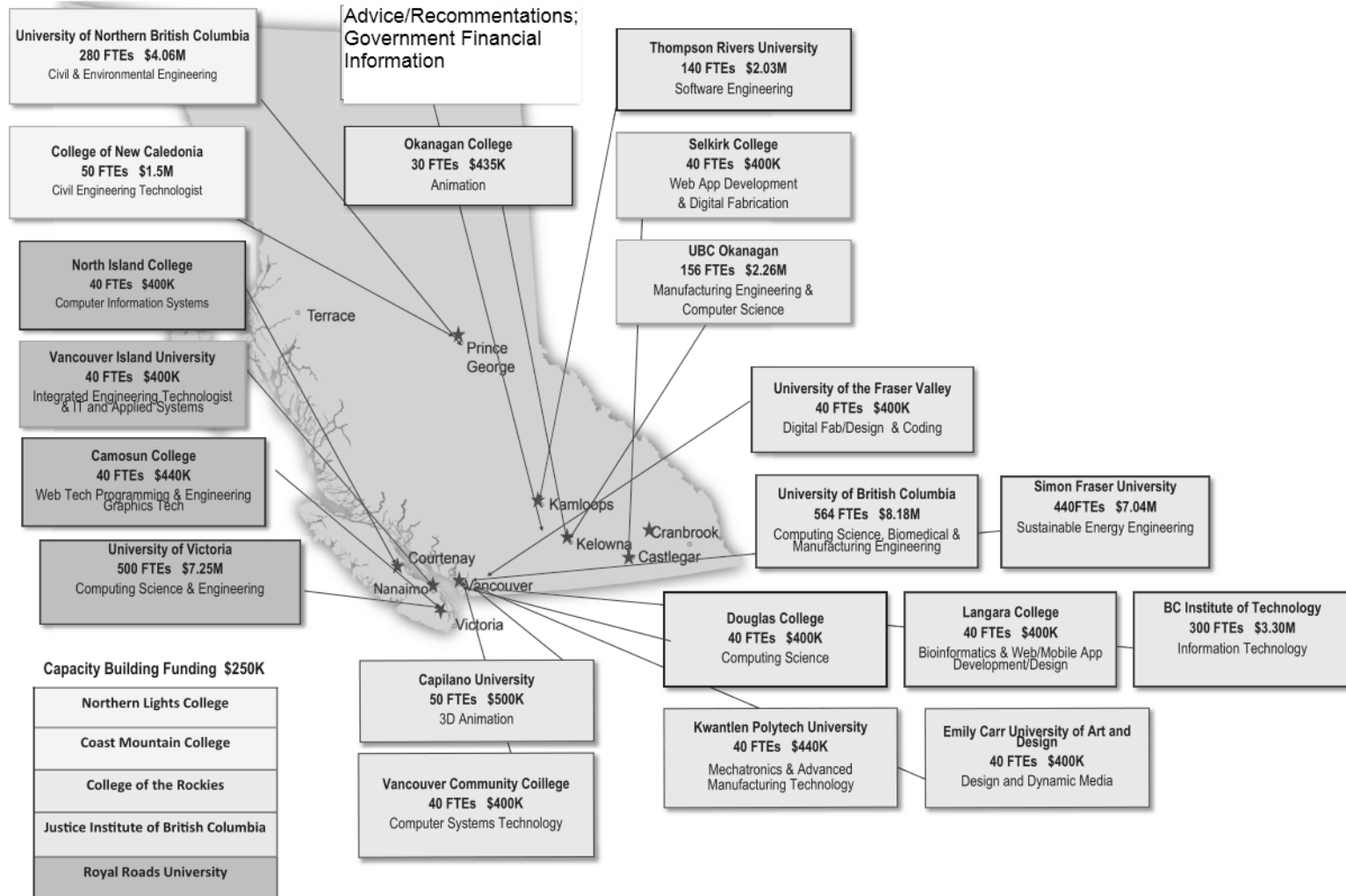
**Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information**



# Phase 1 - Technology Seat Expansion

2017/18 - 2022/23

Approved Funding Envelope \$42M — 2,900 FTEs — 1,000 Graduates



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

**Title:** Tuition Limit Policy – Mandate Item

**Issue:** Mandate Letter Commitment to Review the Tuition Limit Policy

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **The Tuition Limit Policy (TLP) supports post-secondary affordability by ensuring tuition and fee increases remain low and predictable.**
  - The TLP has been in place since 2005 and has kept tuition and fee increases limited to a maximum of 2% per year. The policy was extended to include mandatory fees in 2007.
  - The policy is intended to create an appropriate balance of costs between students, institutions, and taxpayers so that students have affordable access to a post-secondary education system that is sustainable over the long term.
  - It has been applied using a student-centered approach where the limited tuition and mandatory fee rate increases have helped provide certainty and stability so that students and their families can plan for their future.
  - According to 2021/22 Statistics Canada data, B.C. has the fourth lowest undergraduate tuition in the country – lower than Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.
  - Undergraduate tuition fees in B.C. increased 1.99% to \$6,109 in the 2021/22 academic year, from \$5,990 in 2020/21.
  - Undergraduate tuition in B.C. is \$584 less than the Canadian average.
  - The TLP does not apply to international students' tuition (see Estimates Note 33 – International Education / BCCIE for information on international tuition).
  
- **Keeping costs low and ensuring increases do not go beyond prescribed limits is a mandate commitment.**
  - The Minister's Mandate letter states: "Keep student fee increases low by strengthening the existing Tuition Fee Limit Policy to make sure institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits."
  - The Ministry currently receives annual reporting from post-secondary institutions on tuition and fee increases.

**Advice/Recommendations**

- This work will be considered in conjunction with the mandate commitment: "Conduct a funding review of post-secondary education operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success."
- Tuition is a key component of overall post-secondary institution revenue.

- The review will consider historical concerns and include stakeholder engagement in order to determine recommendations to strengthen the policy.
  - Any changes to the policy will be clearly communicated to post-secondary institutions and students, prior to being implemented.
  - Work on the funding review (including a related Tuition Limit Policy review) is anticipated to begin this spring.
- **Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (SSCFGS) Report.**
    - The SSCFGS Report makes various references to tuition, in relation to:
      - tuition caps and limited government operating funding leading to post-secondary institutions' dependence on international tuition fees;
      - high tuition fees being a barrier for those who need post-secondary education to qualify for jobs with family-sustaining wages; and,
      - costs of newly implemented fees and programs and revised programming.
    - The report makes the following recommendation: "Improve transparency regarding course fees, ancillary fees, and other expenses related to the direct and indirect costs of education."
    - The Ministry's planned review of the TLP is consistent with and will include consideration of items raised and recommended in the SSCFGS Report.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- No amendments to the TLP were made in response to COVID-19.
- As public post-secondary institutions pivoted to online instruction, some students felt tuition should be reduced due to perceptions that online learning was of lesser value than in-person instruction.
- Other students appreciated the benefits online learning provided (revisiting recorded lectures, flexibility) and reduced cost of not attending in-person.
- Online delivery can have additional costs, not associated with in-person learning.
- Post-secondary institutions have responsibility for determining appropriate delivery methods of their programs and ensuring increases of tuition and mandatory fees for all programs are limited to 2% or less, regardless of delivery method.

**Title:** Provincial Tuition Waiver Program

**Issue:** Mandate Commitment highlights for Provincial Tuition Waiver Program

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **The Provincial Tuition Waiver Program is removing barriers for Former Youth in Care to get a post-secondary education.**
  - Launched in September 2017, to date the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (PTWP) has waived roughly \$12 million in tuition and mandatory fees for about 1,600 former youth in care (FYIC), compared to 189 students in all of 2016/17.
  - PTWP supports FYIC who are attending as full-time or part-time students at all 25 B.C. public post-secondary institutions, Native Education College, and 10 eligible union trades training centres.
  - In 2020/21, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) spent \$3 million on tuition waivers to support more than 860 FYIC in their post-secondary journey.
  - For 2021/22, AEST projects to spend just over \$3 million on tuition waivers to support FYIC.
  - AEST coordinates a Community of Practice with current Campus Navigators and other student support staff at the public post-secondary institutions, to support FYIC to access education and training.
  
- **The Ministry mandate direction is to lead work to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age, with the support of the Minister of Children and Family Development.**
  - Throughout 2021, AEST and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) reviewed existing post-secondary funding programs for FYIC, and engaged with young adults, the education sector, Indigenous partners and community partners, to inform the way forward. This work with MCFD has continued into 2022.
  - As part of Budget 2022, government introduced a wide range of new transition supports for FYIC; this includes new investments in housing, transition, and financial supports, as well as permanently adopting the COVID-19 emergency measures.
  - AEST requires additional time to undertake the necessary policy analysis for expanding PTWP, including engagement with Indigenous partners and a further review of existing funding programs to identify opportunities to streamline administration and to simplify access for FYIC.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- N/A

**Contact:** Chad Hoskins Executive Director

StudentAid BC

250 356 7343

**Last Updated:** March 9, 2022

Page 1 of 3

**Appendix 1: Provincial Tuition Waiver Program Recipients by Institution**

Institution	Fiscal Year 17/18	Fiscal Year 18/19	Fiscal Year 19/20	Fiscal Year 20/21
BC Institute of Technology	14	22	40	30
Camosun College	46	75	87	76
Capilano University	11	16	25	22
Coast Mountain College	Personal Information			
College of New Caledonia	13	16	27	21
College of the Rockies	Personal Information	10	14	Personal Information
Douglas College	37	48	90	89
Emily Carr University of Art and Design	Personal Information			
Justice Institute of British Columbia	Personal Information		13	16
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	23	37	45	41
Langara College	28	44	56	52
Native Education College	Personal Information			
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	23	27	32	25
North Island College	Personal Information	13	16	21
Northern Lights College	Personal Information			
Okanagan College	13	40	34	44
Royal Roads University	Personal Information			
Selkirk College	Personal Information			
Simon Fraser University	16	22	26	33
Thompson Rivers University	31	53	84	70
University of British Columbia	14	19	28	33
University of British Columbia - Okanagan	10	11	13	18
University of Northern British Columbia	Personal Information		10	Personal Information
University of the Fraser Valley	28	47	70	77
University of Victoria	11	32	39	49
Vancouver Community College	11	18	27	20
Vancouver Island University	27	30	36	82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>863</b>

## Appendix 2: Student Success, Graduation and Credentials

- From the 2017/18 to the 2019/20 academic years, more than 300 former youth in care (FYIC) completed post-secondary credentials while receiving supports through the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (PTWP), including bachelor's degrees, diplomas and certificates.
- FYIC accessing PTWP are pursuing studies in a range programs that support provincial labour market priorities, including engineering and applied sciences, human and social services, health, and trades.
- Examples of programs pursued by PTWP students in their post-secondary journey include civil engineering, forestry, computer science, social work, nursing, allied health, business administration, carpentry and plumbing.

**Table 1: PTWP Credentials - 2017/18 - 2019/20**

Credential Type	Credentials Awarded
Certificate	145
Diploma	80
Bachelor	55
Developmental	15
Other	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>

**Table 2: PTWP Enrollment - 2017/18 - 2019/20**

Program Area	% of Total
Arts and Sciences	41%
Human and Social Services	15%
Business and Management	9%
Health	8%
Trades	9%
Engineering and Applied Sciences	6%
Developmental	6%
Visual and Performing Arts	4%
Education	2%

**Title: Funding Review Mandate Commitment**

**Issue: Review of provincial operating grants for public post-secondary institutions**

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **The review will ensure institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success.**
  - The Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training’s mandate commitment is *to conduct a funding review of post-secondary education operating grants to ensure public post-secondary institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success.*
  - This is consistent with a recommendation of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services:
    - To ensure investments position B.C. to meet the needs of the future workforce
    - Address operational pressures and programming demands.
    - Include consideration for short-term financial flexibility with clearly defined accountabilities and transparency to support recovery from the pandemic.
- **The scope of the Review will be focused with clearly defined principles and objectives.**
  - The Review’s objectives are to:
    - Establish a funding model that equitably distributes provincial financial resources across the public post-secondary sector.
    - Align provincial funding with the post-secondary education and skills training needs of British Columbians, including recognizing public post-secondary institutions as key drivers of regional economies.
    - Support students to succeed by ensuring access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education and expanding critical student supports.
  - Eight principles guiding the Review are:
    - Ensure that the post-secondary system serves the needs of all learners while aligning with the values and priorities of British Columbians.
    - Ensure action on reconciliation and implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and success of Indigenous learners.
    - Establish transparency in how public post-secondary institution block grants are determined.
    - Establish an adaptable formula while maintaining financial stability for public post-secondary institutions.

- Provide stable and predictable funding for long-term planning.
  - Resolve regional access and funding distribution issues and help improve student success at all post-secondary institutions.
  - Encourage innovative research and recognize non-government revenue opportunities that exist for institutions.
  - Incentivise public post-secondary institutions collaboration for seamless student pathways and success.
- **Key stakeholders and partners will be consulted.**
    - Stakeholder and partner engagements and consultations will be conducted by Perrin, Thorau & Associates Ltd and Don Wright.
    - Key stakeholder and partner groups include: faculty, student associations, labour unions, Indigenous partners and post-secondary institution administrators.
    - A process for engagement with Indigenous partners will be co-developed.
  - **It is too early in the process to predict the outcome of the Review.**
    - Stakeholders and partners will be engaged in a collaborative process as the Review progresses.
  - **The Review was announced March 31, 2022 and is expected to take less than two years to complete.**
    - As the project work begins, a schedule for the Review and consultation process will be developed.
    - Engagement is planned to take place over the spring and summer of this year.
    - A report with findings for government's consideration is expected to be made public by Summer 2023.
  - **The Review will include consultation on the mandate commitment to strengthen the existing Tuition Fee Limit Policy**
    - As tuition fees are a primary source of revenue for post-secondary institutions, it is important that the review considers all types of income to our institutions.
    - As part of key stakeholder and partner consultations, key questions will be included that will help inform potential revisions to strengthen the Policy.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- To date, there have been no significant negative impacts of COVID-19 on the funding review.



**Title: Student Housing Mandate Commitment**

**Issue: Progress update on building 8,000 new student housing beds**

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **Students need access to affordable, on-campus housing so they can focus on their studies, not finances.**
    - The shortage of student housing has put pressure on already tight rental markets in communities throughout British Columbia.
  - **In Budget 2018, government announced \$450 million in provincial financing for public post-secondary institutions to build approximately 5,000 on-campus student housing beds.**
  - **An additional 3,000 beds are being built through institution self-financing and partnerships.**
    - Between 2001 – 2017, government funded 130 student housing beds, while public post-secondary institutions self-funded approximately 10,000 student housing beds.
  - **Since 2018, 6,077 new student housing beds have been announced.**
    - As of February 2022:
      - 3,190 beds via provincial government loans/grants
      - 2,887 beds via PSI self-financing and partnerships
- Advice/Recommendations: Government Financial Information
- **Of the 11 government-funded projects to date, 6 of them are at smaller colleges for a total of 961 beds.**
    - This is consistent with a recommendation of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to address the urgent need for student housing, particularly at smaller colleges.
    - Projects are being funded in communities throughout British Columbia.
  - **Student housing projects include amenities that support campus living and align with government's priorities.**
    - Several institutions are incorporating mass timber in their designs, including BCIT, North Island College, Okanagan College, Capilano University and the University of Victoria.
    - College of New Caledonia's Indigenous student housing includes an Elder residence, communal living, and cultural practice space.
    - Simon Fraser University has created an Indigenous Student Cultural House to support Indigenous culture and traditions through living-learning communities.

**Contacts:** Jeanne Sedun Executive Director Sector Partnerships & Emergency Support Branch 250-952-7412  
Phil Hancyk Executive Director Post-Secondary Finance Branch Government

**Last Updated: February 9, 2022**

Page 1 of 2

- University of Victoria is pursuing Passive House certification (the University of British Columbia Okanagan achieved this in 2020) to optimize energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **The Ministry currently estimates unmet student housing demand between 15,900 - 26,200 beds.**
  - This estimate (as of December 31, 2019) is based on a province-wide student housing demand survey with more than 16,000 student respondents.
- **The Ministry's student housing initiative has involved extensive consultation with public post-secondary institutions, Indigenous partners and student societies.**
  - A Student Housing Working Group was established in 2018 to provide advice and expertise on student housing.
  - The Working Group is a partnership between government, the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Métis Nation BC and the public post-secondary sector. The Ministry organized three province-wide Student Housing Workshops, bringing together all 25 public post-secondary institutions to share leading practices and leverage sector expertise.
  - A small working group was formed in partnership with public post-secondary institutions and student societies to look at developing leading practices, principles and/or standards for student housing agreements to balance student rights with institutional accountabilities.

#### **COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on capital projects has been limited to delays resulting from supply chain challenges and construction trades shortages, resulting in minor project delays.

**Appendix A:** Student Housing Beds Project List

**Appendix B:** Student Housing Update – February 2022

**Ministry of Advanced Education Skills and Training  
Student Housing Project and Funding Sources (\$ millions)**

Post-Secondary Institution	Municipality	Number of Beds	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Total Project Cost
College of the Rockies	Cranbrook	100		19.0
Coast Mountain College	Terrace	108		21.6
College of New Caledonia	Prince George	12		5.3
Thompson Rivers University	Kamloops	533		38.0
University of Victoria	Victoria	621		229.2
Simon Fraser University	Burnaby	386		103.6
UBC Okanagan	Kelowna	220		25.0
BC Institute of Technology	Burnaby	469		114.5
Okanagan College	Kelowna, Vernon, Salmon Arm	376		67.5
Selkirk College	Castlegar	148		24.5
North Island College	Courtenay	217		65.9
Subtotal:		3,190		714.1
Various Committed/Unallocated	Various TBD	1,810		380.8
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,000</b>		<b>\$1,094.8</b>

Page 028 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

**Title:** Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan

**Issue:** The Future Ready Skills Plan will address skill and talent shortages in B.C.

**Key Messages and Background:**

- **B.C. is working hard to respond to labour shortages across the economy**
  - Business leaders across sectors have told us very clearly that developing, attracting and retaining talent is critical for productivity, innovation and competitiveness.
  - Like many Western nations, B.C. is in the midst of a demographic shift. The number of workers retiring is greater than the number of people entering the workforce. And our economy is simply growing faster than our population.
  - We have taken action to address labour shortages in high-growth sectors like health and technology, by committing to 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces in public post-secondary institutions (on top of the 2,900 seats already created), and expanding student seats in health-care, life sciences, and agritech.
  - The new *Skilled Trades B.C. Act*, which I'm happy to share has recently received royal assent, will help our government achieve its vision of a fair and balanced trades training system that works for everyone - one that will support the creation of more accessible skills training and career development opportunities.
  - Additionally, in February 2022, B.C.'s Economic Plan announced the Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan - a comprehensive plan to address skill and talent shortages in B.C. The Plan represents a generational commitment to accelerate talent development and skills training across the province.
- **The Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan will address workforce challenges across the economy.**
  - The Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan is a coordinated, cross-government response to address both immediate and long-term workforce challenges across all sectors of the economy.
  - The Plan will help equip British Columbians with the knowledge and skills they require for the jobs of the future, and ensure that B.C. has the talent to fuel a strong, inclusive and sustainable economy.
  - The Future Ready Plan is currently under development, with engagement with Indigenous partners, sector and regional stakeholders planned for Spring 2022.
  - In the meantime, immediate workforce initiatives will address urgent workforce challenges (Appendix A), including:
    - Continuation of StrongerBC funded initiatives with expanded microcredentials, short-term skills training for in-demand jobs,

Indigenous Community Skills Training and Education, and targeted training for health and human services;

- And more graduate scholarships and internships to support innovation in B.C.

- **Making it easier for all British Columbians to access new career opportunities**

- The B.C. Labour Market Outlook shows that B.C. will have over 1 million job openings over the next 10 years, and nearly 80% of those job openings will require some form of post-secondary education or training.
- We are committed to ensuring that all British Columbians are able to get the education and training they need to get good, family-supporting jobs. Supports like the B.C. Access Grant, Provincial Tuition Waiver, and Indigenous Skills Training programs have successfully expanded access to training.
- Additionally, we are making it easier for people to learn about career opportunities and get the relevant education and training. The Ministry will be building an integrated digital service hub providing one-stop access to post-secondary education and skills training pathways leading to high opportunity occupations.
- By connecting career opportunities to education pathways, British Columbians will be able to make the right decisions about education and skills training that supports their career goals and responds to regional labour market opportunities.
- Development of the Digital Services Gateway will begin in the 2022/23 fiscal year with an initial launch anticipated in the following fiscal year.

- **One third of jobs will be transformed in the next 10 years and workers need to reskill.**

- Climate change, new technologies, and workforce trends like the gig economy and mobile work are changing workforce requirements. British Columbians will need to reskill to meet new occupational skills requirements, support technological adoption, and in some cases transition into new career pathways.
- Flexible post-secondary education and training will remain essential to preparing B.C.'s workforce for the future and supporting workers to learn new skills throughout their careers.
- Highly successful microcredential pilots and work-integrated learning investments have made it faster and easier to reskill for in-demand jobs.
- B.C. is also investing in infrastructure to help build tomorrow's workforce, including \$136.6 million towards a new world-class Trades and Technology Complex on the BCIT campus so that British Columbians can train for thousands of new, highly-skilled trades jobs.

**COVID-19 Impact Summary:**

- COVID-19 has highlighted the importance of ensuring B.C.'s workforce is resilient, adaptable, and highly skilled.
- British Columbians in lower skilled and lower paid jobs have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 economic disruptions.
- B.C. has experienced a strong economic and employment recovery since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. B.C. leads country with highest labour force growth (2.5%) and highest employment growth (1.9%) since pre-pandemic.
- The Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan will support B.C.'s economic recovery from COVID-19 while also building a longer-term strategy to strengthen B.C.'s workforce to be resilient in the face of any future economic disruptions.

Page 032 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Cabinet Confidences



