

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

Tab

MINISTER'S SPEECH, MOTIONS and ESTIMATES PROCEDURE SUMMARY	Section 1
-------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------

MANDATE COMMITMENTS and PRIORITIES	Section 2
Work with post-secondary institutions to support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery (FTMS)	1
With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.'s second medical school to expand our healthcare workforce (PSPP)	2
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 (PSPP)	3
Create an additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces and update on current tech seat expansion in public post-secondary institutions (PSPP)	4
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 (PSPP)	5
With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age (PSPP)	6
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 (FTMS)	7
Continue to build 8,000 new student housing units as part of Homes for BC, our government's 10-year housing plan (FTMS)	8
Complete and implement the CleanBC Workforce Readiness Plan to train people for jobs in the low-carbon economy and help us meet our CleanBC commitments (WDST?)	9
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 (PSPP)	10
Support the work of the Minister of State for Child Care to implement and enhance the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy (PSPP)	11
With support from the Minister of Labour, work with the Industry Training Authority to restore the compulsory trades system (Skilled Trades Certification) to improve safety and give more workers a path to apprenticeship completion (WDST)	12
Support the work of government to develop new skills training and career opportunities for people, including investments in new tech spaces , ECE learning opportunities and the new Health Career Access Program . (PSPP)	13

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

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

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

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

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
Trades and Workforce Skills Training Programs	
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
Other	
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

BUDGET / RESOURCE SUMMARY ESTIMATES NOTES	Section 4
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	83
Vote 12 Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	84
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services	85
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services Minister's Office	86
Vote 46 Capital Funding	87
Institutional Financial Health – 5YR Net Income	88
Tabs intentionally left blank	89-90

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

Tab	
MANDATE COMMITMENTS and PRIORITIES	Section 2
Work with post-secondary institutions to support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery	1
With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.'s second medical school to expand our healthcare workforce (PSPP)	2
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 (PSPP)	3
Create an additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces and update on current tech seat expansion in public post-secondary institutions (PSPP)	4
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 (PSPP)	5
With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age (PSPP)	6
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 (FTMS)	7
Continue to build 8,000 new student housing units as part of Homes for BC, our government's 10-year housing plan (FTMS)	8
Complete and implement the CleanBC Workforce Readiness Plan to train people for jobs in the low-carbon economy and help us meet our CleanBC commitments (WDST)	9
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 (PSPP)	10
Support the work of the Minister of State for Child Care to implement and enhance the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy (PSPP)	11
With support from the Minister of Labour, work with the Industry Training Authority to restore the compulsory trades system (Skilled Trades Certification) to improve safety and give more workers a path to apprenticeship completion (WDST)	12
Support the work of government to develop new skills training and career opportunities for people, including investments in new tech spaces , ECE learning opportunities and the new Health Career Access Program . (PSPP)	13
Tab intentionally left blank	14

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
Additional Niche Technology Programming				
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

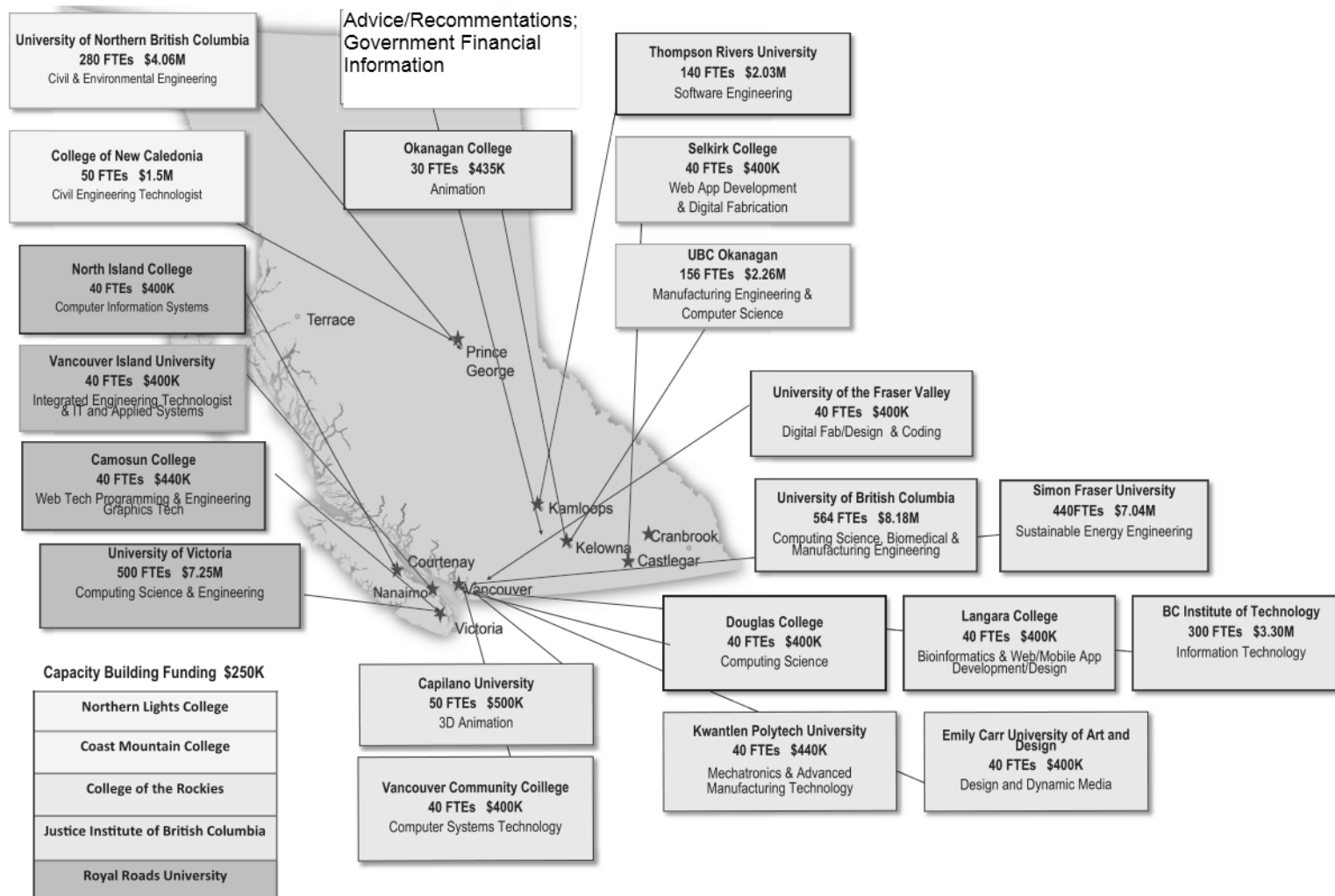
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Phase 1 - Technology Seat Expansion

February 11, 2022

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' dependance 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				
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
TOTAL	368	613	843	863

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
Total	305

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
TOTAL		5,000		\$1,094.8

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

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
Additional Niche Technology Programming				
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

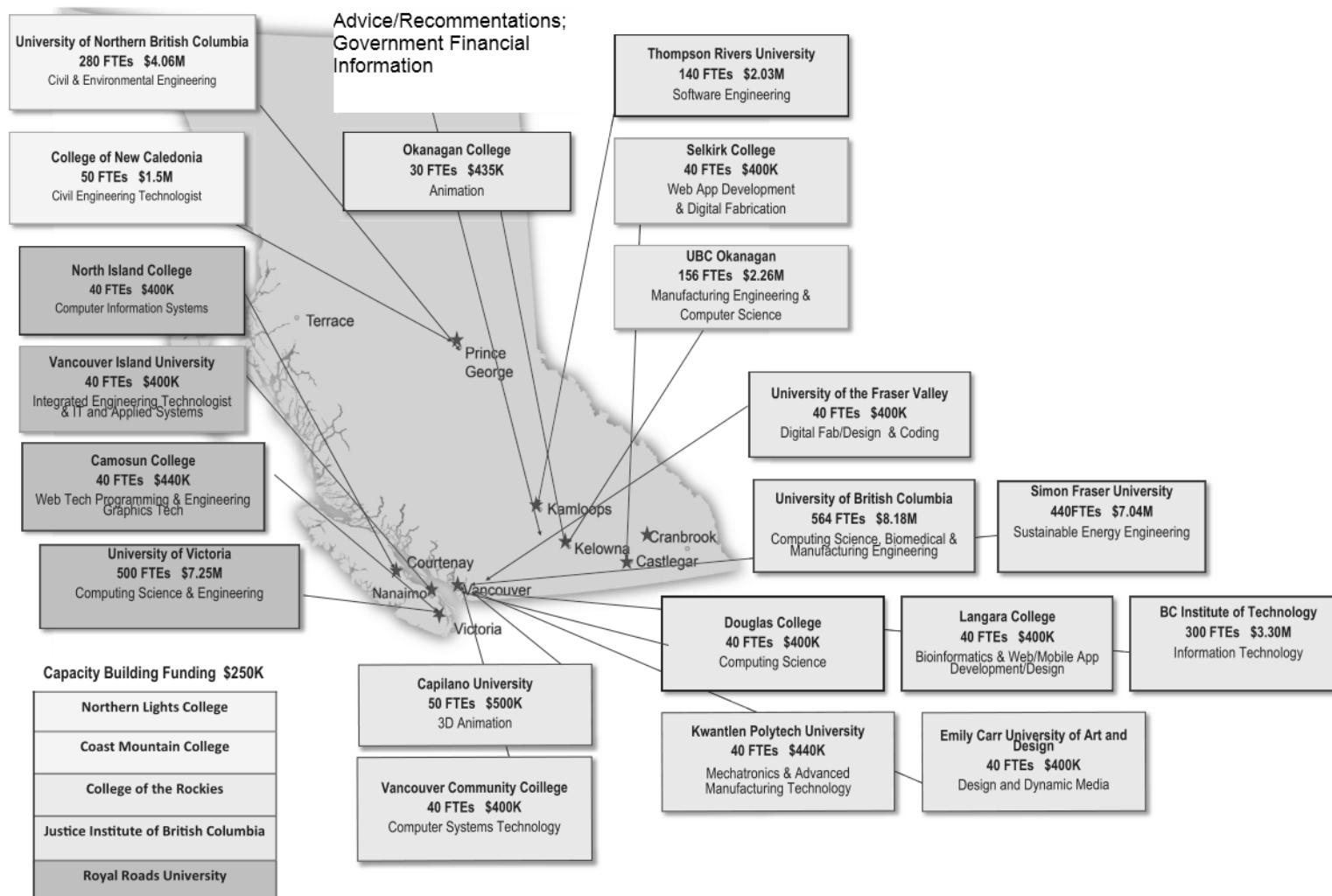
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Phase 1 - Technology Seat Expansion

February 11, 2022

2017/18 - 2022/23

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



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

Title: Early Childhood Education

Issue: Expansion of Early Childhood Education programs

Key Messages and Background:

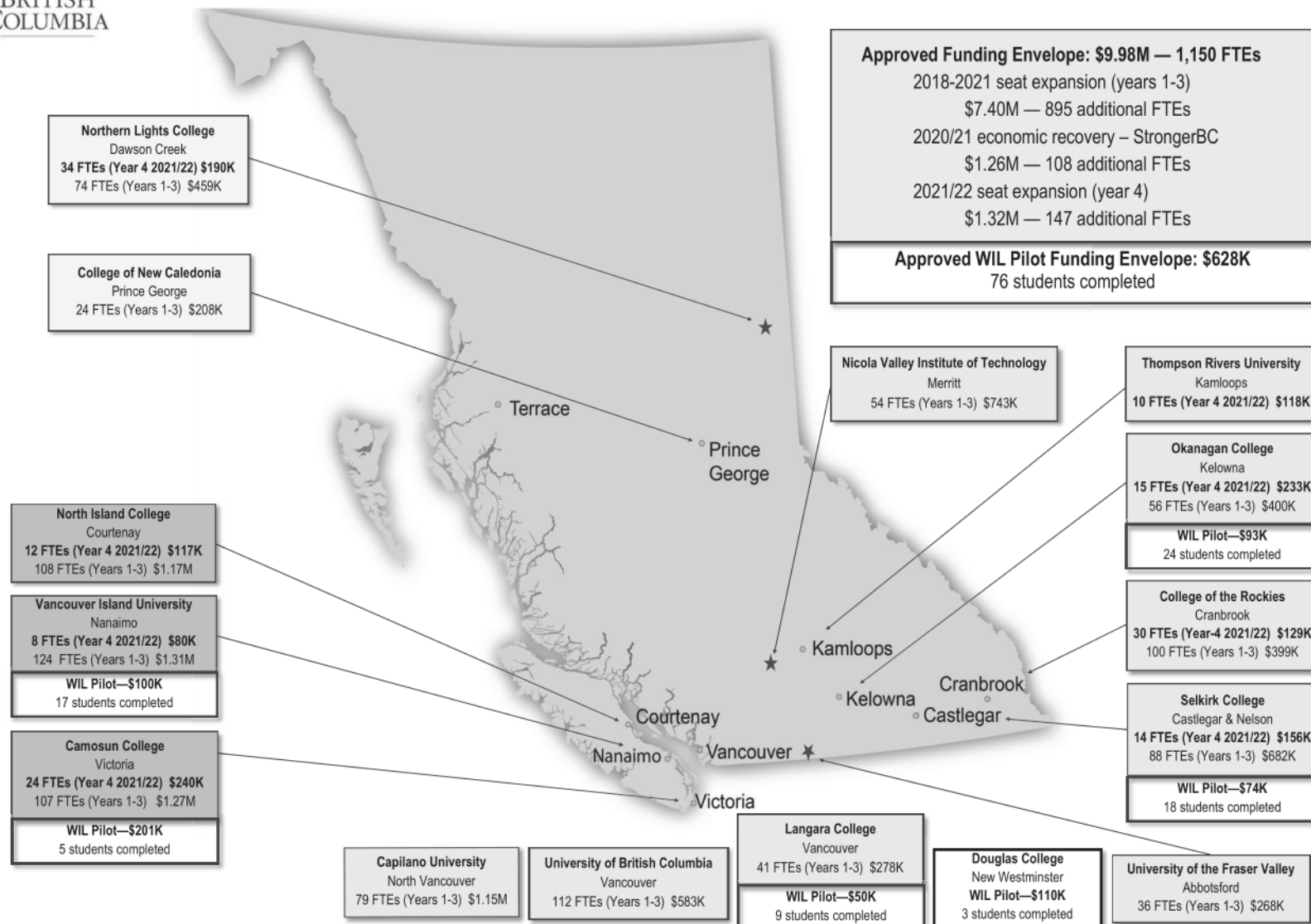
- **Budget 2022 continues Government’s investment in the expansion of ECE training programs at public post-secondary institutions (PSIs).**
 - Supports B.C.’s 10-year Child Care B.C. Plan and the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy.
 - For this 5th year of the plan, government is investing \$1.3 million to support an additional 130 ECE seats.
 - Since 2018, Government has invested almost \$10 million over four years expanding Early Childhood Education programs at 14 public PSIs, funding 1,150 seats. See Appendix 1.
 - Last year, for the 4th year of the plan, we funded \$1.3 million at eight public PSIs, creating just under 150 additional seats.
 - There has been a steady increase in ECE program demand. Current year enrollment is strong with projections of 93% utilization of ECE seats.
 - We direct funding to regions with the highest demand for ECE workers, including rural and remote communities.
- **To help address the ongoing shortage of qualified ECEs, AEST continues to support the delivery of alternative educational pathways for ECE students like Work Integrated Learning.**
 - This year, with \$1.7 million from the Federal-Provincial Early Learning and Childcare Agreement, we are expediting delivery of more Work Integrated Learning (WIL) options.
 - Overall funding for additional ECE WIL delivery options was announced Feb 18, 2022, *Advice/Recommendations*
 - In 2018, AEST invested \$628,000 to fund 6 ECE WIL pilots for 76 students.
 - WIL enables current childcare workers to obtain ECE credentials while remaining employed, and includes prior learning assessments, work-based field assessments, and online ECE program delivery.
 - WIL reduces cost and time barriers for childcare workers and helps recruitment and retention.
- **My Ministry is providing \$3.1 million in funding from 2018-2024 from the Sector Labour Market Partnerships program.**
 - Partnership with Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) for a sector-led impact assessment of the Provincial Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy. Recently the project was extended to 2024 to allow for two additional years of data collection and evaluation.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- My Ministry is working closely with public PSIs and the ECE Registry to ensure ECE students are able to continue their course work through alternate delivery methods, where possible.
- This includes implementing new technology-enabled teaching methods and flexible delivery options such as online, hybrid, staggered start dates and offerings in new geographic areas, in particular rural and remote communities.
- These positive effects on recruitment and retention enable success for a wider range of students and helps reduce barriers and impacts to equity and inclusion.
- Extensions to temporary adjustments of ECE Registry practicum requirements means that public PSIs have been able to develop and continue flexible and creative solutions for students, ensuring students are able to complete their ECE training and enter the workforce.

ECE Seat Expansion 2018/19 - 2021/2022

Updated Feb.22 2022



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

4-year total	1050 ECE Seat Expansion FTEs Funded	1150
	100 Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Seat Expansion FTEs Funded	
	Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Pilot Students Completed	76

Title: Skilled Trades Certification

Issue: Implementing Skilled Trades Certification in B.C.

Key Messages and Background:

- **Implementing Skilled Trades Certification for the 10 trades will help thousands of trades workers access training and credentialing that leads to good jobs and higher wages.**
 - B.C. has a strong and effective trades training system that offers multiple pathways for apprentices to enter trades training and achieve certification
 - However, there are currently thousands of uncertified workers practicing a trade with no formal recognition of their skills and knowledge levels.
 - Without a credential, these workers tend to earn less money and are more likely to be impacted by labour market disruptions
 - Before 2003, B.C. had 11 compulsory trades designated..
 - Since 2003, B.C. has used a voluntary credentialing system for all trades, making it the only province without designated compulsory trades.
 - Skilled Trades Certification will:
 - help more workers access good paying jobs by standardizing their skills at a higher level,
 - provides equal opportunity for under-represented and equity seeking groups,
 - increases an employer's business productivity and service delivery, and
 - attract more young people to the trades by recognizing trades workers and critical and valuable.
- **Implementing STC is critical to ensuring B.C. has enough skilled trades workers to respond to the demands of COVID-19 recovery while meeting the challenges of B.C.'s future economy.**
 - STC will help support more than 7,000 uncertified workers from the 10 trades to become certified by registering as an apprentice or challenging the journeyman exam.
 - Supports and programs will also help address the barriers to a career in the trades faced by newcomers, women, and Indigenous Peoples.
 - Budget 2022 invests \$21 million over the next 3 years, beginning with an investment of \$6.6 million in 2022/23.
 - Funding will be used to:
 - Develop a new monitoring and compliance system to encourage industry adherence to Skilled Trades Certification regulations.

- Expand programs and services to support uncertified workers to transition to STC requirements, and.
 - Create additional in-class training seats, beginning with designated electrical and mechanical trades, to ensure apprentices have access to training.
- In addition, the SkilledTradesBC will invest \$5 million over 3 years, so that more trades workers can start an apprenticeship or upgrade their skills at a recognized post-secondary institution.
- Designated trades will be implemented using a phased approach to support those working to get certified and/or register in an apprenticeship program; and the training system to build capacity to deliver technical training.
- **Government's approach to Skilled Trades Certification is based on extensive consultation and alignment with commitments under the Declaration Act.**
 - AEST conducted extensive engagement on Skilled Trades Certification over the summer and fall of 2021, with the goal of learning how we could best support workers, employers, and Indigenous leadership and communities to transition to Skilled Trades Certification.
 - The engagement approach consisted of 4 streams: employers and apprentices, broader public, Indigenous leadership and communities and Industry stakeholder representatives:
 - 130 employers, apprentices, and other organizations participated in eight roundtables discussions, balancing rural and urban representation.
 - 54 Indigenous people in 7 dialogue sessions and one-on-one meetings
 - 30 one on one meetings with stakeholder representatives with the Parliamentary Secretary, including labour organizations, Industry associations, PSI's, Student Groups, First Nations, Non-Public Trainers.
 - Over 860 participants in an on-line survey with broad representation of training system participants.
- **All Canadian Provinces require trades people to be certified, except British Columbia**
 - Several B.C. stakeholders' groups called for re-introducing compulsory trades regulation, including BC Federation of Labour, BC Building Trades, BC Chamber of Commerce.
 - In response, government directed AEST to develop a business case focused on a new, skills-driven approach to Skilled Trades Certification – which was completed in Fall 2020.

- A Stakeholder Advisory Working Group recommended 10 trades based on evidence-based criteria to identify which trades would benefit most from becoming certified in terms of wage growth and job opportunities, while minimizing increases to consumer costs for the public and labour supply issues for employers during COVID-19 recovery.
- The initial trades have the lowest number of uncertified persons working in them, which enables the trades training system time to adapt and minimizes the disruption for workers and employers, particularly during COVID-19 economic recovery.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Government is deeply concerned about challenges employers and workers are facing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to helping B.C.'s trades to fully recover and benefit from a more highly skilled and productive workforce.
- Workers without a credential are more likely to lose work during a labour market disruption
- Introducing Skilled Trades Certification trades will help provide workers with the recognition and credentials that support employment resiliency when times are tough.

Title: Health Education Programs

Issue: Training to meet health workforce needs

Key Messages and Background:

- In response to priority health workforce demands and to support the Ministry of Health's mandate to expand training in all fields of health care, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training has been working with MoH and Post-Secondary Institutions to help identify and address health education and training needs in BC.
 - This work aligns with the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services' (SSFGS) *Health Human Resources* recommendation to expand post-secondary training capacity in BC, including rural and remote access to training programs.
- Substantial government investments since 2017 have resulted in health education program growth. These investments include:
 1. Budget 2019 and additional investments by Ministry of Health and Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training added \$16.3M in annual targeted health program funding.

Allied Health:

- Highlights include new seats and regional distributions for Physiotherapy in the North and the Fraser Valley, Occupational Therapy in the Lower Mainland and the North, Sonography in the North and on the Island, and increased seats for Perfusionists. See Appendix

Nursing:

- The University of Northern BC's Northern Baccalaureate Nursing Program in Fort St. John began August 30, 2021, after a one-year program delay due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Nurse Practitioner program expansions at UBC, UVic and UNBC added 35 seats across the province.
2. Budget 2021 announced \$96M over 3 years to support training in health sector human resources (Table 1, attached).
 - In addition to \$30.2 million for training as part of the Health Career Access Program (HCAP), this includes \$65.8M in new health program funding over 3 years.
 - Program expansions are already underway, with several nursing and allied expansions implemented for September 2021 and January 2022.

Nursing

- Nursing expansions are underway across the province for programs leading to Registered Nursing, Licensed Practical Nursing, Nurse Practitioner, and nursing leadership roles.

- Budget 2021 included funding for over 500 new seats in post-secondary institutions to meet the growing demand for nurses – building on the approximately 2,000 seats in nursing programs at public-post secondary institutions today.
- AEST is currently working with PSIs to increase and expand nursing seats across a variety of programs - more announcements are coming soon.

Allied Health:

- Announced expansions include additional seats for Thompson Rivers University's Anesthesia Assistant and Respiratory Therapist programs that started in the Fall of 2021.
- AEST is currently working with PSIs to increase seats in several high priority allied health programs including laboratory, diagnostic and rehabilitation programs, with new and expanded programs starting in May 2022 through to September 2023 and beyond. Final details are being negotiated with PSI partners and further announcements are pending.

Health Career Access Program (HCAP)

- Budget 2021 included \$30.2 million to train 2,400 health care assistants (HCAs) as part of the Health Care Assistant Program (HCAP); AEST was also allocated funding for 600 training seats in 2020/21 by way of Contingencies access.
- HCAP is a fully funded training program launched in fall 2020 to address shortages of health care assistants (HCAs) in long-term care, assisted living, and home health settings.
- Led by MoH, HCAP was funded to hire and train 3,000 Health Care Support Workers through to March 31, 2022.
- Health Care Support Workers work in non-patient care roles while completing HCA training at partner PSIs.
- As of January 31, 2022, there have been 82 HCA-PP cohort starts (up to 2,166 seats); 18 cohorts have completed the training (up to 473 seats); and 11 additional cohorts are expected to start by March 31, 2022 (up to 292 seats).
- All 17 public PSIs in BC with recognized HCA programs and four private PSIs have been funded to deliver HCA-PP training seats.

3. Budget 2022 includes \$6.9M to continue to deliver on health program expansions committed through Budget 2021, along with a further \$25M for an additional 2,000 Health Career Access Program training seats.

4. The Ministry will continue to work with MoH and PSIs to make sure health education needs are aligned with current and future health workforce needs in BC.

- The Ministry will continue to work with MoH to develop and support implementation of health education and training strategies contained within *British Columbia's Health Human Resources Plan* (Advice/Recommendations)

Advice/Recommendations

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

5. The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically impacted the health care workforce in BC, including health education and training program delivery.

Positive Outcomes:

- The imperative for post-secondary institutions to pivot quickly to online learning for the theory component of health programs has increased student access and spurred ongoing program innovation.

Negative Outcomes:

- Vaccine mandates have increased HCAP program attrition in some regions.
- Clinical components of programs have also been impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and challenges with health system capacity to support student clinical placements.
- Workforce needs have been exacerbated and other sources of labour supply (e.g., in migration) have been reduced, increasing pressure on training as a supply source.

Table 1: Budget 2021 Health Education Expansion Planned Seats – February 2022

Priority occupation	Strategies and geography	New grads
Nursing		
Registered Nurse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSN • LPN2BSN • Nurse Refresher • Faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add seats system-wide, including direct-entry, career laddering and faculty development • Increase Indigenous student access and supports • Seats province-wide, with a focus on areas of population growth 	382
Registered Psychiatric Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to existing programs • Fraser region 	40
Specialty Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 300 ongoing for full support of 1,000 seats 	300
Nurse Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 15-seat program in at TRU (TBC) • 5 seats in a new post-Master's stream (UVic) 	20
Nurse Anesthetist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 20-seat program at UBC 	20
Practical Nurse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PN • Access to PN (post-HCA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add new seats system-wide, including direct-entry and career laddering seats • Increase Indigenous student access and supports • Province-wide 	180
Midwife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 20 seats including domestic and internationally educated bridge • Micro-distribution, based at UBC Vancouver or Fraser 	20
Allied Health		
Anaesthesia Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10-seat cohort-based program • Rotating annually to different HAs 	10
Genetic Counsellor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 2 seats to program (+33%) at UBC 	2
Medical Device Reprocessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute clinical placements to meet regional demand (smaller centres) 	Advice/Recommendations
Medical Laboratory Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice/Recommendations • Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops (distributed) 	Advice/Recommendations
Medical Laboratory Technologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add new seats system-wide 	28
MRI Technologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 12 seats in a new first-discipline program (BCIT) 	12
Occupational Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 16-seat program in Surrey • New 16-seat program in Victoria or Kelowna 	32
Pharmacy Technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program expansion and distribution (Interior, Island, North) 	41
Physiotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 20-seat program in Kelowna • New 20-seat program in Victoria 	40

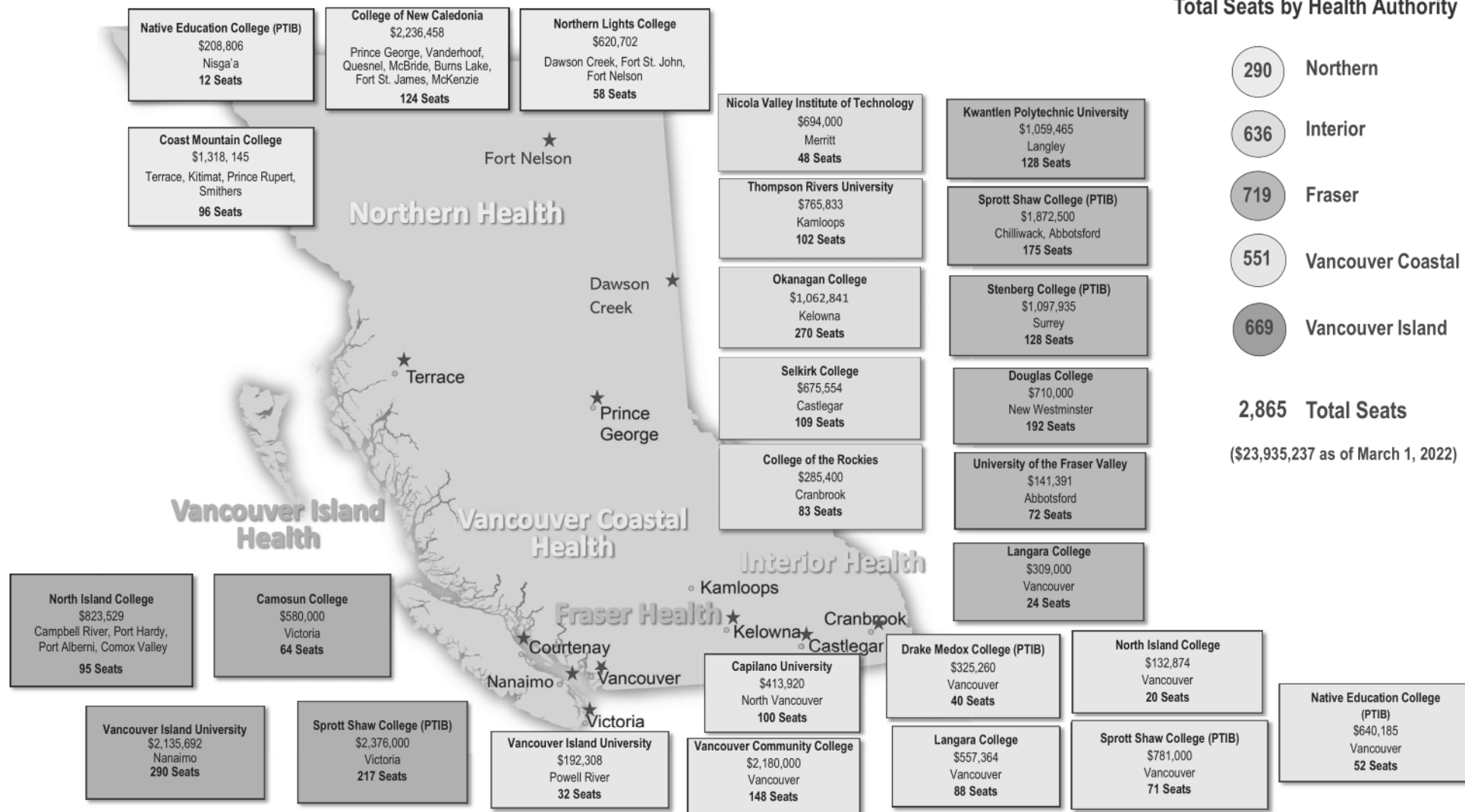
Priority occupation	Strategies and geography	New grads
Registered Dietician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New 15-seat alternate pathway MND program at UBC (no new funding) 	15
Rehabilitation Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New 20-seat Island program in partnership with CAP Add 20 seats to existing program (CAP) 	40
Respiratory Therapist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 20 fast-track seats (TRU) 	20
Social Worker (MSW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 20 seats in health-sector focused MSW 	20
Speech Language Pathologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 8 seats to current program UBC, exploring possibility of distribution 	8
Advanced Care Paramedic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New demand-driven internationally educated bridge 	20
TOTAL		1,326

UPDATE: HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT PARTNERSHIP PATHWAY (HCA-PP)

HCA-PP supporting the Health Career Access Program

Target - 3000 HCA-PP Seats

Total Seats by Health Authority



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

Last Update: March 7, 2022

Intentionally
Left Blank

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

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

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

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

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
Trades and Workforce Skills Training Programs	
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
Other	
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

Title: Capital Infrastructure

Issue: Overview of Post-Secondary Capital Asset Management

Key Messages and Background:

- British Columbia is home to some of the best post-secondary institutions and programs in the world. Investing in new and expanded buildings on public post-secondary campuses throughout the province is an investment in all our futures.
- Government is directly investing almost \$1.9 billion in planned capital expenditures in the post-secondary sector over the next three years (2022/23 to 2024/25).
- Approved projects underway > \$10M list attached
- Each year, the Ministry goes through a thorough capital plan development process that involves:
 - Requesting five-year capital plan submissions from all public post-secondary institutions.
 - Evaluating and prioritizing all project proposals received to ensure alignment with government's strategic objectives, labour market demand, and availability of capital funding.
 - Advocating and presenting our Ministry's prioritized projects for government approval as part of the Province's capital planning process.
- **The Capital Asset Management unit in my ministry works closely with all 25 public post-secondary institutions on capital infrastructure priorities and is accountable for:**
 - The oversight of asset management practices and investment within the sector.
 - Managing the Ministry's 10-year capital plan and reporting.
 - Securing Government approvals for prioritized major capital projects; allocating capital funding grants; and monitoring the scope, schedule and budgets of approved major capital projects.
 - Co-ordinating and prioritizing post-secondary institutions' five-year capital plans.
 - Ensuring sector capital asset practices align with Provincial policies (e.g. Capital Asset Management Framework, Clean BC and compliance with the *Wood First Act*).
 - Capital asset inventory management.
 - Securing Government approvals for the acquisitions and dispositions of public post-secondary institutions' lands and buildings.
 - Administering the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund, in collaboration with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.

- Allocating routine capital (maintenance) funding to public post-secondary institutions.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- To date, 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.

Current Projects >\$10m

Region	Municipality	PSI	Project	Budget (millions)	Completion	Announced	Gov't Priorities	Jobs
Vancouver Island/Coast	Victoria	UVIC	Engineering & Computer Science Bldg Expansion	\$89.6	2024	Jul 2021	Clean BC; Mass Timber Tech Seat Expansion	604
			National Centre for Indigenous Laws	\$27.4	2024	Sept 2020	Clean BC; Mass Timber TRC & DRIPA	188
			Student Housing & Dining: 783 beds (621 net new)	\$229.2	2023	Nov 2018 Jul 2020	Clean BC; Mass Timber Homes for BC	1,279
	Courtenay	NIC	Student Housing: 217 beds	\$65.9	2024	Feb 2022	Clean BC; Mass Timber Homes for BC; TRC & DRIPA	470
Lower Mainland/Southwest	North Vancouver	CAPU	Centre for Childhood Studies	\$18.6	2024	Jan 2022	Clean BC; Childcare	116
	Vancouver	UBC	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information					
	Burnaby	BCIT	Trades & Technology Complex	\$162.6	2027	Feb 2022	Clean BC; Mass Timber TRC & DRIPA	942
			Health Sciences Centre for Advanced Simulation	\$88.2	2022	Dec 2019	Clean BC; TRC & DRIPA	445
			Student Housing: 469 beds	\$114.5	2024	Sept 2020	Clean BC; Mass Timber Homes for BC TRC & DRIPA	744
		SFU	First Peoples' Gathering House	\$18.0	2023	Jun 2020	TRC & DRIPA	112
			Student Housing & Dining Hall Expansion: 386 beds	\$103.6	2022	Nov 2019	Clean BC; Homes for BC TRC & DRIPA	666
			Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information					
	Fraser Valley	UFV	Building Renewal Project	\$20.5	2022	Feb 2021	Clean BC; Wood First	171
Kootenay	Castlegar Nelson	SELK	Student Housing: 148 beds	\$25.4	2023	Oct 2021	Clean BC; Wood First Homes for BC TRC & DRIPA	170
Thompson / Okanagan	Kelowna Vernon Salmon Arm	OKAN	Student Housing: 376 beds	\$67.5	2023	Mar 2021	Clean BC; Homes for BC Mass Timbr TRC & DRIPA	527

Contact: Phil Hancyk, Executive Director, Post-Secondary Finance

236.478.3268

Last Updated: Feb 17, 2022

Page 3 of 3

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	250 213-1204

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
TOTAL		5,000		\$1,094.8

Page 059 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

Title: Co-op Education and Work-Integrated Learning

Issue: Supports for Co-op and Work-Integrated Learning for post-secondary students

Key Messages and Background:

- **Ministry funding for work-integrated learning opportunities**
 - The Ministry has invested a total of \$14.5 million co-op and work-integrated learning in partnership with our public post-secondary system
 - In 2019/20, Government invested \$9 million to support 72 pilot projects that expand co-op and other work-integrated learning opportunities for post-secondary students around the province. Results from these projects should will be available by Summer 2022.
 - As part of Budget 2021, government invested an additional \$5.5 million in one-time funding to offset the loss of work-integrated learning placements due to COVID and help students to acquire effective work experience. Currently, 46 projects supported by this funding are in progress, and the projects are expected to continue until August 2022.
 - This does not include funding for the Health Care Aid work integrated learning initiative (see Note 43) or Early Childhood Education work integrated learning initiative (see Note 42).
- **Work-integrated learning benefits**
 - Taking education beyond the classroom empowers students to get real-time experience working with employers in a range of industries.
 - Through these opportunities, students apply classroom learning and gain relevant work experience while developing connections with employers.
 - Employers benefit from students' energy, fresh ideas, knowledge and skills, and gain a firsthand look at new talent for future recruitment after graduation.
 - Pilot projects funded in 2019 and 2020 have had an increased focus on the participation of under-represented student groups in co-op and work-integrated learning, while expanding access to opportunities in rural and Indigenous communities and to a broader range of post-secondary programs.
 - This initiative is responsive to and consistent with the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services consultation for Budget 2022: "3. Provide predictable investments in programs, services, and supports across all sectors to improve gender and racial equity, access, opportunity, safety, and participation."
 - Support for co-op education and work-integrated learning was referenced in and is consistent with, the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services consultation for Budget 2022: "14. Increase investments and opportunities for upskilling, reskilling, co-ops, and micro-credential programs as well as apprenticeships and trades training."

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The COVID pandemic has disproportionately impacted youth employment prospects, including reducing the number of co-op and work-integrated learning placements available to students.
- There were 14,295 co-op work term placements in 2020/21, a reduction of 2,525 or almost 15 per cent from 16,820 placements in 2019/20.
- During the summer and fall of 2020, the efforts of many institutional staff were diverted to supporting students to find placements in a challenging labour market and to implementing online learning. Many co-op/WIL projects were delayed, on average by four to six months.
- Youth entering the workforce during an economic disruption experience longer delays in attaching to the labour market, requiring focused supports to recover in the near and longer-term. This was a key motivation for government in committing additional funding to supporting work-integrated learning opportunities as part of Budget 2021.

Title: The StrongerBC Economic Plan

Issue: StrongerBC Economic Plan actions that address talent development and skills training across the province.

Key Messages and Background:

- **The StrongerBC Economic plan includes the following eight actions to close the skills gap under the goal of Inclusive Growth:**
 - **The StrongerBC Training Initiatives** to support economic recovery. These initiatives include:
 - Indigenous community skills training and education – See Tab 31
 - Micro-credentialing – See Tab 21
 - Short-term training for in-demand jobs – See Tabs 19 and 67
 - Targeted training for health and human services – See Tab 42 and 43
 - **Going forward we are examining past and forecasted demand to inform future investments.**
 - **The creation of 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces** in public post-secondary institutions on top of the 2,900 tech seats already created
 - The next tech expansion is about addressing the immediate openings in high-opportunity tech-related occupations across the spectrum.
 - My Ministry is engaging with stakeholders in developing the next expansion plan, beginning this spring. – See Tab 4
 - **The expansion of student seats** in high opportunity sectors such as health care, high-tech, life sciences and agritech
 - The expansion of health care seats that began in Budget 2021 will continue – See Tab 43
 - New tech relevant spaces will be funded in the context of how technological change is impacting every sector – See Tab 4
 - The Future Ready Skills Plan is currently under development, with engagement with Indigenous partners, sector and regional stakeholders planned for spring 2022 – See Tab 19
 - **Support programs** to help workers, First Nations and communities through economic transition
 - The Ministry offers a suite of successful workforce development programs, to support sectors, employers, and people to reskill and upskill so they can adapt to shifting skill needs – see Tab 63

Contact: Bindi Sawchuk and Nicola Lemmer

Last Updated: March 18th, 2022

Page 1 of 2

- Flexible post-secondary and skills training, including micro-credentials, will help BC's workforce transition faster and easier – see Tab 19
- **Support for Indigenous Post-Secondary Institutes** and skills training
 - Since 2020/21, AEST has allocated \$18.5 million in one-time funding to support Indigenous institutes, to help ensure that Indigenous learners and communities, which have been hit hard by COVID-19, are not further left behind – See Tab 30
- **More graduate scholarships** and internships for innovation
 - The Ministry remains committed to support graduate student scholarships and Mitacs internships for innovation through funding and other supports – See Tab 20
- **A digital services hub** so British Columbians can easily access education for in-demand jobs – See Tab 19
- **Expanding training** for health care workers
 - The Ministry is working with the Ministry of Health and post-secondary institutions to identify and address health education and training needs – See Tabs 13 and 43.
- The StrongerBC Economic Plan also highlights the **new Trades and Technology Complex at BCIT**
 - Construction is expected to begin in Fall 2022 with completion expected by Fall 2027 – See Tab 15 (appendix)

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 067 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Cabinet Confidences

Title: Graduate Scholarships and Mitacs Internships

Issue: Government support for graduate student scholarships and Mitacs internships for innovation.

Key Messages and Background:

- Graduate students generate new ideas that contribute to the growth of a strong, and sustainable economy, as well as the overall social well-being of British Columbia.
- My Ministry has provided \$15.75 million in funding for BC Graduate Scholarships since 2018.
 - The \$12 million for the BC Graduate Scholarships announced in 2018 represented the largest investment in the province's history in scholarships for graduate students, supporting 800 awards of \$15,000 each.
 - On March 30, 2021, my Ministry announced an additional \$3.75 million in funding, supporting an additional 250 scholarships through March 2023.
 - Eligible graduate degrees range from research-intensive to professional programs. To date, students from a wide range of degree programs have received awards.
- Opportunities for students to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world problems is a real benefit of the internships facilitated by Mitacs, as well as helping businesses and organizations from a wide range of sectors.
 - The Province of British Columbia has been a long-term partner with Mitacs, providing approximately \$20 million in funding since 2018.
 - The Mitacs model is one of partnership among levels of governments, industry, and post-secondary institutions.
 - I look forward to hearing more success stories of the impact the internships have on students and the companies and organizations where they work and look forward to continuing to support Mitacs in the future.
- The StrongerBC Economic Plan commits to accelerate talent development and skills training across the province.
 - One of the commitments is more graduate scholarships and internships for innovation, and I look forward to helping to support the next generation of leaders. More information will be shared shortly.

*The Ministry has allocated Advice/Recommendations
2021/22 fiscal year end. Advice/Recommendations*

\$7M for Mitacs out of

- The Province has a number of other supports for graduate students.
 - A range of student financial aid, offered through StudentAid BC, including grants, bursaries, loans, and targeted funding for graduate students with dependants

and disabilities.

- More than 4,000 BC graduate students accessed almost \$60 million in combined federal and provincial student financial assistance through StudentAid BC in Fiscal Year 2020/21, including over \$1.3 million in non-repayable BC provincial grants and over \$14.3 million in interest-free BC student loan funding.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- N/A

Title: **Micro-credentials**

Issue: **Expanded Micro-credential Offerings and Further Framework Development**

Key Messages and Background:

- **Micro-credentials are an initiative included in the BC Economic Plan (StrongerBC Training Initiatives) and were also referred to in the Budget Speech 2022.**
 - Micro-credentials recognize short-duration learning focused on specific competencies, aligned with labour market needs and high-demand employment opportunities.
 - Due to their length, reduced cost, and often flexible learning options, micro-credentials support increased access to post-secondary education and life-long learning.
 - With a rapidly evolving economy and technological changes impacting the workforce, workers will need to adapt to these changes by engaging in continuous lifelong learning.
 - Micro-credentials help British Columbians who want to re-skill or up-skill to transition to high demand opportunities in this changing economy.
- **The Ministry has provided a total of \$7M to our public post-secondary institutions to develop and deliver micro-credentials with industry. Going forward we are examining past and forecasted demand to inform future investments.**
 - In fall 2020, the Ministry received provincial economic recovery funding of \$2M to support the development of pilot micro-credentials at public PSIs.
 - Twenty-three micro-credentials were funded at 14 public PSIs in a wide range of high-demand sectors.
 - As part of *Budget 2021*, the Ministry received an additional \$5M to continue to support micro-credential development.
 - Calls for Proposals soliciting submissions for the development and delivery of new micro-credentials went out in Fall 2021 and January 2022.
 - Proposals are under review and funding decisions will be announced shortly.
- **The Ministry is planning to work more closely with industry sectors in future to develop common core micro-credentials that can be delivered by multiple institutions.**
 - In addition to supporting emerging needs for micro-credentials across all sectors, the Ministry plans to work with key high-demand/high-opportunity industry and sector associations to support the development of core common micro-credentials that may be delivered throughout the province by multiple post-secondary institutions.
 - Employer and industry engagement in the identification, development and assessment of micro-credentials is essential and will be key to their success in meeting the real-time needs of learners.

- We will be seeking funding shortly to support this work.
- **A Micro-credential Framework has been developed and further research is underway**
 - The Ministry's Micro-credential Framework for B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions was released in September 2021, after stakeholder engagement during spring 2021.
 - The Framework supports a coordinated and consistent approach to micro-credentials across the post-secondary system and helps to ensure clarity and transparency for learners and employers.
 - Further work is underway to flesh out the Framework and to identify additional initiatives which may help all stakeholders and learners to develop and access micro-credentials.
 - Post-secondary, industry and Indigenous partners continue to be engaged.
- **Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (SSCFGS) Report supports development of micro-credentials**
 - The Ministry's work relating to micro-credentials is consistent with opportunities and recommendations highlighted in the SSCFGS Report.
 - The SSCFGS Report makes the following recommendation: Increase *investments and opportunities for upskilling, reskilling, co-ops, and micro-credential programs as well as apprenticeships and trades training*.
 - The Report notes the value of micro-credentials in getting people into the workforce quickly and in opportunities to meet the skilled labour needs of technology companies.
- **Examples of Highly Successful Micro-credentials that have been funded:**
 - UVic offered a Skills to Support Independent Living (SSIL) micro-credential which is a fall-prevention program. SSIL is an online, facilitated micro-credential that equips home care aides to use the evidence-based tools of the Strategies and Actions for Independent Living (SAIL) program. The micro-credential is focused on practical skills that can be applied immediately in learners' work settings to promote their clients' ability to live safely and independently in their homes. Over 500 learners enrolled in this micro-credential.
 - BCIT offered a Digital Transformation micro-credential which is an umbrella program that offered the students a choice of topics delivered by three different schools at BCIT. This included topics in computing, forensics, digital marketing, data analysis and robotics. For the pilot, students had a menu of 14 courses ranging from 1 to 3 credits. Over 350 learners completed this micro-credential.
 - See Attachment 1 for full list of micro-credential projects funded to date.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Micro-credentials are designed to be responsive to labour market needs, providing quick access to good education pathways and jobs.
- Many workers impacted by COVID-19 will require re-skilling and up-skilling in order to participate in the post-pandemic economic recovery.
- The initial 2020/21 investment in micro-credential pilots was part of the StrongerBC Economic Recovery Plan.

**All Funded Micro-credentials – by Theme
Announced (in black) and Not Announced Publicly (in red)
March 2022**

Life Sciences

Advice/Recommendations

Technology & Digital

ANNOUNCED

UBC	Skills in Blockchain Foundations and Applications	181,569
UBC-O	Skills in Industrial Automation: Programmable Logic Controller	210,000

Advice/Recommendations

Natural Resources, Environment & Climate Action

ANNOUNCED

BCIT	Essentials in Natural Resource and Environmental Protection	116,000
CAM	Advanced Skills for Clean Energy and Efficient Buildings	211,000
UBC	Skills for Assessing Climate Change Assessment and Adaptation	205,000

Advice/Recommendations

Health & Human Services

ANNOUNCED

CMTN	Exploring Health Careers	30,000
NIC	Medical Terminology Skills for Office Administration	97,000
UVIC	Skills to Support Independent Living (SAIL)	175,000

Advice/Recommendations

Construction and Building Maintenance

ANNOUNCED

BCIT	Introductory Studies in Mass Timber Construction (ISMTC)	197,000
SELK	Core Skills for Facilities Maintenance	136,200
SELK	Core Skills for Refrigeration Occupations	43,440
TRU	Renewable Energy (RE) Fundamentals for Electricians	197,950
VIU	Skills Development for Building Support Workers	210,000

Advice/Recommendations

Soft Skills

Advice/Recommendations

Hospitality & Tourism

Advice/Recommendations

Media		
ANNOUNCED		
NIC	Skills for Film and Television	210,000
Advice/Recommendations		

Advice/Recommendations

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: COVID-19 – Potential Financial Impacts on Public-Secondary Operating Budgets

Issue: Financial Impacts of COVID 19 on the Post-Secondary Sector

Key Messages and Background:

- **The post-secondary sector is continuing to experience financial challenges impacted by the pandemic.**
Advice/Recommendations
 - Under federal rules effective January 15, 2022, only international students with valid study permits who are over 18 years old may enter Canada if they are fully vaccinated with Health Canada-approved vaccines.
 - Institutions have also seen an increase in expenditures related to workplace safety measures with the return to campuses.Advice/Recommendations
- **While COVID-19 has had a negative financial impact on the sector, public post-secondary institutions are continuing to manage these challenges with their existing resources**
 - Institutions were approved to run budget deficits for two fiscal years, using surpluses from previous years to maintain current operations, support students and mitigate impacts on the labour force.
 - The approval recognized the need for an additional fiscal year for some PSIs to address the impact of COVID-19 on operations.
- **My Ministry continues to work with public PSIs and the Ministry of Finance as institutions work through the impacts of COVID-19.**

COVID-19 Messages:

- COVID-19 has had a negative financial impact on the sector, but public post-secondary institutions are continuing to manage the challenges with their existing resources, and with the financial flexibility granted by the Ministry of Finance for PSIs to run deficits for two fiscal years, 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- Current public post-secondary institution forecasts for 2021/22 anticipate a surplus in the sector Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information Those institutions forecasting deficits have implemented cost mitigation strategies and are leveraging accumulated surpluses to accommodate 2021/22 financial pressures.

Title: COVID-19 Impact on Students and Institutions

Issue: Non-financial impacts of COVID-19 on students and institutions

Key Messages and Background:

- **Post-secondary institutions played a key role in the Province's pandemic response by remaining open and available for learners.**
 - The initial shift to remote learning allowed students to continue their studies while offering increased flexibility and accessibility for students.
 - In-person learning for labs, trades, hands on learning, and practicums continued to be available for students.
 - Regular meetings were held with all 25 public post-secondary institutions through the Learning Continuity Working Group to ensure students had opportunities to continue learning throughout the pandemic.
 - Student enrolment stayed strong.
- **We know that in-person learning is critical to the health and wellbeing of young people.**
 - Young adults were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, including worsening mental health.
 - We launched the mental-health counselling and referral service called Here2Talk to support students who were struggling with their mental health and wellness.
 - Under the guidance of the Provincial Health Officer, institutions returned to in-person learning in September 2021 for everyone's health and wellbeing.
 - The COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines supported the safe and complete resumption of campus teaching, learning, and research.
- **There are layers of protection in place at post-secondary institutions to create a safe learning and work environment.**
 - Institutions worked with their local B.C. medical health officers to develop effective infection prevention and exposure control measures, as well as COVID-19 case management and response processes.
 - Institutions also put in place communicable disease prevention plans to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
 - These layers of protection, combined with extremely high vaccination rates, helped the post-secondary sector be very successful at reducing the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

Impact on Young Adults

- Young adults are seeing the highest unemployment rates of any age group; unemployment rates among 18- to 29-year-olds tripled during the first pandemic wave to the highest levels ever recorded in British Columbia's history.
- Young adults are twice as likely to report worsened mental health compared to adults over the age of 65.
- Impacts are compounded for those already experiencing the most stress and with the least resources, including racialized groups, LGBTQ2S+ individuals, and young adults with disabilities. In turn, this may contribute to further health inequities by concentrating a range of adverse outcomes in these populations.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommendations

Remote Learning

- There are increased requests for more flexible learning modalities (in person, online, hybrid) to accommodate different student circumstances and learning styles.
- The Province provided a temporary waiver for the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act so institutions had the flexibility to use third-party tools and applications that in limited circumstances may disclose personal information outside Canada (e.g., digital learning and exam options) to assist with the remote delivery of education.

Vaccine Mandates

- Some institutions chose to introduce proof of vaccination requirements for workers and students, along with rapid testing programs.
- BC's Provincial Health Officer is not supportive of proof of vaccination requirements for students participating in educational activities since vaccination status should not be a barrier to education.

Title: COVID 19 – Return to Campus Guidelines for BC's Post-Secondary Institutions

Issue: Post-secondary health and safety protocols to reduce the transmission of COVID-19

Key Messages and Background:

- **Since the beginning of the pandemic, the health and safety of students, faculty and staff have been the highest priority.**
 - In July 2021, COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines were developed in partnership with public health officials and post-secondary institutions to support a return to in-person teaching, learning, and research at post-secondary institutions.
 - The guidelines lead by the sector, along with individual institutional health and safety plans, ensured our PSIs were successful in reducing the spread of COVID-19 while remaining open and available for students.
 - To support students, faculty and staff over two million rapid antigen tests have been distributed as a self-management tool intended to support the continuity of on-campus learning, instruction and research. Distribution to post-secondary campuses is expected to be completed mid-March.
- **Post-secondary institutions are low-risk environments for the transmission of COVID-19.**
 - There are layers of protection in place at post-secondary institutions to create a safe learning and work environment.
 - This includes proof of vaccination requirements for students living in student housing and for some non-essential services on campus, as well as a mask mandate for all indoor public areas on campus.
 - These layers of protection, combined with extremely high vaccination rates, are working.
 - Vaccines are the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 on campus and our post-secondary community is amongst the most vaccinated populations in the world.
 - Based on experience in British Columbia and internationally, educational settings remain low-risk for COVID-19 transmission.
- **Institutions may choose to implement additional COVID-19 prevention measures beyond what is provincially required.**
 - All post-secondary institutions have developed communicable disease prevention plans.

- As part of these plans, post-secondary institutions may choose to implement additional COVID-19 prevention measures, such as proof of vaccine requirements for workers.
- However, institutions are expected to undertake their own due diligence and consult with public health.
- BC's Provincial Health Officer is not supportive of proof of vaccination requirements for students participating in educational activities since vaccination status should not be a barrier to education.
- **Public health experts in B.C. strongly recommend the continuation of on-campus instruction for post-secondary institutions.**
 - In January 2022, BC's Provincial Health Officer urged post-secondary institutions to prioritize on-campus instruction whenever possible.
 - In-person learning will help support young adults who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, especially their mental health.
 - The combination of preventive measures, Provincial Health Officer orders, and high levels of COVID-19 vaccination have been effective in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and supporting in-person learning on our campuses.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the safety of students, faculty and staff has been the top priority.
- The Ministry worked in partnership with post-secondary institutions (PSIs), public health partners and sector experts to produce the *COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines* for BC's Post-Secondary Sector.
- The Ministry continues to work in partnership with institutions, the BC Centre for Disease Control, the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, and experts from BC's post-secondary sector to update the *COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines* to support the continued safe and complete resumption of on-campus activities.
- The RTC Guidelines, along with institutional communicable disease prevention plans, helped the sector be very successful in reducing the spread of COVID-19.
- On December 21, 2021 and January 21, 2022, in letters to PSI Presidents the Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, recommended that PSIs continue on-campus teaching, learning and research as they have since September 2021.
- The Ministry continues to work with Dr. Henry and all our partners to make sure the right measures are in place to keep everyone safe.

Title: Sector Emergency Management (FTMS)

Issue: Sector role in responding to provincial emergencies

Key Messages and Background:

- **Public post-secondary institutions are a vital resource in responding to provincial and community emergencies such as annual wildfires and freshet, COVID-19 pandemic, and more recently the November flood.**
 - Public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) have historically provided a range of supports as part of a declared state of emergency including evacuee registration services, emergency shelter, emergency responder lodging, and medical services (including vaccination clinics).
 - During the 2021 heat event, post-secondary institutions applied their severe weather protocols. Some institutions closed their campuses and cancelled classes, while others provided work from home or on-line options and a few institutions opened their buildings with cooling systems to the general campus and community members. During the 2021 wildfires, all post-secondary institutions with available student housing were asked to provide temporary shelter for front line responders and evacuees. These contracts were managed between PSIs and Emergency Management BC (EMBC).
 - During the 2021 floods, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology provided, and continues to provide, grade 11 and 12 classroom space for Merritt Secondary School (SD58).
- **The Ministry supports and works in partnership with institutions and Emergency Management BC (EMBC) to support provincial emergencies.**
 - The Ministry is an active member of British Columbia Post-Secondary Emergency Planners (BCPSEP) group to improve the ability of PSIs to plan for and respond to emergencies.
 - The Ministry's Sector Partnerships and Emergency Support Branch is responsible for liaising with BCPSEP to monitor sector emergency management issues.
 - The Ministry Operations Centre maintains broad situational awareness at PSIs through various communication channels including PSI presidents, vice-presidents, and institution emergency responders and planners.
 - If required, the Ministry will assign a PSI liaison to EMBC's Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre and can also deploy trained AEST staff to support a provincial response.
 - The Ministry participates in provincial emergency planning activities such as Exercise Coastal Response, Emergency Program Act Modernization consultations and EMBC's Catastrophic Preparedness Working Group.

Contact: Jeanne Sedun Executive Director

Sector Partnerships and Emergency
Support Branch

250-952-7512

Last Updated: March 7, 2022

Page 1 of 2

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the safety of students, faculty and staff has been the top priority.
- Since May 2021, the Ministry supported four separate virtual town hall sessions with Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry to support the post-secondary sector.
- Ministry MOC staff continues to work in partnership with institutions, the BC Centre for Disease Control, the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, and experts from BC's post-secondary sector to update the COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Guidelines to support the continued safe and complete resumption of on-campus activities.

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: Aboriginal Service Plan Reconceptualization

Issue: Supporting Indigenous learners attending public post-secondary institutions in BC

Key Messages and Background:

- **My Ministry has worked closely with Indigenous partners and post-secondary institutions on the reconceptualization of the Aboriginal Service Plan (ASP) program.**
 - The new program will be phased in, over two years, starting April 2022.
 - This program is considered a significant lever to help implement the new Indigenous post-secondary education and training policy framework.
 - The reconceptualization of the program will better align it with Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
 - The program will expand to all 25 institutions, which was a commitment of the 2012 Indigenous Policy Framework.
- **Program funding levels will be stable across the system.**
 - The new program will provide stable, even allocations of funding.
 - It will include all 25 post-secondary institutions, rather than just the 11 in the original program.
 - Details on funding changes in the attached appendix.
- **The new program will have enhanced focus on community relationships and shared decision-making.**

Advice/Recommendations

- We recognize that these shifts will take time. We are working with Indigenous partners to determine deliverables for 2022/23 and future years.
- The program will continue to support public institutions to offer additional supports for Indigenous learners, including Elder programs, initiatives that provide connection to culture and community, mechanisms to ensure improved access, and removal of systemic barriers.

- **This work is consistent with the reference in the (Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (SSFGS) recommendations on Budget 2022:**
“Both Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) and the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) discussed Aboriginal Service Plan funding and highlighted the need for increased, sustainable funding that is extended to all institutions.”

If ASKED: Why are some institutions getting a funding reduction?

- There are some institutions that will receive reduced amounts from recent years.
- The Ministry is easing the transition by offering one-time bridge support to those institutions.
- The funding changes will bring certainty on the amount per institution. In previous years, amounts would fluctuate based on quality of proposals, with the minimum amount being less than the new anticipated amounts.

If pressed on the issue:

- The Ministry has been communicating these shifts to the system:
 - That the program was being reconceptualized for 2022-23 - via letter to Presidents in May 2021.
 - That the program will likely undergo changes for 2022-23 and those institutions were to ensure that funding for initiatives was not committed to beyond May 31, 2022 – via letter to letter to Presidents in August, 2021.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Indigenous people experienced disproportionate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlighted pre-existing inequalities. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry has been mindful of the distinct impacts Indigenous communities and students have faced.
- In March 2020, we provided \$1.5 million in Indigenous Emergency Assistance Funding to all public post-secondary institutions, to support students in unforeseen financial emergent situations. In March 2021, a further \$1 million supplemented the Fund, and included funding specifically for Indigenous Institutes.
- Throughout the pandemic, the Ministry included Indigenous representation on COVID committees, encouraged public post-secondary institutes to be flexible to the unique circumstances for Indigenous communities, and work alongside local Indigenous Institutes and Indigenous communities to support students.

APPENDIX: Aboriginal Service Plan Reconceptualization

Funding Changes

- The Aboriginal Service Plan (ASP) was implemented at 11 post-secondary institutions as a pilot in 2007, based on a request for proposals. Under ASP, each institution received \$200,000 and could access additional funding based on the quality of their proposals.
- In 2021-22, the Ministry targeted \$6.15 million to support PSIs with Indigenous post-sec initiatives, including \$4.4 million to 11 PSIs for their ASPs, and \$125K per institution to the 14 PSIs outside of the ASP program to support Indigenous Initiatives (\$1.75 million).
- In 2022-23, the Ministry has \$6.4 million to support all 25 PSIs in reconceptualized ASP program that will be phased in over two years. Each PSI will be eligible to receive \$250,000.
- For the **8 institutions** that will receive a reduction, the Ministry is easing that transition by offering each one-time support for the coming year.

	Post-Secondary Institutions	2021/22 Funding	Planned 2022/23 Funding	Difference from previous year	2021/22 One-time funding
Former ASP Institutions	1 Vancouver Island University (VIU)	\$555,000	\$250,000	-\$305,000	\$225,000
	2 Camosun College (CAM)	\$450,000	\$250,000	-\$200,000	\$149,000
	3 North Island College (NIC)	\$410,000	\$250,000	-\$160,000	\$120,000
	4 Coast Mountain College (CMTN)	\$355,000	\$250,000	-\$105,000	\$78,000
	5 University of Victoria (UVIC)	\$325,000	\$250,000	-\$75,000	\$35,000
	6 Capilano College (CAPU)	\$321,500	\$250,000	-\$71,500	\$53,500
	7 College of New Caledonia (CNC)	\$300,000	\$250,000	-\$50,000	Sufficient deferral
	8 University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)	\$290,000	\$250,000	-\$40,000	\$25,000
	Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT)	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0	
	Thompson Rivers University (TRU)	\$228,000	\$250,000	\$22,000	
	Vancouver Community College (VCC)	\$205,000	\$250,000	\$45,000	
	Simon Fraser University (SFU)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	University of British Columbia (UBC)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Emily Carr University of Art and Design (ECUAD)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Royal Roads University (RRU)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	College of the Rockies (COTR)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Douglas College (DOUG)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Langara College (LANG)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Okanagan College (OC)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Selkirk College (SELK)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	University of the Fraser Valley (UFV)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	
	Northern Lights College (NLC)	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$125,000	



Title: Indigenous Learner Supports

Issue: Access and Success for Indigenous learners in Post-Secondary Education

Key Messages and Background:

- **Financial supports to Indigenous learners for emergencies and through scholarships**
 - We provided \$2.5 million to support the Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund over the past two years. This includes \$150,000 to First Nations institutes. This fund provides support for Indigenous learners who have urgent or unforeseen financial emergencies that might prevent them from finishing the academic year.
 - We provided \$2 million in 2018 for the BC Indigenous Student Award, the Indigenous Masters/Doctoral Award, and the Indigenous Teacher Education Award, administered by the Irving K. Barber Scholarship Society.
- **Strategic direction to public institutions to support reconciliation**
 - My Ministry is co-developing, with First Nations, Métis Nation BC, and the Indigenous Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners, a new policy framework for Indigenous post-secondary education and skills training.
 - It builds on our current Aboriginal policy framework to guide the transformation of B.C.'s post-secondary education and skills training systems to align with the *BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action. This is consistent with Recommendation #1 in the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (SSFSGS) recommendations on Budget 2022.
 - My Ministry is working with partners to reconceptualize the Aboriginal Service Plan program, which provides funding for public institutions to offer additional supports for Indigenous learners, including Elder programs, initiatives that provide connection to culture and community, mechanisms to ensure improved access, and removal of systemic barriers. This work is consistent with Recommendation #9 in the SSFSGS recommendations on Budget 2022. (For more details see Tab 28 Aboriginal Service Plan.)
- **Calls for review of Indigenous-specific racism and discrimination in the Provincial Public Education System**
 - Eliminating racism and discrimination in the post-secondary system and supporting Indigenous learners to feel safe at whichever post-secondary institution they choose to attend are key priorities for my Ministry

- o These priorities reflect the Government of British Columbia's commitments to working with Indigenous peoples, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit partners, to implement the TRC Calls to Action and the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- o My Ministry has committed to engage Indigenous partners on the development of a review of anti-Indigenous racism and discrimination the post-secondary system.
- **Indigenous Language and Teacher Education Training**
 - o My Ministry provided \$2 million in 2019 towards pilots of community-based delivery of Indigenous Language Fluency Certificates and Diplomas that ladder into the Indigenous Language Fluency Degree.
 - o My Ministry invested \$2.73 million in 2019 to enhance Indigenous teacher education training, including:
 - \$1.4 million towards teacher education seats.
 - \$730,000 for two cohorts of a Master of Education Administration programs at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in partnership with UBC
 - \$600,000 to integrate Indigenous knowledge and culture into the B.C. teacher education curriculum

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

Indigenous people experienced disproportionate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlighted pre-existing inequalities. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry has been mindful of the distinct impacts Indigenous communities and students have faced.

In March 2020, we provided \$1.5 million in Indigenous Emergency Assistance Funding to all public post-secondary institutions, to support students in unforeseen financial emergent situations. In March 2021, a further \$1 million supplemented the Fund, and included funding specifically for Indigenous Institutes.

The Ministry also provided one-time funding to Indigenous institutes or the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) to support institutes and learners through COVID-19, initiatives include:

- In December 2020, we provided \$5 million to FNESC for First Nations skills training and education programming under the Post-Secondary Partnerships Program where the programming will address adverse COVID-19 impacts related to jobs, skills training, and education of First Nations people.
- In March 2021, we provided \$4 million to FNESC to fund the core expenses of ten Indigenous post-secondary institutes.

- In March 2021, we provided \$2 million to FNEC to support Indigenous learners whose training or education had been impacted by COVID-19.

Advice/Recommendations

- In August 2021 and February 2022, we provided a total of \$825,000 to 11 Indigenous institutes to support capacity building and recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Advice/Recommendations

Throughout the pandemic, the Ministry included Indigenous representation on COVID committees, encouraged public post-secondary institutes to be flexible to the unique circumstances for Indigenous communities, and work alongside local Indigenous Institutes and Indigenous communities to support students.

Title: Indigenous post-secondary education and training institutes

Issue: StrongerBC Economic Plan: BC's support for Indigenous institutes

Key Messages and Background:

- **Indigenous post-secondary education and training institutes play a critical role in BC's post-secondary education and skills training system.**
 - There are over 40 Indigenous institutes in B.C., and most do not receive ongoing funding from BC or Canada, instead relying on short-term Band and programming funds.
 - Indigenous institutes are directly controlled by First Nations and respond to communities' priorities and needs; support their inherent right to self-determination and self-government; contribute to community capacity building; and often play a key role in the revitalization of languages and culture.
 - Indigenous institutes provide academic and personal supports from within or nearby First Nations communities, enabling learners to attend post-secondary education and training while also maintaining their familial responsibilities and ties.
 - Support for Indigenous institutes is a goal in the Ministry's 2012 Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework and Action Plan. Since then, the Ministry worked closely with the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) and the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) to develop an approach to funding Indigenous institutes.
- **Since 2020/21, AEST has allocated** Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information **to help ensure that Indigenous learners and Indigenous communities, which have been hit hard by COVID-19, are not further left behind:**
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information **to 10 Indigenous institutes for core operating costs over two years. (\$4 million in 2021/22,** Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
 - Criteria and evaluation were jointly administered by FNESC, IAHLA and the Ministry.
 - Selected Indigenous institutes were experienced in delivering post-secondary education and training programs.
 - Aligns with action in Declaration Act Action Plan.
 - \$3.2 million in capacity funding provided to Indigenous institutes over 2 years:
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- \$825,000 (\$75,000 each) to 11 First Nations institutes.
- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information to support post-secondary programming delivered by First Nations institutes:
 - 2020/21: Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information as a top up for funding received from Indigenous Services Canada for the Post-Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP).
 - 2021/22: Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information under the PSPP.
 - 2021/22: \$2 million to support Indigenous learners whose learning was impacted by COVID-19.
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
- **The Ministry provides approximately \$10.9 million ongoing funding to three Indigenous institutes in BC:**
 - Approximately \$8.5 million per year to Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT), designated as a public institution to serve Indigenous learners in 1995.
 - Approximately \$400 thousand to Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Institute (pronounced: wilp will-kosk-wuh nis-ga), based on treaty commitments.
 - Approximately \$1.95 million per year to Native Education College.
- **Funding advances reconciliation and helps implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* by responding to Article 14 of the United Nations Declaration which affirms that Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their own educational systems and institutions.**

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased demands on Indigenous institutes. Many Indigenous communities have “locked down”, Indigenous people have lost employment, and Indigenous learners have been required to continue online studies from home, Intergovernmental Communications
- Funding will help Indigenous institutes ensure Indigenous learners can continue to participate in online learning, including community members who have lost work due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Appendix: Breakdown of funding for Indigenous Institutes FY 2021/22

1. \$4 million in core funding to 10 established First Nations controlled IAHLAS @ \$400K each (funded via co-developed agreement with FNEC)
 - Chemainus Native College, Ladysmith
 - En'owkin (en-ow-kin) Centre, Penticton
 - Gitksan Wet'suwet'en (gicks-san wet-so-a-den) Education Society, Hazelton
 - Kyah Wiget Education Society, Smithers
 - Neskonlith (ness-con-lith) Education Centre, Chase
 - Nuxalk (new-hawk) College- Lip'alhayc Learning Centre, Bella Coola
 - Saanich Adult Education Centre, Brentwood Bay
 - Seabird College, Agassiz
 - Ted Williams Memorial Learning Centre, Burns Lake
 - Ts'zil Learning Centre, Mount Currie
2. \$825 thousand in capacity funding to 11 less established First Nations controlled Indigenous Adult and Higher Education Learning Association (IAHLA) @ \$75K each (funded via AEST, following FNEC agreement criteria).
 - Kitimat Valley Education Society, Haisla Nation, Kitimat
 - St'at'imc Education Institute, Lillooet Tribal Council, Lillooet
 - Stucwtewsecmc Education Centre, Bonaparte Indian Band, Cache Creek
 - Wabsuwilaks'm Gitselasu Adult School, Kitselas First Nation, Terrace
 - Heiltsuk (helts-uk) College, Heiltsuk Nation, Bella Bella
 - Snuneymuxw (snue-ney-mowck) First Nation/House of Learning, Snuneymuxw First Nation, Nanaimo
 - Gitwangak (git-wan-gawk) Education Society, Gitwangak Band Council, Kitwanga
 - Ntamtqen Snmamayatn, Lower Similkameen Indian Band, Keremeos
 - Ahousaht (a-howz-at) First Nation
 - Tahltan (tall-tan) Central Government
 - Gitanyow (git-n-yow) First Nation

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Title: Indigenous Skills Training and Education Programs

Issue: Implementing Indigenous Skills Training and Education through Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program (ACBTP) and Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund (ISTDF).

Key Messages and Background:

- **The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training changed the way it works to advance reconciliation by aligning Indigenous skill training and education program delivery with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and the *Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples*.**
 - The Ministry is taking a distinctions-based approach to co-developing a long-term Indigenous Skills Training and Education program with Indigenous Peoples of BC to ensure unique rights, circumstances and interests are understood and reflected.
 - The Ministry has increased partnership with Métis Nation BC, the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, and other key Indigenous partners in BC.
 - Transforming the approach for Indigenous Skills Training and Education programs has doubled program access from 63 communities in 2018/19 to 127 First Nations communities 2021/22.
- **My Ministry has invested \$39M in 2021/22 for Indigenous Peoples in BC to access community-based skills training and post-secondary education so they are prepared for jobs across the economy.**
 - In 2021/22, <sup>Advice/
Recom</sup> of ISTE programming is funded through
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
 - \$12M of ISTE programming is funded through the BC-Canada Workforce Development Agreement.
 - In 2021/22, ISTE programming served two-thirds or a total 183 out of 267 Indigenous communities.
 - The 267 Indigenous communities include: 203 First Nations, 39 Métis Chartered Communities, and 25 Friendship Centres.
 - This funding also supports sector-based training collaborations with construction, tourism, technology, and trades that continues to expand Indigenous peoples' economic opportunities.

- **Through the Indigenous Skills Training and Education Program, my Ministry works for Indigenous communities' self-determination to ensure their current and future skills training and employment needs are met by increasing resources to support their response to the pandemic.**
 - In 2020/21, AEST allocated \$15M to support Indigenous learners and Indigenous communities, which have been hit hard by COVID-19, to reduce impacts and barriers faced by Indigenous peoples.
 - The Ministry has worked directly with First Nations and Indigenous partners to adapt to changing workforce needs and mitigate impacts of natural disasters.

COVID-19 and Environmental Emergencies Impact Summary:

- The pandemic caused significant disruption to and resulted in delayed program delivery. AEST staff have worked to mitigate impacts to sustain communities to continue to deliver skills training, education, and employment programs.
- In 2020/21, AEST allocated \$15M to support Indigenous learners and Indigenous communities, which have been hit hard by COVID-19, to reduce impacts and barriers faced by Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous Skills Training and Education Programs Overview:

Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund (ISTDF)

- Provides funding to Indigenous communities across the province to increase access to skills training and education for Indigenous learners in community.
- Responds to emerging labour market opportunities.
- Projects support Indigenous community priorities including essential skills and upgrading, literacy and numeracy, driver's license training, various trades training programs and include wrap-around supports such as childcare, transportation, life skills, counselling, and cultural supports.

Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program (ACBTP)

- Provides funding to Indigenous communities to support partnerships with post-secondary institutions across the province to deliver education and training to Indigenous learners to further education and labour market participation.
 - Provides Indigenous participants with post-secondary education in their communities that will lead to employment or further education and training;
 - Supports priorities of Indigenous communities, including responding to new economic opportunities and industry needs for a local skilled labour force; and
 - Provides recognized post-secondary credentials or credits that are transferable.

Success Stories:

ISTDF

In 2020-21, the Kitselas First Nations received \$140k to deliver skills training plus a “Day Labour Program” for multi-barriered community members. Members were trained in transferable skills, essential skills, and provided with wrap-around supports. 64 participants accessed training in their community -- 45 people obtained employment and 6 moved on to further education. This training project was linked to increasing food sovereignty and food security in the northern regions of BC.

ACBTP

In 2020-21 Nawalakw (Nahwahlahwk) Healing Society delivered training that will enable First Nations youth and cultural leaders from 8 First Nations in the Waddington Region on Vancouver Island, to deliver cultural and youth healing camps in their traditional territories. The project received \$182K to support 91 community members to obtain skills training certification for entry into the tourism and outdoor education sector; 84 participants were employed and 6 moved on to further education.

Title: Declaration Act Action Plan – AEST Actions

Issue: Summary of AEST Actions and Implementation Progress

Key Messages:

- **The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training has strong relationships with Indigenous partners, which have been instrumental to co-determine the best approach to implement the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration) in the post-secondary education and skills training sectors.**
 - The Actions that my Ministry is responsible for are the result of many years of collaboration and co-operation with Indigenous partners.
 - My Ministry has had a bilateral protocol agreement with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) since 2016, which formalized many years of strong partnership with these organizations.
 - My Ministry also meets regularly with Métis Nation BC, in order to ensure that Métis' unique rights, circumstances and interests are understood and reflected in policy and programs.
- **My Ministry leads or shares responsibility for implementing eight (8) actions in the Declaration Act Action Plan (Action Plan).**
 - The actions are bold but achievable and outline tangible steps that we can take along our shared journey to implement the UN Declaration.
 - We will work closely with Indigenous partners to implement these actions.
- **My Ministry is already taking steps to implement many of these actions**
 - This is a five-year plan, therefore many of the actions require policy work prior to determining funding needs.
 - We have already begun work to implement most of these actions (6 of the 8).
 - For example, we have been working with the FNESC and IAHLA to better support First Nations mandated post-secondary institutes for many years.
 - Last year, we provided \$4 million to support the core expenses of 10 well-established First Nations mandated institutes, and an additional \$825,000 to build the capacity of 11 other First Nations institutes.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- AEST staff are currently engaging on the draft *Indigenous Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training Policy Framework* which was co-developed with Indigenous and post-secondary partners.
 - We hope to finalize engagement in the next few months so this important document can be published soon, helping provide direction across the post-secondary and skills training sectors to implement the *Declaration Act*.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The pandemic delayed and limited AEST engagement on the draft action plan and has impacted the implementation of actions. AEST has provided funding to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous communities and learners, which has aligned with priorities in the Action Plan (funding amounts in Indigenous Learner note – see 29 and Indigenous Institutes note – see 30).

APPENDIX

AEST Actions

1.10 Recognize role of Indigenous-led post-secondary institutes through core funding, capacity funding and the development of legislation.

Advice/Recommendations; Government
Financial Information

Status: Provided one-time COVID Economic Recovery Funding in 2021/2022.

- Advice/Recommendations: for core operating funding to 10 First Nations institutes experienced in delivering post-secondary education and training programs.
- Advice/Recommendations: for capacity building funding to 11 First Nations institutes and to support the first steps of development of a Métis institute.

Next Steps: Included as action in Government's Economic Plan: StrongerBC

1.11 Work with NVIT and the Urban Native Youth Association to co-develop an urban Indigenous centre that supports childcare, housing and post-secondary.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Concept Plan completed (but not yet announced), proceeding to Business Case.

Next steps: Developing the project business case with stakeholders and seeking funding partners.

Strengthen the capacity of the Native Education College (NEC).

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Working in partnership with NEC on future options. Advice/Recommendations; Government

Advice/Recommendations;
Government Financial

Next steps: Discussions ongoing with NEC regarding future plans.

4.5 Co-develop policy framework for Indigenous post-secondary education and skills training that includes:

- a. supporting post-secondary institutions to be more culturally relevant and responsive to First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners and communities;
- b. expanding the Aboriginal Service Plan program to all 25 public post-secondary institutions;
- c. ensuring Indigenous learners have access to student housing that is safe, inclusive, and enables them to thrive; and
- d. developing mechanisms for First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners and communities to play an integral role in public post-secondary institutions' decision-making, and identifying legislative amendments needed to ensure all public post-secondary institution boards include at least one Indigenous person.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Broad engagement with Indigenous and post-secondary education and training organizations on draft policy framework currently underway.

- a. Ongoing / in progress as directed through Institution Accountability Plans and Reports
- b. A new program will be phased in over two-years, beginning in 2022-23, with all 25 institutions involved.
- c. The ministry is developing a three-year action plan with the Student Housing Working Group, including FNEC and Métis Nation BC.

- d. Discussions underway to identify legislative amendments to ensure at least one Indigenous person per institution board.

Next steps: Publish policy framework in summer 2023.

AEST Shared Responsibility Actions

4.2 Develop and implement recruitment and retention strategy to increase the number of Indigenous teachers in the K-12 public education system (EDUC & AEST)

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Builds on previous investments to support Indigenous teacher education in-community.

Next steps: Co-developing with Indigenous partners.

4.17 As committed to in the First Nations Children and Youth in Care Protocol, co-develop and implement measures to support improved education outcomes of current and former First Nation children and youth in care. (EDUC, MCFD & AEST)

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: AEST is working in collaboration with the Student Housing Working Group, including FNESC and Metis Nation BC, to develop leading practices that will support the recommendation to prioritize Indigenous learners and current and former youth-in-care in student housing offers.

Next steps: Discussing approach with Student Housing Working Group and Protocol membership.

4.28 Establish an Indigenous-led working group to develop a strategy for the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages in B.C., including potential legislative supports. (MIRR, EDUC, AEST)

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Not started. MIRR is government lead.

4.29 Support Indigenous language revitalization through sustainable funding. (MIRR & AEST)

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: AEST provided \$2 million in 2019 to support community-based delivery of Indigenous Language Fluency Certificates and Diplomas which ladder into the Indigenous Language Fluency Degree.

- The \$2 million has been dispersed to five communities and organizations to create new language degrees, including the Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Language Fluency, which was publicly announced in March 2021 through a partnership with UBC-O, NVIT, and En'owkin Centre.

Next Steps: Co-developing with Indigenous partners.

4.40 Work with First Nations, Métis chartered communities and urban Indigenous organizations to provide funding for self-determined, community-led programs for Indigenous peoples to upgrade skills, obtain credentials, secure employment, and develop and support community economies. (AEST & SDPR)

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Status: Programming is on-going. Current funding: \$12 million Prov + \$12 million WDA

Next Steps: Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Title: Urban Indigenous Youth & Education Project

Issue: Update on Project Status

Key Messages and Background:

- **Government is excited to be progressing on a significant project in shared purpose with Urban Native Youth Association, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and the City of Vancouver (Business Case not announced: expected in April 2022).**
 - Formed in 1988, the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA) serves ~ 30,000 urban Indigenous youth and adults each year through community connection programs, education and training, health and wellness, housing and transition supports.
 - Formed in 1983 and made public in 1995, the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) is BC's only Indigenous-governed, public post-secondary institution, with a provincial mandate for Indigenous education.
 - Since December 2020, AEST has met regularly with a partnership table that includes UNYA, NVIT, Infrastructure BC, BC Housing, the City of Vancouver / Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Indigenous Services Canada to develop a revised concept plan.

Cabinet Confidences

- **The proposed project is located on East Hastings in downtown Vancouver, where urban Indigenous youth and adult learners will be able to access educational programs with wrap-around supports such as culturally appropriate childcare, recreational opportunities and affordable housing.**
 - The Project will enable UNYA and NVIT to integrate their programs and services in new facilities to support Indigenous youth and adult learners with culturally appropriate mental health counselling, wellness services, high school education and transitions to post-secondary education and skills training.
 - The Project will also provide much-needed affordable housing and childcare for urban Indigenous youth, students, and their families (Indigenous operators to be identified).
 - The Project aligns with commitments in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and supports recommendations under the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

- **Next steps for developing a business plan for the Project in collaboration with our partners.**

Government Financial Information

- The Ministry has allocated \$2.5M to NVIT toward the cost of completing the business case.

Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: International Students and COVID-19 Impacts

Issue: Impact of COVID-19 on international education and recovery plan.

Key Messages and Background:

- **Public health measures for COVID-19 impacted international student enrolment and arrivals, but the full impact of border and travel restrictions is still to be determined.**
 - Federal travel exemptions allowed international students on study permits to enter Canada and attend specially designated institutions.
 - The Province set up a system to ensure institutions had plans in place to support health, safety, and student quarantines to meet federal requirements to host international students. More than 35,000 international students arrived in B.C. under this system (August 2020-December 2021).
 - International enrolment in 2020 declined 12% from 2019 (down 22,000 students to 165,815), and further declines are anticipated in the 2021 data (available in spring 2022).
 - As required by the federal government, all incoming international students must be fully vaccinated since January 2022.
 - The Ministry is working closely with institutions to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 on post-secondary operations, including international enrolment.
- **International students in B.C. were supported during the COVID-19 pandemic.**
 - The Province ensured international students have access to key supports, including: *Here2Talk* – government’s new mental health counselling and referral service for post-secondary students, and temporary policy changes to MSP coverage that benefit eligible international students.
 - Other provincial programs available to eligible international students during the pandemic included: the B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers and the B.C. Temporary Rental Supplement Program.
 - The federal government implemented temporary changes to work permits to give international students more flexibility during this challenging time.
 - Institutions responded by providing student housing, financial and other assistance, including bursaries, emergency funding and mental health support.
 - Camosun College community assembled and hand-delivered weekly care hampers, with produce, meals, and non-perishable food to any student in need. 829 hampers were delivered over the course of the project.
 - Kwantlen Polytechnic started an International Student Mentorship Program for new international students at the beginning of their studies.
 - College of New Caledonia adopted an app for incoming international students to help them with their arrival, deliver news and information about CNC and Prince George, and connect with college supports.

- College of the Rockies launched a “JumpStart” programs led by Student Navigators to help incoming students start their year successfully.
- **AEST is developing an international education framework to retain B.C.’s share of international students to support financial stability and B.C. economic recovery.**
 - Engagement with the sector, students and other partners is underway to ensure B.C. continues to deliver the quality educational experience all students expect and deserve in our post-secondary ecosystem.
 - Longer-term policy shifts will help mitigate pressures and better align with the B.C. government’s foundational values, priorities, and interests.
 - This is consistent with the recommendation of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to promote B.C. as a welcoming jurisdiction for international students.
 - The framework will:
 - Put students first and generate positive educational outcomes for all learners through diversity and global experiences.
 - Ensure all B.C. communities benefit from international education.
 - Drive system integrity through high quality standards.
- **International education contributes to all students’ education and will support economic recovery and workforce needs.**
 - International students spent over \$6.6 billion in 2019, including tuition and living expenses, supporting nearly 53,400 jobs in communities throughout the B.C.¹
 - International tuition revenue was \$1.3 billion for public PSIs in 2020/21
 - The Stronger B.C. Economic Plan and the B.C. Labour Market Outlook identify the challenge of a skills and talent shortage in B.C.’s economy and the role immigrants will play in helping the province meet labour market needs.
 - B.C.’s international education sector can support the province’s economic and labour market goals by attracting potential immigrants to quality education programs that lead to high opportunity jobs.

¹ An Update on the Economic Impact of International Education in British Columbia, Dr. Roslyn Kunin, 2020 (unpublished).

Appendix 1

B.C. International Student Enrolment – all levels

Sector	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change since 2013 - # and %
Public Post-Secondary	35,410	39,235	45,410	50,710	59,350	71,275	77,930	80,380	44,970 (127%)
Private Post-Secondary	52,530	55,700	53,747	59,105	68,588	76,469	88,389	64,567	12,037 (23%)
K-12	13,040	14,135	16,958	18,710	20,437	21,131	21,271	20,868	7,828 (60%)
Total	100,980	109,070	116,115	128,525	148,375	168,875	187,590	165,815	64,835 (64%)

B.C. International Student Arrivals – all levels since August 2020 – December 2021

	# Designated PSIs	Total arrivals August 2020 – December 2021	Reported positive Covid-19 cases during quarantine
Public PSIs	24 (NVIT did not apply)	18,254	52
Private Degree-Granting	17	6,659	57
Private Training/Other	151	10,154	31
Total	192	35,067	140

Title: International Education/British Columbia Council for International Educational (BCCIE)

Issue: International education and BCCIE's supporting role

Key Messages and Background:

- **AEST is developing an International Education Framework.**
 - The framework will:
 - Put students first and generate positive educational outcomes for all learners through diversity and global experiences.
 - Ensure all B.C. communities benefit from international education.
 - Drive system integrity through high quality standards.
 - Engagement with the sector, students and other partners is underway to ensure B.C. continues to deliver the quality educational experience all students expect and deserve in our post-secondary ecosystem.
 - One action item under the proposed Framework is tuition transparency for international students, so that they know the full cost of their education prior to starting a program.
 - This is consistent with the recommendation of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to promote B.C. as a welcoming jurisdiction for international students.
- **The BC Council for International Education supports delivery of quality international education and the Province's international education priorities.**
 - BCCIE works with government, public and private post-secondary institutions, and school districts to help keep B.C. a leader in international education.
 - AEST provides BCCIE with \$1.5 million in annual operating funding. BCCIE also receives ad hoc project funding from AEST and EDUC and generates revenue from events.
 - AEST engaged an external review of BCCIE's mandate, governance, and future direction. Government is currently reviewing the recommendations and planning for next steps.
- **B.C. has a strong international reputation as a high-quality study destination, attracting a significant number of international students.**
 - B.C. is the 2nd most popular study destination for international students in Canada, hosting almost 25% of all international students in the country.
 - In 2020, there were 165,815 international students from over 150 countries studying at all levels in B.C.—an increase of 64% since 2013.
- **International students are an important part of our public-post secondary system.**

- AEST has enrolment guidelines that state public PSIs are expected to ensure domestic students are not displaced by international students.
- In 2020/21, international student tuition revenue was \$1.3 billion, almost 19% of total revenues.
- In 2020, 19% of public post-secondary students were international.
- Institutions with the highest proportion of international students are:
 - UBC: 26% (18,845)
 - College of the New Caledonia 28% (2,000)
 - Langara College: 30% (6,435)
 - Capilano University: 32% (3,140)
- **International education contributes to all students' education, and the B.C. economy.**
 - International education makes an important contribution to all students' educational experiences.
 - Students from all over the world have chosen to study in B.C. – their skills, talents and cultural perspectives help us to build a more diversified economy, and therefore, a stronger one.
 - International students spent over \$6.6 billion in 2019, including tuition and living expenses, supporting an estimated 53,400 jobs in communities throughout BC.¹
- **International education partnerships support research and innovation.**
 - National security concerns prompted the federal government to establish a joint Government/Universities Working Group with representatives of Canada's research institutions. Together they developed guidelines to evaluate funding for research projects and partnerships, safeguarding federally funded research.
 - Announced in July 2021, the guidelines apply to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Ottawa's main scientific research granting agency. The risk assessment process may be expanded to all federal granting councils and the Canadian Foundation for Innovation in future.
 - B.C. research universities have systems in place to manage security and research integrity issues.
 - B.C. shares the concern that the protection of leading edge research is in Canada's national security interest, and we will continue to collaborate with federal, provincial, and territorial governments, and institutions.

¹ An Update on the Economic Impact of International Education in British Columbia, Dr. Roslyn Kunin, 2020 (unpublished).

Title: Labour Market Impacts of COVID-19

Issue: Impact of the pandemic on British Columbia's labour market

Key Messages and Background:

- **The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted economies in B.C., across Canada, and around the world.**
- **British Columbia is a leader in Canada's economic recovery**
 - Lowest unemployment rate in January at 5.1%, tied with Manitoba.
 - Employment reached new high, now 63,000 (2.4%) above pre-pandemic level.
- **Health care, social assistance and public administration had tremendous employment growth**
 - Extraordinary expansion of workers in hospitals and all levels of government during the pandemic, increasing by 83,300 since February 2020.
- **Employment increased among many demographic groups**
 - Low unemployment rate for visible minorities and non-visible minorities (both 5.3%).
 - Strong employment growth among young women (15-24 years), up 9.2% since February 2020.
 - Solid employment growth among core-age population (25-54 years), up 2.5% since February 2020.
 - Strong recovery for both full-time workers (1.4%) and part-time workers (5.9%) since February 2020.
- **Not all people have experienced the same recovery**
 - The number of people in long-term unemployment (29,100) is nearly twice the pre-pandemic level (15,400).
 - Self-employment remained far below pre-pandemic level, down 10.3% from Feb 2020.
 - Part-time work has seen the most growth during the pandemic (5.9%), whereas full-time is up (1.4%).
 - The Northeast and Kootenay regions had declines in labour market participation, whereas Vancouver Island and Coast region had the highest gains.
- **Despite COVID-19 impacts, B.C. continues to be an economic leader in Canada. This, together with *The StrongerBC Economic Plan*, puts us on a solid foundation to make life better for people and families by laying out a long-term plan to grow B.C.'s economy by tackling today's challenges.**

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, numerous emergency health measures have been implemented in British Columbia and around the world, in an effort to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.
- The initial B.C. lockdown measure implemented during the first wave of the pandemic reduced employment temporarily by 408,000 (down 15.4%) in March and April 2020.
- Subsequently, B.C.'s economy restarted and recovered quickly with 11 straight months of employment increases.
- During the third wave of the pandemic in April 2021, British Columbia applied a three-week circuit breaker measure to stop the surge of the Delta variant, and employment decreased temporarily by 42,800.
- As British Columbians now move into the fifth wave of the pandemic, with the majority vaccinated, most of the measures B.C. is now implementing focuses on limiting capacity rather than a full lock down to slow the spread of Omicron variant.
- The B.C. economy is resilient, with 2.706 million people working as of January 2022, and now 63,000 above the pre-pandemic (February 2020) level, or up 2.4%.
- The unemployment rate – an indicator of the proportion of the labour force that is actively looking for work – has now decreased to 5.1%, for the first time below the pre-pandemic (February 2020) level of 5.2% – indicating a strong and tight labour market.
- As the transmissibility of Omicron is higher than any other variants, workforce illness has increased to a record high in Canada. B.C. had a slightly higher share of workforce illness (12%) compared to the national level of 10% due to fewer business restrictions compared to other provinces.

Employment impact by type of work and industry

- Both full-time employment and part-time employment in January 2022 are far above the pre-pandemic level, up 29,900 (1.4%) and 33,000 (5.9%).
- Private sector and public sector employees in January 2022 are up 44,600 (2.6%) and 67,300 (14.1%) respectively, but self-employment remained 49,000 (-10.3%) below the pre-pandemic level.
- Throughout the pandemic, Health care and social assistance and public administration led most employment gains, up 54,700 (16.5%) and 28,600 (25.1%) since February 2020.
- Since February 2020, employment also increased substantially in Manufacturing (12.8% or up 21,300), Professional, scientific, and technical services (9.5% or up 21,000), and Wholesale and retail trade (5.5% or up 22,600).
- Construction as well as Accommodation and food services made the most significant employment losses, down by 35,800 (down 14.4%) and 30,300 (down 15%) since February 2020.
- Since February 2020, employment also fell in:
 - Agriculture (down 16.8% or 4,900) that may be partly associated with late 2021 flooding.

- Business, building and other support services (down 16.5% or 18,900) which could be suggesting the ongoing shift to working from home and the reduction in janitorial, landscaping and carpentry service
- Other services (down 13.7% or 16,700) which is another high customer-facing industry that was hit hard during the pandemic.

Employment impact by demographic groups

- During the initial lockdown, labour supply was affected from travel bans and losses in the number of immigrants arriving to Canada. Since summer of 2021, immigration has increased significantly. In January 2022, the population of the very recent immigrants (those who landed 5 years and earlier) remained 8.9% below the February 2020 level, down from the 35.6% gap in September 2020.
- Compared to February 2020, employment among young women had an impressive rebound, up 9.2%, whereas employment fell 2.2% among young men, partly related to the recent Omicron-related health measures and slow growth of young men population.
- Employment among core-age women and core-age men increased notably from the pre-pandemic level, up 2.3% and 2.7%, respectively.
- There remains 33,000 of those in long-term unemployment who could not find work for more than 27 weeks, representing 23% of total unemployment, compared to the pre-pandemic level of 12%.
- Visible minorities were hit hard during the pandemic with an unemployment rate of 14.1% in July 2020 (data only available since then) compared to 9.8% for non-visible minorities. The unemployment rates were low for both visible minority and non-visible minority, equal at 5.3% in January 2022.

Employment impact by region

- All regions experienced impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic with employment declines in the industries most directly affected by physical distancing restrictions: tourism & hospitality industries (e.g., accommodation and food, culture and recreation, and travel), repair and personal services, and retail trade.
- Generally, impact varied from region to region based on the relative importance of those industries being affected by health measures.
- The Vancouver Island & Coast region experienced the largest increase in participation in labour market (up 2.2 percentage points from February 2020), whereas the Northeast region had the largest drop in participation (down 4.9 percentage points from February 2020).

Labour Force Participation Rate and Change by Region (January 2022) *

Vancouver Island and Coast	60.1%	+2.2ppts
Lower Mainland-Southwest	66.7%	+0.0ppts
Thompson-Okanagan	60.9%	-0.8ppts
Kootenay	56.1%	-2.9ppts
Cariboo	64.4%	+0.2ppts
North Coast and Nechako	63.7%	+0.2ppts
Northeast	69.1%	-4.9ppts

**Percentage change from Feb 2020, three-month moving average*

Title: Labour Market Outlook

Issue: The 2021 edition of the *British Columbia Labour Market Outlook* and the plan for the 2022 edition.

Key Messages and Background:

- **2021 Labour Market Outlook (LMO) provides British Columbians the best forward-looking labour market information**
 - Looks 10 years into the future which reflects our new approach to economic policy as laid out in the StrongerBC Economic Plan.
 - Anticipates a more sustainable and inclusive province for British Columbians by providing up-to-date information on where the high opportunity jobs are going to be.
 - Provides British Columbians tools they can use to make informed decisions on careers, skills training, education and hiring.
- **Over 1 million job openings (1,004,000) between 2021 and 2031**
 - This is a positive for British Columbians, workers have options to pursue their careers, up-skill and reskill to higher wage jobs - there is no shortage of job openings in every part of the province.
 - We've been preparing for these openings - since 2017 our government has added thousands of education and training opportunities in high-opportunity sectors.
 - Health care and tech sectors are driving growth, as our population grows due to more people choosing B.C. to live, work and play, and increasing productivity as we rapidly adopt new digital technologies in response to the short- and long-term impacts from COVID-19.
 - Anticipates B.C.'s strong economic recovery from the pandemic as we regain those jobs lost due to COVID and add even more as our economy grows.
 - As a result, the LMO identifies five industries that will account for about half of all job openings: Health care and social assistance, Professional, scientific, and technical services, Retail Trade, Construction and Accommodation and food services.
- **Will still need to fill over 83,000 job openings over the next 10 years**
 - Represents a supply gap and indicates a relatively tight labour market. It increases the chance that employers will face labour shortages for certain occupations and at certain times.
 - Of the more than 1 million openings, 63% will be due to replacement (e.g., retirement) and 37% will be due to economic expansion.

- However, B.C.'s labour market is efficient and flexible. Additional supply will likely come from more people joining or returning to the labour force.
- The thousands of education and training opportunities that government has added and increased supports (such as childcare) will increase labour force participation.
- **Access to post-secondary education and training is key**
 - Of the more than 1 million openings, nearly 80% will require some form of post-secondary education or training.
 - Nearly 30% will require a certificate or diploma excluding apprenticeship, and just over 10% will require an apprenticeship certificate.
 - While just over 35% will require a bachelor's, graduate, or professional degree.
 - The Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow plans will equip British Columbians with the education and training they need.
- **The LMO identifies 130 High Opportunity Occupations (HOO)**
 - HOO offer greater employment opportunities since they face higher demand and better pay when compared to others.
 - As B.C.'s economy grows, provides British Columbians insight into the labour market of tomorrow so they can make informed decisions for their future.
 - This information is easily accessible through the High Opportunity Occupations Tool, available at WorkBC.ca, this provides HOO listings at both the B.C. level and the regional level.
- **New online tools available on WorkBC.ca**
 - Provide LMO information and data online so British Columbians can access it easily and in several different ways.
 - The LMO online dashboard is an interactive tool that allows users to retrieve and visualize data from the report, whether it be by region, industry, or occupation.
 - Similarly, the Career Search Tool and Career Transition Tool connect people with information they need to make career decisions.
- **2022 Edition of the LMO**
 - Will be the tenth edition of the B.C. LMO and cover the period from 2022 to 2032.
 - Provide an updated forecast of the labour market, incorporating the ongoing changes in the B.C. economy as our population grows, increasing technological advancements, and recovery from COVID-19.
 - Expected release date fall of 2022.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The 2020 LMO was not released due to uncertainties around the pandemic.

Contact: Susan Parhar, Executive Director, Labour Market Analytics, Forecasting and Information (250) 415-4166

Last Updated: March 4, 2022

Page 2 of 3

- The 2021 LMO was produced well into the pandemic, during the spring and summer of 2021. As a result, it reflects the impact of the pandemic on the labour market and B.C.'s economy.
- The short-term impact of COVID-19 was observed in the large increase (+106,000) in expansion job openings from the 2019 edition. This was due in some part to the bounce-back of industries hit hard by COVID-19 in the first few years of the forecast.
- COVID-19 also had an impact on the long-term forecast. The 2021 LMO accounted for the fact that many customer-facing industries offered new services and adopted different business processes during the pandemic. Some of these changes will continue in the long term and result in higher productivity and lower labour demand than assumed in pre-pandemic forecasts.

Title: Labour Market Tightness

Issue: Job vacancies are rising as growth in demand for workers has increased faster than hiring.

Key Messages and Background:

- **British Columbia is a leader in Canada's economic recovery**
 - Employment in B.C. surpassed its pre-pandemic employment by 84,000 (+3.2%) in February 2022, reaching 2.7 million.
 - This was the strongest increase in the country, well above Ontario's 2.6% growth.
 - By February 2022 B.C.'s labour force totaled just over 2.8 million, approximately 80,000 (+2.9%) more than in February 2020 for the second highest growth rate in the country.
- **B.C.'s strong economic recovery has increased the tightness in the labour market**
 - Employment has grown more quickly than the labour force over the last two years.
 - The unemployment rate in February was 4.9%, below its pre-pandemic level of 5.2% and not since December 2019 has it been this low.
 - The growth in demand for workers has risen faster than hiring.
 - **In the last quarter of 2021, there was one job vacant for every unemployed person in B.C.** and the job vacancy rate was 6.1%, highest in the country and up 2.3 percentage points from two years ago.
- **Labour market challenges are complex and can't be solved with old ways of thinking.**
 - We know that there are British Columbians who have left the workforce for a variety of reasons including
 - Less reliable childcare
 - Changes in the nature of work
 - Technological change
 - However, with the right supports and training for British Columbians, we can start to address these challenges.
- **The StrongerBC Economic plan is responding to these labour market challenges by:**
 - Expanding affordable childcare to make it easier for businesses to hire by helping families to balance the needs of home and work.
 - Creating thousands of new spaces at B.C.'s colleges and universities to help businesses secure talent, increase productivity and improve competitiveness.
 - And tackling climate change which is driving economic innovation and creating new clean jobs.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, numerous emergency health measures have been implemented in British Columbia and around the world, to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.
- The initial B.C. lockdown measure implemented during the first wave of the pandemic reduced employment temporarily by 408,000 (down 15.4%) in March and April 2020.
- Subsequently, B.C.'s economy restarted and recovered quickly with 11 straight months of employment increases.
- During the third wave of the pandemic in April 2021, British Columbia applied a three-week circuit breaker measure to stop the surge of the Delta variant, and employment decreased temporarily by 42,800.
- As British Columbians now move into the fifth wave of the pandemic, with more than 90% of people vaccinated, nearly all restrictions in B.C. have been lifted.
- There are now 2.727 million people working as of February 2022, 84,000 above the pre-pandemic (February 2020) level, or up 3.2%, indicating the resilience and strength of the B.C. economy.

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: Early Childhood Education

Issue: Expansion of Early Childhood Education programs

Key Messages and Background:

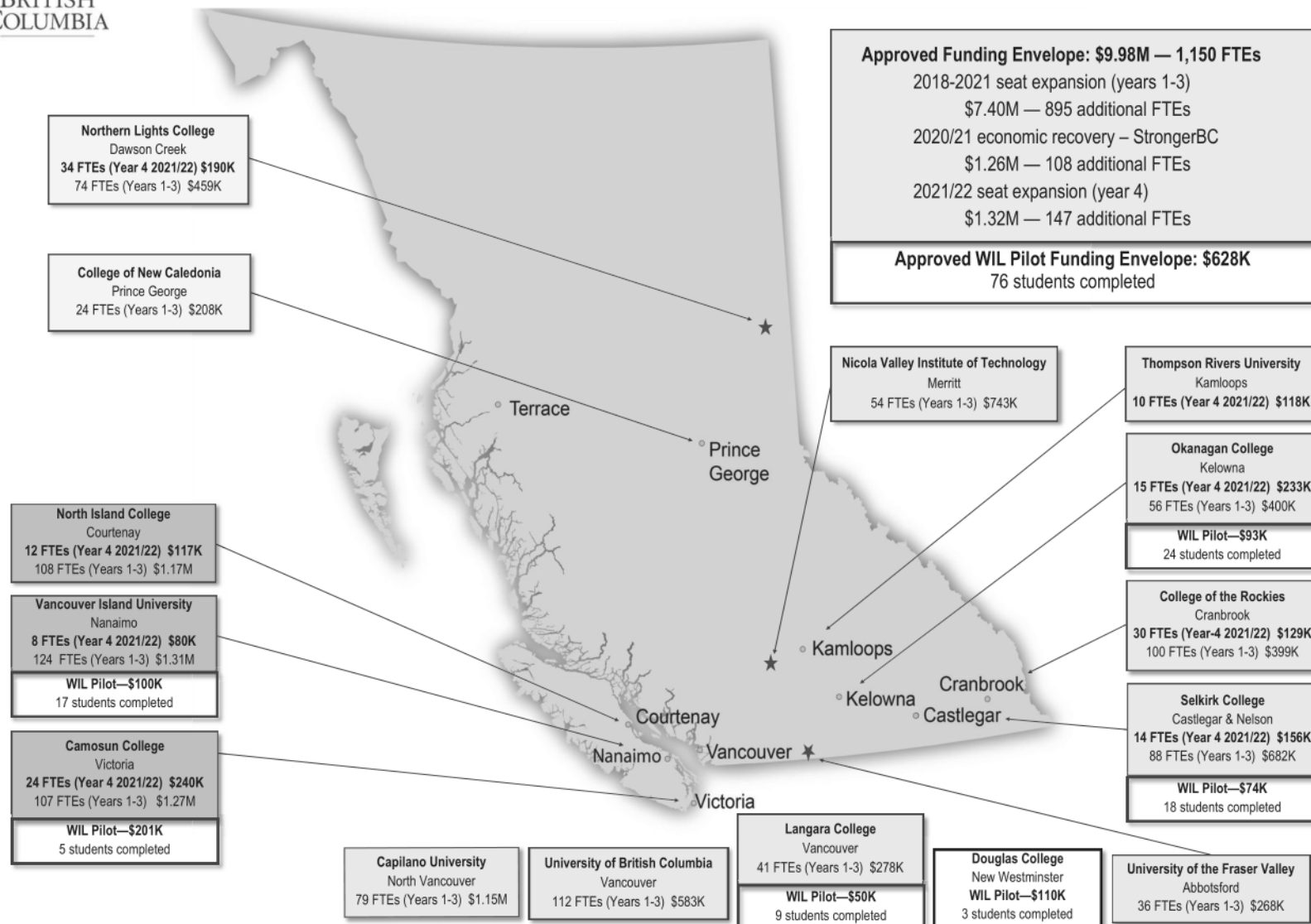
- **Budget 2022 continues Government’s investment in the expansion of ECE training programs at public post-secondary institutions (PSIs).**
 - Supports B.C.’s 10-year Child Care B.C. Plan and the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy.
 - For this 5th year of the plan, government is investing \$1.3 million to support an additional 130 ECE seats.
 - Since 2018, Government has invested almost \$10 million over four years expanding Early Childhood Education programs at 14 public PSIs, funding 1,150 seats. See Appendix 1.
 - Last year, for the 4th year of the plan, we funded \$1.3 million at eight public PSIs, creating just under 150 additional seats.
 - There has been a steady increase in ECE program demand. Current year enrollment is strong with projections of 93% utilization of ECE seats.
 - We direct funding to regions with the highest demand for ECE workers, including rural and remote communities.
- **To help address the ongoing shortage of qualified ECEs, AEST continues to support the delivery of alternative educational pathways for ECE students like Work Integrated Learning.**
 - This year, with \$1.7 million from the Federal-Provincial Early Learning and Childcare Agreement, we are expediting delivery of more Work Integrated Learning (WIL) options.
 - Overall funding for additional ECE WIL delivery options was announced Feb 18, 2022, Advice/Recommendations
 - In 2018, AEST invested \$628,000 to fund 6 ECE WIL pilots for 76 students.
 - WIL enables current childcare workers to obtain ECE credentials while remaining employed, and includes prior learning assessments, work-based field assessments, and online ECE program delivery.
 - WIL reduces cost and time barriers for childcare workers and helps recruitment and retention.
- **My Ministry is providing \$3.1 million in funding from 2018-2024 from the Sector Labour Market Partnerships program.**
 - Partnership with Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) for a sector-led impact assessment of the Provincial Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy. Recently the project was extended to 2024 to allow for two additional years of data collection and evaluation.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- My Ministry is working closely with public PSIs and the ECE Registry to ensure ECE students are able to continue their course work through alternate delivery methods, where possible.
- This includes implementing new technology-enabled teaching methods and flexible delivery options such as online, hybrid, staggered start dates and offerings in new geographic areas, in particular rural and remote communities.
- These positive effects on recruitment and retention enable success for a wider range of students and helps reduce barriers and impacts to equity and inclusion.
- Extensions to temporary adjustments of ECE Registry practicum requirements means that public PSIs have been able to develop and continue flexible and creative solutions for students, ensuring students are able to complete their ECE training and enter the workforce.

ECE Seat Expansion 2018/19 - 2021/2022

Updated Feb.22 2022



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

4-year total	1050 ECE Seat Expansion FTEs Funded	1150
	100 Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Seat Expansion FTEs Funded	
	Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Pilot Students Completed	76

Title: Health Education Programs

Issue: Training to meet health workforce needs

Key Messages and Background:

- In response to priority health workforce demands and to support the Ministry of Health's mandate to expand training in all fields of health care, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training has been working with MoH and Post-Secondary Institutions to help identify and address health education and training needs in BC.
 - This work aligns with the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services' (SSFGS) *Health Human Resources* recommendation to expand post-secondary training capacity in BC, including rural and remote access to training programs.
- Substantial government investments since 2017 have resulted in health education program growth. These investments include:
 1. Budget 2019 and additional investments by Ministry of Health and Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training added \$16.3M in annual targeted health program funding.

Allied Health:

- Highlights include new seats and regional distributions for Physiotherapy in the North and the Fraser Valley, Occupational Therapy in the Lower Mainland and the North, Sonography in the North and on the Island, and increased seats for Perfusionists. See Appendix

Nursing:

- The University of Northern BC's Northern Baccalaureate Nursing Program in Fort St. John began August 30, 2021, after a one-year program delay due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Nurse Practitioner program expansions at UBC, UVic and UNBC added 35 seats across the province.
2. Budget 2021 announced \$96M over 3 years to support training in health sector human resources (Table 1, attached).
 - In addition to \$30.2 million for training as part of the Health Career Access Program (HCAP), this includes \$65.8M in new health program funding over 3 years.
 - Program expansions are already underway, with several nursing and allied expansions implemented for September 2021 and January 2022.

Nursing

- Nursing expansions are underway across the province for programs leading to Registered Nursing, Licensed Practical Nursing, Nurse Practitioner, and nursing leadership roles.

- Budget 2021 included funding for over 500 new seats in post-secondary institutions to meet the growing demand for nurses – building on the approximately 2,000 seats in nursing programs at public-post secondary institutions today.
- AEST is currently working with PSIs to increase and expand nursing seats across a variety of programs - more announcements are coming soon.

Allied Health:

- Announced expansions include additional seats for Thompson Rivers University's Anesthesia Assistant and Respiratory Therapist programs that started in the Fall of 2021.
- AEST is currently working with PSIs to increase seats in several high priority allied health programs including laboratory, diagnostic and rehabilitation programs, with new and expanded programs starting in May 2022 through to September 2023 and beyond. Final details are being negotiated with PSI partners and further announcements are pending.

Health Career Access Program (HCAP)

- Budget 2021 included \$30.2 million to train 2,400 health care assistants (HCAs) as part of the Health Care Assistant Program (HCAP); AEST was also allocated funding for 600 training seats in 2020/21 by way of Contingencies access.
- HCAP is a fully funded training program launched in fall 2020 to address shortages of health care assistants (HCAs) in long-term care, assisted living, and home health settings.
- Led by MoH, HCAP was funded to hire and train 3,000 Health Care Support Workers through to March 31, 2022.
- Health Care Support Workers work in non-patient care roles while completing HCA training at partner PSIs.
- As of January 31, 2022, there have been 82 HCA-PP cohort starts (up to 2,166 seats); 18 cohorts have completed the training (up to 473 seats); and 11 additional cohorts are expected to start by March 31, 2022 (up to 292 seats).
- All 17 public PSIs in BC with recognized HCA programs and four private PSIs have been funded to deliver HCA-PP training seats.

3. Budget 2022 includes \$6.9M to continue to deliver on health program expansions committed through Budget 2021, along with a further \$25M for an additional 2,000 Health Career Access Program training seats.

4. The Ministry will continue to work with MoH and PSIs to make sure health education needs are aligned with current and future health workforce needs in BC.

- The Ministry will continue to work with MoH to develop and support implementation of health education and training strategies contained within *British Columbia's Health Human Resources Plan* Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

5. The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically impacted the health care workforce in BC, including health education and training program delivery.

Positive Outcomes:

- The imperative for post-secondary institutions to pivot quickly to online learning for the theory component of health programs has increased student access and spurred ongoing program innovation.

Negative Outcomes:

- Vaccine mandates have increased HCAP program attrition in some regions.
- Clinical components of programs have also been impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and challenges with health system capacity to support student clinical placements.
- Workforce needs have been exacerbated and other sources of labour supply (e.g., in migration) have been reduced, increasing pressure on training as a supply source.

Table 1: Budget 2021 Health Education Expansion Planned Seats – February 2022

Priority occupation	Strategies and geography	New grads
Nursing		
Registered Nurse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSN • LPN2BSN • Nurse Refresher • Faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add seats system-wide, including direct-entry, career laddering and faculty development • Increase Indigenous student access and supports • Seats province-wide, with a focus on areas of population growth 	382
Registered Psychiatric Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to existing programs • Fraser region 	40
Specialty Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 300 ongoing for full support of 1,000 seats 	300
Nurse Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 15-seat program in at TRU (TBC) • 5 seats in a new post-Master's stream (UVic) 	20
Nurse Anesthetist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 20-seat program at UBC 	20
Practical Nurse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PN • Access to PN (post-HCA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add new seats system-wide, including direct-entry and career laddering seats • Increase Indigenous student access and supports • Province-wide 	180
Midwife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 20 seats including domestic and internationally educated bridge • Micro-distribution, based at UBC Vancouver or Fraser 	20
Allied Health		
Anaesthesia Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10-seat cohort-based program • Rotating annually to different HAs 	10
Genetic Counsellor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 2 seats to program (+33%) at UBC 	2
Medical Device Reprocessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute clinical placements to meet regional demand (smaller centres) 	Advice/Recommendation
Medical Laboratory Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice/Recommendations • Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops (distributed) 	Advice/Recommendations
Medical Laboratory Technologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add new seats system-wide 	28
MRI Technologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 12 seats in a new first-discipline program (BCIT) 	12
Occupational Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 16-seat program in Surrey • New 16-seat program in Victoria or Kelowna 	32
Pharmacy Technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program expansion and distribution (Interior, Island, North) 	41
Physiotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 20-seat program in Kelowna • New 20-seat program in Victoria 	40

Priority occupation	Strategies and geography	New grads
Registered Dietician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New 15-seat alternate pathway MND program at UBC (no new funding) 	15
Rehabilitation Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New 20-seat Island program in partnership with CAP Add 20 seats to existing program (CAP) 	40
Respiratory Therapist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 20 fast-track seats (TRU) 	20
Social Worker (MSW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 20 seats in health-sector focused MSW 	20
Speech Language Pathologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 8 seats to current program UBC, exploring possibility of distribution 	8
Advanced Care Paramedic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New demand-driven internationally educated bridge 	20
TOTAL		1,326

Title: Indigenous and Racial Discrimination in Health Education

Issue: Responding to the *In Plain Sight* report's health program recommendations

Key Messages and Background:

- **Our government is committed to tackling systemic racism and discrimination in all its forms.**
 - The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) is responsible for ensuring post-secondary institutions (PSIs) are inclusive and aligned with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
 - The Province is focused on working towards lasting and meaningful reconciliation and is committed to working with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination.
- **Implementing recommendations from the “*In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. Health Care*” report is a priority for government, being led by the Ministry of Health.**
 - The *In Plain Sight* report is an examination of systemic racism in B.C.'s health care system and includes 24 recommendations for the Province, including four recommendations relevant to AEST's mandate (see Attachment 1).
 - The Ministry of Health has taken the lead on this response, establishing a new secretariat for Indigenous Health and Reconciliation.
 - An external task team, led by Associate Deputy Minister Dawn Thomas, has now been assembled to lead implementation of all report recommendations. Stemming from the task team will be working groups, including the Cultural Safety and Education Working Group.
- **Progress has been made towards implementing several *In Plain Sight* report recommendations.**
 - The First Nations Health Authority, working in partnership with the Health Standards Organization, has developed a provincial First Nations, Métis and Inuit Cultural Safety and Humility Standard, which has now undergone a public review.
 - Additional actions include public apologies by all health authorities, a formal apology by the British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives, and recruitment of Indigenous senior leaders to the Ministry of Health and health system.

- **Many PSIs are already taking action to address Indigenous-specific racism in health and medical education.**
 - In their Institutional Accountability and Planning Reports, PSIs were asked to report on their response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, including those which relate to health and medical education.
 - Many PSIs are acting to create new curriculum and provide cultural competency training targeted at faculty, staff and students in health education programs.
 - All public PSIs have initiatives aimed at increasing the participation and success of Indigenous learners in health care training. For example, the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology's Retention Alert program and the University of Victoria's Indigenous Student Support Centre.
 - Several PSIs, including College of the Rockies, Selkirk College, and Vancouver Community College, have acknowledged the *In Plain Sight* report and are reviewing its recommendations as they relate to their education and training programs. For example, the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine's response includes 14 actions aimed at decolonizing curriculum and increasing the number of Indigenous students and faculty.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to continue our work to address racism and inequities related to health services.
- Indigenous peoples in B.C. experience a higher rate of COVID-19 infection and higher mortality rates than the general population of the province.

Attachment 1: *In Plain Sight* Report Recommendations related to AEST

Four recommendations refer to actions relevant to the mandates of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training and post-secondary institutions:

#	Recommendation
14	That the B.C. government, PHSA, the five regional health authorities, B.C. colleges and universities with health programs, health regulators, and all health service organizations, providers and facilities recruit Indigenous individuals to senior positions to oversee and promote needed system change.
18	That the B.C. government require all university and college degree and diploma programs for health professionals in B.C. to implement mandatory strategies and targets to identify, recruit and encourage Indigenous enrolment and graduation, including increasing the safety of the learning environment for Indigenous students.
21	That all B.C. university and college degree and diploma programs for health practitioners include mandatory components to ensure all students receive accurate and detailed knowledge of Indigenous specific racism, colonialism, trauma-informed practice, Indigenous health and wellness, and the requirement to provide service to meet the minimum standards in the <i>UN Declaration</i> .
23	That the B.C. government, in partnership with First Nations governing bodies and representative organizations, MNBC, Indigenous physicians, experts, and the University of British Columbia or other institutions as appropriate, establish a Joint Degree in Medicine and Indigenous Medicine. That the B.C. government, in partnership with First Nations governing bodies and representative organizations, MNBC, Indigenous nurses, experts, and appropriate educational institutions, establish a similar joint degree program for nursing professions.

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: 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
Additional Niche Technology Programming				
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

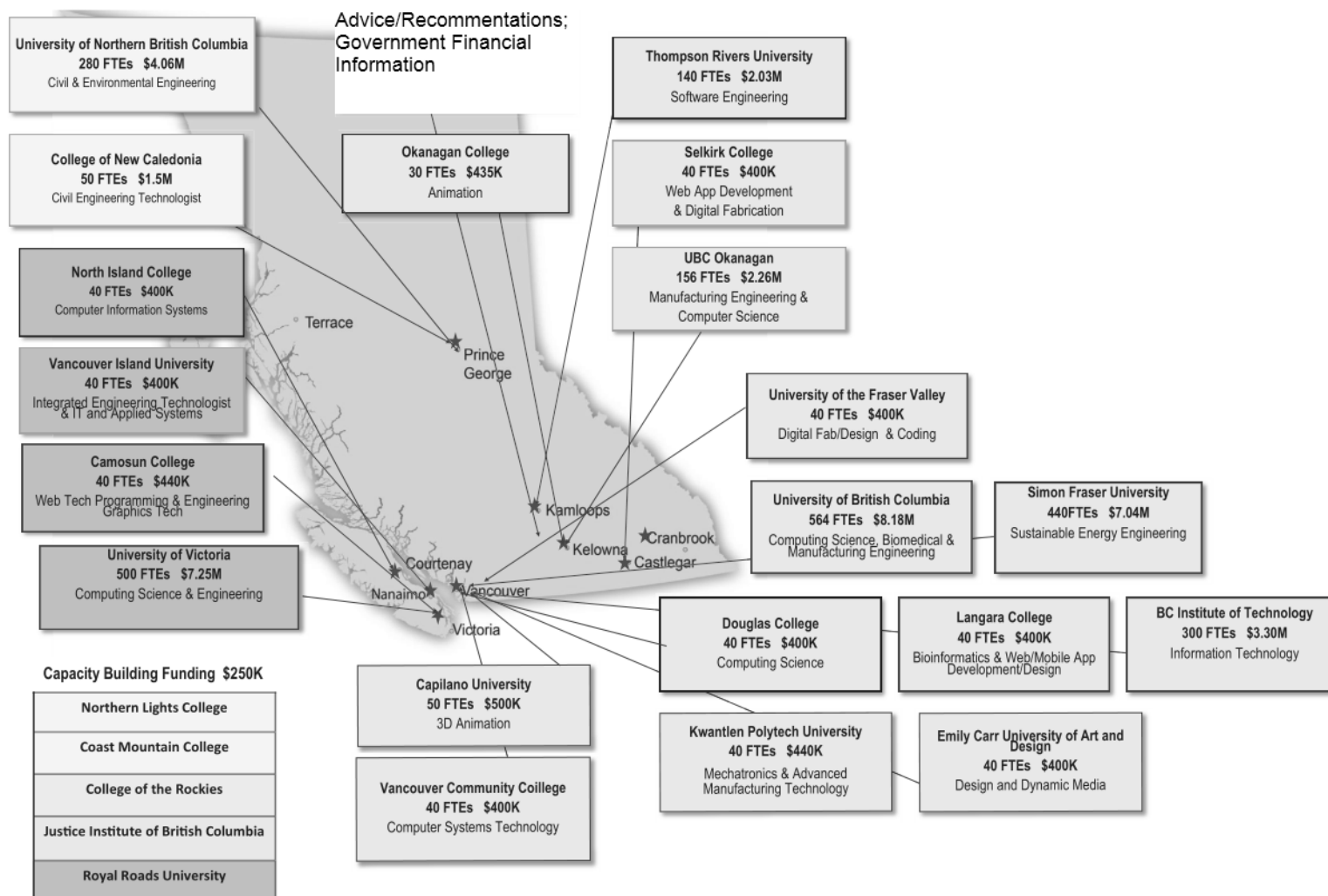
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Phase 1 - Technology Seat Expansion

February 11, 2022

2017/18 - 2022/23

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



MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

Title: **Veterinary Medicine Seats**

Issue: **Veterinary Medicine Workforce Demand and Training Opportunities at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN)**

Key Messages and Background:

- **Veterinarians are valued professionals, play a critical role in British Columbia's agriculture and aquaculture industries, and protect the health and welfare of British Columbians' domestic animals.**
 - My Ministry will continue to work with the Minister of Agriculture and Food to support the practice of veterinary medicine, the economic sectors that rely on veterinarians, and access to an affordable education in veterinary medicine for British Columbia students.
- **My Ministry is funding 80 students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN).**
 - Over the past 50 years, British Columbia has been a key partner in maintaining the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN) as a world-class veterinary college.
 - In 2021/22, we provided \$8.5 million to support 80 B.C. students at the WCVN.
 - The WCVN is the only program in Canada where B.C. students can obtain a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
- **My Ministry supported WCVN's differential tuition program that enabled 12 additional B.C. students to be admitted this past September, for a total of 32 students starting their training. A total of 104 students from BC are in various stages of their learning journey at WCVN.**
 - In addition, Registered Veterinary Technologists are critical members of the veterinary care team, who help alleviate some of the demand placed on veterinarians.
 - Training programs for this position are offered through Thompson Rivers University and Douglas College, allowing over 50 students to become Registered Veterinary Technologists each year.
 - Thompson Rivers University also offers a part-time, online diploma for individuals already employed in veterinary clinics who wish to upgrade their education and training.
- **My Ministry is working collaboratively with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to increase the number of professionals offering veterinary care in B.C.**

- Through B.C.'s funding to Douglas College and Thompson Rivers University, we are producing over 50 Registered Veterinarian Technologists per year. This is in addition to the 20 veterinarians graduating from the WCVN every year.
- About 55% of British Columbia's veterinarian labour force needs are filled through alternative sources, such as inter-provincial migration, B.C. students returning after being trained internationally, and immigration.
- Provincial ministries are working with the WCVN, industry, and other partners to explore ways through which B.C. veterinary graduates can be encouraged to practice in high-demand regions and specialties.
- Other supports include a recent policy change. Government has added veterinarians and veterinary technologists to the list of priority occupations under the Provincial Nominee Program, helping to ensure vet clinics have the professionals they need to provide animal care.
- **Not yet announced:** *Through year-end funding, the Ministry is doubling the intake of B.C. students at WCVN this September, from 20 to 40. In addition, the 24 B.C. students admitted in 2020 and 2021 under the differential tuition pilot will have their additional fees waived (\$55,000 each) for this September.* Cabinet
Confidence
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations A public
announcement of provincial funding is tentatively scheduled for early April.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- N/A (programming was able to continue in 2021/22 with safety measures in place.)

Intentionally
Left Blank

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: Coast Mountain College - Houston

Issue: Access to local adult education and skills training in Houston

Key Messages and Background:

- **British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions serve communities across the province. Many have regional mandates and provide access to post-secondary education at regional campuses.**
 - Post-secondary institutions are responsible for determining the types of programs they offer in the communities they serve, while carefully managing their finances.
 - My Ministry encourages institutions to engage with the communities they serve about how to best meet the education and training needs of a region.
- **Several communities, including Houston, have approached the Ministry to request expanded post-secondary education and training in their region – whether in the form of new physical campuses or additional programs.**
 - We give due consideration to all of these requests.
 - My Ministry takes a strategic regional approach in reviewing such requests to ensure that they are sustainable, benefit the entire region and its economy, and fit within the context of British Columbia's broader post-secondary system.
- **Coast Mountain College (CMTN) continues to work with Houston to deliver programming in the community and the Ministry is willing to work with community partners on options to enhance post-secondary education and training in the region.**
 - CMTN closed its Houston Learning Centre in 2017, citing low enrolment. It served about 50 FTEs a year, mostly in adult upgrading, with some trades and continuing education.
 - The District of Houston would like adult education and skills training offered in Houston through Coast Mountain College (CMTN) or other means. Specifically, Houston cites opportunities to reskill adults to fill labour shortages in areas including trades, clerical work and business administration.
 - CMTN is working to increase access to communities in various ways, including use of mobile trades training units and partnerships with local school districts.
 - In addition, CMTN has established a Contact North centre with the local school district in Houston to support delivery of online or distance education programs offered by a variety of public post-secondary institutions.
 - The District of Houston is encouraged to continue to work with CMTN on opportunities to meet the education and training needs of learners in Houston.

- **The needs of rural and remote students will always be a focus of my Ministry and we have implemented numerous programs and initiatives that have specifically benefited rural and remote students.**
 - The Ministry has provided \$3.352 million over two years to Contact North to support delivery of online or distance education programs offered by a variety of public post-secondary institutions and has an ongoing commitment to the three-year Contact North pilot through year end funding.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- As is the case with most post-secondary program delivery over the past two years, many programs have moved to online or hybrid formats, including at rural campuses.
- Online offerings have made some programming more accessible to rural and remote learners.

Title: College of New Caledonia Campus - Burns Lake

Issue: Post-Secondary Education Delivery at the CNC campus in the Village of Burns Lake

Key Messages and Background:

- **British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions serve communities across the province. Many have regional mandates and provide access to post-secondary education at regional campuses.**
 - Post-secondary institutions are responsible for determining the types of programs they offer in the communities they serve, while carefully managing their finances.
 - My Ministry encourages institutions to engage with the communities they serve about how to best meet the education and training needs of a region.
- **Several communities, including Burns Lake, have approached the Ministry to request expanded post-secondary education and training in their region – whether in the form of new physical campuses or additional programs.**
 - We give due consideration to all of these requests.
 - My Ministry takes a strategic regional approach in reviewing such requests to ensure that they are sustainable, benefit the entire region and its economy, and fit within the context of British Columbia's broader post-secondary system.
- **The College of New Caledonia (CNC) continues to deliver programming in Burns Lake and the Ministry is willing to work with community partners on options to enhance post-secondary education and training in the region.**
 - Over the past few years, some members of the Burns Lake community have been advocating for Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) to take over post-secondary education delivery from CNC in Burns Lake (approximately 70 percent of students at the CNC Burns Lake campus are Indigenous).
 - The Ministry has indicated it would not explore this possibility unless the six local First Nations and the Village of Burns Lake all agreed they wanted the change.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- CNC continues to engage with students, faculty, staff, local First Nations, community members and elected officials in Burns Lake to inform the educational planning process.
- Leased space at 110 Roumieu Drive, Burns Lake, to accommodate ongoing delivery of the college's Trades Discovery, Residential Maintenance, and Trades Foundation programs was recently renewed on November 17, 2021. The renewal of the lease will allow these important programs to continue up to August 31, 2024, with the option of a two-year renewal after that date.
- The number of students attending the Burns Lake campus in the 2021-22 academic year is 202.
- **The needs of rural and remote students will always be a focus of my Ministry and we have implemented numerous programs and initiatives that have specifically benefited rural and remote students.**
 - The Ministry has provided \$3.352 million over two years to Contact North to support delivery of online or distance education programs offered by a variety of public post-secondary institutions.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- As is the case with most post-secondary program delivery over the past two years, many programs have moved to online or hybrid formats, including at rural campuses.
- Online offerings have made some programming more accessible to rural and remote learners.

Page 149 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removed as
Intergovernmental Communications

Page 150 of 244

Withheld pursuant to/removed as
Intergovernmental Communications

Title: Maple Ridge Post-Secondary Education Access

Issue: Post-Secondary Education Needs Assessment in Maple Ridge

Key Messages and Background:

- **British Columbia’s public post-secondary institutions serve communities across the province. Many have regional mandates and provide access to post-secondary education at regional campuses.**
 - Post-secondary institutions are responsible for determining the types of programs they offer in the communities they serve, while carefully managing their finances.
 - My Ministry encourages institutions to engage with the communities they serve about how to best meet the education and training needs of a region.
- **Several communities, including Maple Ridge, have approached the Ministry to request expanded post-secondary education and training in their region – whether in the form of new physical campuses or additional programs.**
 - We give due consideration to all these requests.
 - My Ministry takes a strategic regional approach in reviewing such requests to ensure that they are sustainable, benefit the entire region and its economy, and fit within the context of British Columbia’s broader post-secondary system.
- **In recent years, the City of Maple Ridge has raised concerns about access to post-secondary in their community.**
 - The City has been encouraged to raise these concerns and explore options with neighbouring municipalities and post-secondary institutions to seek solutions.
 - Maple Ridge is in the Douglas College region. Douglas College currently operates the WorkBC Maple Ridge Employment Services Centre. The closest Douglas College campus is in Coquitlam, about 17 km away.
 - The new RapidBus line “R3 Lougheed Highway” connects Maple Ridge directly to the Coquitlam Skytrain station with service about every 15 minutes. This has significantly improved access to Douglas College’s Coquitlam campus and Simon Fraser University’s Burnaby campus.

Advice/Recommendations

- **The Ministry is considering options to support an objective assessment of the post-secondary education needs of the community in Maple Ridge.**
 - *(Not announced) The Ministry has recently provided KPU with \$250,000 to conduct an assessment of the post-secondary needs of Maple Ridge, in collaboration with the University of the Fraser Valley and Douglas College.*

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- As is the case with most post-secondary program delivery over the past two years, many programs have moved to online or hybrid formats, including at rural campuses.
- Online offerings have made some programming more accessible to rural and remote learners.

Title: Thompson Rivers University – Williams Lake

Issue: Post-Secondary Education Delivery at the TRU campus in Williams Lake

Key Messages and Background:

- **British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions serve communities across the province. Many have regional mandates and provide access to post-secondary education at regional campuses.**
 - Post-secondary institutions are responsible for determining the types of programs they offer in the communities they serve, while carefully managing their finances.
 - My Ministry encourages institutions to engage with the communities they serve about how to best meet the education and training needs of a region.
- **Several communities, including Williams Lake, have approached the Ministry to request expanded post-secondary education and training in their region – whether in the form of new physical campuses or additional programs.**
 - We give due consideration to all these requests.
 - My Ministry takes a strategic regional approach in reviewing such requests to ensure that they are sustainable, benefit the entire region and its economy, and fit within the context of British Columbia's broader post-secondary system.
- **Thompson Rivers University (TRU) continues to deliver programming at Williams Lake and the Ministry is willing to work with community partners on options to enhance post-secondary education and training in the region.**
 - Over the past several years, community leaders at Williams Lake, including the previous MLA for Cariboo-Chilcotin, have communicated to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training that more programs are needed at the local TRU campus.
 - FTEs have decreased at the Williams Lake campus over the past five years from 365 in fiscal year 2016/17 to 252 in 2020/21, a 31% decrease. Headcount has also decreased at the campus from 1615 in academic year 2016/17 to 720 in academic year 2020/21, a decrease of 55%. It should be noted that these decreases are comparable with other TRU regional campuses and many other small regional campuses.
 - TRU's Williams Lake campus offers a variety of programs based on student and industry demand, including adult basic education, trades, education assistant and community support, health care, university transfer, applied sustainable ranching, and continuing studies.
 - Leadership at TRU have previously indicated that they will explore opportunities for additional programming at the Williams Lake campus where there is a strong business case. Increasing the number of students served by the Williams Lake

campus is a goal listed in their December 2020, Strategic Enrolment Management Plan.

- **The needs of rural and remote students will always be a focus of my Ministry and we have implemented numerous programs and initiatives that have specifically benefited rural and remote students.**
 - The Ministry has provided TRU with additional ongoing targeted funding of \$155,000 beginning in 2020/21 for a new annual cohort of 18 seats in the Health Care Assistant Program at the Williams Lake campus.
 - In addition, the Ministry provides targeted funding for delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (first 2 years) and Practical Nursing, with the expectation that TRU will continue to meet its regional mandate and address ongoing student demand in Kamloops and in Williams Lake.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- As is the case with most post-secondary program delivery over the past two years, many programs have moved to online or hybrid formats, including at rural campuses.
- Online offerings have made some programming more accessible to rural and remote learners.

Title: West Shore Post-Secondary Access

Issue: Expansion of Post-Secondary Education Opportunities on West Shore

Key Messages and Background:

- **Demand for post-secondary access in the West Shore is projected to increase**
 - The population of the West Shore (including Langford, Colwood, Metchosin, and the Highlands) grew by almost 50 percent between 2001 and 2016 and is projected to grow by another 33 percent over the next decade, making it one of the fastest growing regions in Canada.
 - The West Shore is a youthful community, with a larger share of under-15s (and a lower number of over-70s) than the rest of British Columbia.
 - The direct transition rate of high school graduates to post-secondary institutions in this region is lower than the provincial average.
 - We want everyone to have the opportunity to access the post-secondary education and skills training needed for good-paying jobs that support a strong economy.
- **Ministry staff are working with local partners to address this potential demand**
 - Exploring opportunities for post-secondary education on the West Shore presents a unique opportunity for strong partnerships and collaboration.
 - In 2018 and 2019, Royal Roads University received \$1.8 million to develop a needs analysis report and business case in collaboration with Camosun College, the University of Victoria, the Justice Institute of BC, Indigenous communities, School District 62, local governments and other partners.
 - Ministry staff are analysing the programming and financial implications of the latest business case submitted in November 2021, including provincial funding contributions for the project and ongoing operations.
 - The current estimated project cost is \$79.5 million (not including the cost of the land, which RRU purchased for \$18.5M in July 2021) for a 5-storey, 8,900 square metre building using hybrid mass timber construction.
- **No government decision has been made**
 - As the matter is currently under consideration, further comment on the details of the business case is not appropriate.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- In December 2019, Royal Roads University, in partnership with Camosun College and the University of Victoria, submitted a business case for a shared West Shore post-secondary campus.
- With the onset of COVID-19, Royal Roads indicated the project was put on hold.
- Royal Roads, Camosun and UVic have since developed a revised business case for the West Shore campus, most recently in November 2021.

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: StudentAid BC Programs Overview

Issue: StudentAid BC overview.

Key Messages and Background:

- **Government is committed to making post-secondary education and training more accessible and affordable.**
 - In 2020/21, more than 70,000 British Columbians received just over \$1 billion in federal and provincial student financial assistance (Appendix A, Tables 1 and 2).
 - A range of financial supports help students overcome access and affordability barriers – including loans, non-repayable grants, loan forgiveness and repayment assistance.
 - Effective February 19, 2019, interest on all British Columbia Government-issued student loans was eliminated.
 - A graduate with average combined federal and provincial student loans of \$28,000 will save approximately \$2,300 in interest over the 10-year repayment period.
 - Eliminating interest on British Columbia student loans reduced monthly payments for approximately 200,000 borrowers, providing approximately \$22 million in interest and debt relief in 2019/20.
 - Provincial student financial assistance includes loans and targeted grant programs, such as:
 - the B.C. Access Grant.
 - up-front grants for students with permanent disabilities.
 - tuition waivers for youth transitioning out of government care.
 - grants for adults seeking to upgrade their education.
 - loan forgiveness for health and child services professions in underserved communities.
 - Eligibility is based on financial need calculated as education and living costs minus resources.
 - Government funding is intended to supplement other financial resources available to students (e.g., through work, scholarships, bursaries, and family).

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Government is concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on students and their ability to find employment and continue studies – particularly those in more vulnerable situations who may lack access to appropriate technology or safe study spaces.
- Government disbursed \$3.5 million in 2020 and \$3 million in 2021 for the Student Emergency Assistance Fund at public post-secondary institutions, which assists students throughout B.C. who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, students have been able to access the new B.C. Access Grant, increased federal student financial assistance, and support through the Student Emergency Assistance Fund.
- Government has supported post-secondary institutions to adapt and modify programs to remove barriers for students during the COVID-19 pandemic, including temporarily making all online programs offered by approved B.C. public and private institutions eligible for student financial assistance, and enabling study periods of less than 12 weeks.

Appendix A: StudentAid BC Program Expenditure Overview:

Table 1: Federal and Provincial Program Expenditures by Fiscal Year

Programs (in \$M)	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Projected	2022/23 Estimates
Canada Student Loans	\$338.0	357.1	\$492	TBD	TBD
Canada Student Grants	\$131.1	\$152.5	\$271	TBD	TBD
BC Student Loans	\$197.5	\$205	\$184	\$189	\$189
BC Student Grants	\$52.4	\$52.6	\$63	\$58.4	\$60.6
Total Funding	\$719.0	\$767.2	\$1,010	TBD	TBD

Table 2: Full- and Part-Time Student Financial Assistance (SFA) Recipients (FY 2020/21)

Recipient Type	#	Recipient Type	#
Full-Time SFA Recipients	62,822	Part-Time SFA Recipients	6,046

*Full- and part-time recipients are not summative; some students transition between full- and part-time study throughout the year and are represented in both categories.

Recipient Type	#
Total Unique SFA Recipients (Headcount)	72,241

Table 3: Full-Time SFA Recipients Profile (FY 2020/21)*

Full-Time SFA Recipients Profile (FY 2020/21):

Demographics		By Study Location	
Female	63% (39,561)	B.C. Publics	48,697
Single	82% (51,291)	B.C. Privates	14,209
Married	14% (10,230)	Out of Province/Out of Country	8,525
Single Parent	5% (3,307)	By Credential Type	
Under 25 Years Old	55% (38,702)	Graduate	3,616
Aboriginal Identity	7% (4,063)	Bachelors	34,832
Permanent Disability	7% (4,291)	Certificate/Diploma	23,891
		Other	1,514

*Note: Columns cannot be summed due to overlapping categories. This is due to students having more than one demographic identifier or changing institutions or programs during the fiscal year and therefore being counted in more than one category.

Table 4: Accounts Receivable (FY 2020/21 Ministry of Finance)

B.C. Student Loan Recipients		
Type of Recipient	Total	Amount
Recipients in Study or Grace	64,600	\$424M
Recipients in Repayment	131,300	\$680M
Recipients in Default	18,900	\$136M
TOTAL Accounts Receivable		\$1.3B

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: 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				
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
TOTAL	368	613	843	863

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
Total	305

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: Student Mental Health Initiatives

Issue: Initiatives to improve post-secondary student mental health and well-being

Key Messages and Background:

- **Improving student mental health is an integral part of “A Pathway to Hope”, B.C.’s roadmap for making the system of mental health and addictions care better for all British Columbians.**
 - Young people between 15 and 24 years old are more likely to report mental illness and/or substance use disorders than other age groups.
 - Mental health supports were referenced in the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (SSFGS). AEST’s position is consistent with recommendation 13: Increase supports to address sexualized and gender-based violence on campus and to ensure a more extensive and robust mental health network at post-secondary institutions across the province.
 - The Ministry invests \$1.5 million annually for Here2Talk and has provided BCcampus with a total of \$1.125 million to develop and implement mental health initiatives in partnership with our public post-secondary system.
- **The Ministry’s Here2Talk (H2T) 24 hour, 7 days a week service is available to all students registered in B.C. post-secondary institution.**
 - H2T’s annual budget is \$1.5 million.
 - H2T is a free 24-7 single-session mental health counselling and referral service that offers options to reach out by phone or online chat through the Here2Talk app or website.
 - It provides students with confidential and immediate support, vital information, as well as referrals to helpful services available on their campus or in their communities.
 - Services are available in English and French with additional languages upon request (e.g., Punjabi, Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish, Arabic). Additional languages may be added based on student demand.
 - Lifeworks is H2T’s service delivery provider. The contract for delivery of H2T runs until January 2023, with the option for annual renewal after the end of the contract.
- **Student utilization of the H2T 24 hour, 7 days a week service shows it helps address the mental health needs of post-secondary students across the province.**
 - H2T supports approximately 555,000 students at B.C.’s 25 public and 320+ private PSIs.

- Since its April 2020 launch, H2T services have been accessed more than 17,200 times.
- Students used the chat feature 73% of the time and the phone feature 27% of the time.
- 93% of students said H2T provided them with the support and tools they needed, while 73% would refer their friend or classmate to H2T.
- **Through an \$850K investment, AEST is also working with BCcampus to develop open-licensed, freely available mental health literacy resources for students, as well as training for faculty and staff on how to support student mental wellness including:**
 - Capacity to Connect: Supporting Students' Mental Health and Wellness, a facilitator's guide for use with faculty and staff.
 - Let's Talk about Suicide: Raising Awareness and Supporting Student, a facilitator's guide for use with faculty and staff.
 - Starting a Conversation about Mental Health: Foundational Training for Students, a facilitator's guide for use with students.
 - Additional resources will be available in spring 2022 and as needs are identified.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- COVID-19 has led to considerable mental wellness challenges for B.C.'s post-secondary students.
- To support students, faculty, and staff in adapting to changes caused by COVID-19, the Ministry has provided \$275,000 to BCcampus for the development and implementation of online mental health and wellness resources.
 - Over 40 webinars focused on mental health and wellness for B.C. post-secondary sector.
- The Ministry also fast-tracked the launch of H2T (April, 2020) to ensure students had expanded access to mental health services with the onset of COVID-19.

Title: Sexualized Violence Policy

Issue: Status of work relating to Sexualized Violence Policies

Key Messages and Background:

- **Sexualized violence on campus is wrong and will not be tolerated. That is why we are taking steps to raise awareness and prevent sexual violence.**
 - The sector has indicated a need for increasing resources for awareness and prevention of sexualized violence (SV) at post-secondary institutions (PSIs).
 - The Ministry has addressed these requests through the creation of a suite of synchronous and asynchronous training resources to help improve how institutions respond to SV in the post-secondary sector.
 - This initial phase of resources includes four synchronous training modules and facilitator guides on: consent and sexual violence; supporting survivors; accountability and repairing relationships; and active bystander intervention; and an asynchronous module called Safer Campuses for Everyone that can be embedded into institution learning systems.
 - The Ministry is in the early planning stages for the development of a second suite of training resources for the sector to address technology-facilitated SV, as well as needs of specific populations.
- **Government has launched six information campaigns over the past 3.5 years to raise awareness and emphasize that SV will not be tolerated.**
 - Campaign success is measured through marketing analytics as well as feedback from post-secondary institutions, student societies and other contributors from the SV Advisory Group.
 - The Ministry tracks aspects such as increased web page views/sessions, impressions, and social media engagement on the subject matter. The Ministry marks online activity before and during the campaign. Typically, there is a spike of web views while the campaigns are in market. This spike indicates that the Ministry is creating and gaining traction to the website, Safe Campuses BC, which also indicates increased awareness of SV and SV prevention.
 - For the Winter campaign, pre-campaign web page views in the three weeks prior to the launch were 373. From January 27-February 15, 2022, there were 9,964 web page views.
 - The Ministry invested \$180k in the 2021-2022 campaign, which is dedicated to raising awareness about consent and directing students to support on their respective campuses.

- Funds were used to amplify messages on social media, and in popular bars and pubs on and around campuses. Alternatively, organic channels such as post-secondary institutions and student media outlets helped raise awareness that SV is a crime and will not be tolerated on BC campuses.
- The Ministry conducted targeted feedback sessions from the sector in Fall 2021, and the following changes were incorporated in the Winter 2022 re-launch of the campaign:
 - Replaced the word “rape” in the campaign’s tagline, which now reads, “Sex without consent is assault” to include all forms of SV.
 - Updated language to focus more on inclusivity and fostering a culture of consent.
 - The removal of an ad image that was deemed triggering.
- The Ministry is continuing to look at how to improve future iterations of the campaign to ensure it is responsive to the needs of the sector.
- The campaign does not currently run at private institutions; however, the campaign posters are publicly accessible on the Ministry’s website.
- **The *Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy Act (SVMPA)* requires all PSIs to have a sexualized violence (SV) policy.**
 - Public PSIs completed their legislated three-year policy reviews between 2020-2021.
 - Feedback from students and post-secondary institutions has identified gaps in the legislation and its implementation.
 - Concerns have been raised about language in the Act that is not trauma-informed, lack of institutional compliance in reporting to boards, and inconsistency in the sector around tracking and reporting of incidents.

Advice/Recommendations

- **The Private Training Regulation was amended as of September 1, 2021, to require all 300+ institutions certified under the *Private Training Act* to have an SV Policy.**

Advice/Recommendations

- **At the 2019 Forum, the Government announced \$760,000 in funding for the following priority initiatives, to increase supports to address SV on campus:**

- **Provincial Forums:** In June 2019, over 130 partners gathered to share information and best practices on SV initiatives. In June 2021, a second forum was held virtually.
- **Plain Language:** 17 of 25 PSIs completed plain language reviews of their SV policies and/or procedures to ensure they were clear and accessible, and a plain language guide was developed.
- **Training and Resources:** To increase access to high-quality SV training and resources, a cross-sector working group led the compilation of open-source materials for use by PSIs.
- **Student Perceptions Survey:** To assess student perceptions of SV on campus, a cross-sector working group led the development of a ‘Student Perception Survey’ at all 25 public PSIs. Survey launch was delayed until January 2022 due to COVID-19.
- **Rural Institution Supports:** To address the unique capacity/geographic challenges of the 8 rural multi-campus public PSIs, the following initiatives were implemented: investigations training, webinars, and a pilot “experts on demand” service.
- **Shared Principles for SV Reporting:** The Ministry is working with sector representatives on the co-design of shared principles for the reporting of SV incidents.
- **SV Webinars:** Working with BCcampus, webinars have been scheduled monthly on key topics of interest to the sector to ensure ongoing momentum and engagement on SV.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- A number of sexualized violence initiatives were delayed due to COVID-19 but were implemented in 2021/22.

Appendix 1

- The \$760k in funding was distributed amongst projects as outlined in the table below.
- Additional funding through a 2019 Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry and BCcampus on Post-Secondary Student Mental Health and SV Policy Initiatives of \$141k was used to fund:
 - SV Forum 2021 – complete
 - SV Webinars – in progress, to be completed by March 31, 2022.

Project	Status	Funding
Plain Language Supports	Complete	\$10,700
SV Forum 2019	Complete	\$63,127
Student Perception Survey	In Progress	\$100,280
Training and Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synchronous Training • Asynchronous Training 	Complete Complete	\$270,644 \$186,060
Rural Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigations Training • Experts on Demand Service Pilot 	Complete In Progress	\$89,170 \$40,000
		\$760,000

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: Forestry and Old Growth

Issue: The Ministry is investing in programming to ensure a just transition for workers, employers, and communities impacted by old growth logging deferrals

Key Messages and Background:

- **The Ministry's workforce development programs are available to communities and workers impacted by old growth forestry deferrals, and further supports are being developed.**
 - The Ministry is working with ministries responsible for forests, rural development, and labour to support communities and workers impacted by old growth deferrals and other shifts happening in the forestry sector.
 - The Ministry offers a suite of successful workforce development programs, funded through the Canada-BC Workforce Development Agreement (WDA). The Ministry's programs are available to communities, sectors, employers, and people to support skills training so they can transition to new opportunities. (*See also note on workforce development programming*)
 - The Ministry is reviewing its workforce development programs to fill any gaps in supports needed for those impacted by the old growth deferrals. (*See also GCPE's Forestry issues note*)
 - The Ministry has successfully responded to past downturns in the forestry industry. For example, in 2019, the Ministry responded to mill closures and curtailments with targeted programming.
 - Training certifications helped participants leverage existing skills in response to changing job demands, making them more resilient. Some forestry workers received training in skills outside their sector, including mining, maritime work, and healthcare training.
 - Over 2019/20 and 2020/21, the Ministry assisted 1,046 people impacted by mill closures and curtailments with \$12M in programming. Of participants completing training, 81% found employment or further training at completion.
- ***If asked about a need to support workers in transition generally:***
 - The Ministry offers programs to support sectors, employers, and people to reskill and upskill so they can adapt to shifting skill needs.
 - The Ministry works across government and with stakeholders and is informed by the 10-year Labour Market Outlook to design and deliver programs that respond to labour market shifts. (*See Workforce Readiness Framework Estimates note*)

Title: LNG Workforce

Issue: Construction Employment in LNG Projects in British Columbia

Key Messages and Background:

- **Government has committed to providing all British Columbians with good quality, and high paying jobs now and in the future. The LNG Canada (LNGC) project and Coastal GasLink (CGL) pipeline projects are fulfilling that commitment.**
- **As of December 2021, construction employment for both LNGC and CGL is over 10,000 jobs between the two projects.**
 - CGL is employing 5704 workers and LNGC is employing 4733 workers.
 - LNGC is projected to reach peak employment of between 5900-6500 jobs in late 2022 or early 2023.
 - The government's focus on prioritizing opportunities for British Columbians is paying off:
 - The average monthly representation of local workers on the LNGC project is 17%.
 - CGL's local worker representation is 28% and has increased 1% since March 2021.
- **LNG projects have provided job opportunities for local Indigenous workers.**
 - As of December 2021, there were 344 Indigenous workers at the LNG Canada Kitimat site. This represents about 8% of the project's workforce.
 - Coastal Gas Link employs 645 Indigenous workers, or 15% of the project's workforce.
 - According to labour market data, Indigenous representation on the LNG construction projects is above the provincial average of 6%.
- **LNG projects have provided job opportunities for women in trades.**
 - LNG Canada employs 694 female workers, or 14% of the project's workforce.
 - Coastal Gas Link employs 877 female workers or 21% of the project's workforce.
 - The representation of women on the LNG construction projects is higher than the average representation in the provincial construction labour force (12%).
 - Female representation in the LNG construction workforce has remained relatively stable for both LNGC and CGL. This is likely due in part to the company sponsored Women in Trades Programs in the local area. To date there have been 106 BC women trained in pre-trades programs.

- **Most local businesses and residents in Northern BC have a positive view of the LNG projects.**
 - Both local Indigenous and non-Indigenous respondents feel that the LNG projects provided good quality jobs.
 - The vast majority of local businesses feel the projects have impacted them positively or neutrally.
 - Only 11% of businesses report negative impacts, with the most common negative impact being a difficulty in finding and hiring workers.
- **A tight labour market remains a key challenge for businesses in Northern BC.**
 - The greatest challenge facing local businesses today is finding and retaining staff (36% of businesses). Aside from August 2020, this challenge has consistently topped the list of challenges business face since June 2019.
 - The anticipated staffing challenges for local businesses in accommodation and food services (78%) and retail trade (71%) are notably higher than in other sectors, such as health care and social assistance (57%) or construction (54%).

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Government is deeply concerned about challenges employers and workers are facing because of the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to helping B.C.'s trades to fully recover and benefit from a more highly skilled and productive workforce.
- COVID-19 was a major challenge for businesses in the Regional District of Kitimat Stikine (RDKS), but optimism is increasing. In December 2021, only 22% of businesses report that COVID-19 is making growth less likely over the next 1–2 years, compared to 34% in March 2021 and 54% in August 2020.

Title: Skilled Trades Certification

Issue: Implementing Skilled Trades Certification in B.C.

Key Messages and Background:

- **Implementing Skilled Trades Certification for the 10 trades will help thousands of trades workers access training and credentialing that leads to good jobs and higher wages.**
 - B.C. has a strong and effective trades training system that offers multiple pathways for apprentices to enter trades training and achieve certification
 - However, there are currently thousands of uncertified workers practicing a trade with no formal recognition of their skills and knowledge levels.
 - Without a credential, these workers tend to earn less money and are more likely to be impacted by labour market disruptions
 - Before 2003, B.C. had 11 compulsory trades designated..
 - Since 2003, B.C. has used a voluntary credentialing system for all trades, making it the only province without designated compulsory trades.
 - Skilled Trades Certification will:
 - help more workers access good paying jobs by standardizing their skills at a higher level,
 - provides equal opportunity for under-represented and equity seeking groups,
 - increases an employer's business productivity and service delivery, and
 - attract more young people to the trades by recognizing trades workers and critical and valuable.
- **Implementing STC is critical to ensuring B.C. has enough skilled trades workers to respond to the demands of COVID-19 recovery while meeting the challenges of B.C.'s future economy.**
 - STC will help support more than 7,000 uncertified workers from the 10 trades to become certified by registering as an apprentice or challenging the journeyman exam.
 - Supports and programs will also help address the barriers to a career in the trades faced by newcomers, women, and Indigenous Peoples.
 - Budget 2022 invests \$21 million over the next 3 years, beginning with an investment of \$6.6 million in 2022/23.
 - Funding will be used to:
 - Develop a new monitoring and compliance system to encourage industry adherence to Skilled Trades Certification regulations.

- Expand programs and services to support uncertified workers to transition to STC requirements, and.
 - Create additional in-class training seats, beginning with designated electrical and mechanical trades, to ensure apprentices have access to training.
- In addition, the SkilledTradesBC will invest \$5 million over 3 years, so that more trades workers can start an apprenticeship or upgrade their skills at a recognized post-secondary institution.
- Designated trades will be implemented using a phased approach to support those working to get certified and/or register in an apprenticeship program; and the training system to build capacity to deliver technical training.
- **Government's approach to Skilled Trades Certification is based on extensive consultation and alignment with commitments under the Declaration Act.**
 - AEST conducted extensive engagement on Skilled Trades Certification over the summer and fall of 2021, with the goal of learning how we could best support workers, employers, and Indigenous leadership and communities to transition to Skilled Trades Certification.
 - The engagement approach consisted of 4 streams: employers and apprentices, broader public, Indigenous leadership and communities and Industry stakeholder representatives:
 - 130 employers, apprentices, and other organizations participated in eight roundtables discussions, balancing rural and urban representation.
 - 54 Indigenous people in 7 dialogue sessions and one-on-one meetings
 - 30 one on one meetings with stakeholder representatives with the Parliamentary Secretary, including labour organizations, Industry associations, PSI's, Student Groups, First Nations, Non-Public Trainers.
 - Over 860 participants in an on-line survey with broad representation of training system participants.
- **All Canadian Provinces require trades people to be certified, except British Columbia**
 - Several B.C. stakeholders' groups called for re-introducing compulsory trades regulation, including BC Federation of Labour, BC Building Trades, BC Chamber of Commerce.
 - In response, government directed AEST to develop a business case focused on a new, skills-driven approach to Skilled Trades Certification – which was completed in Fall 2020.

- A Stakeholder Advisory Working Group recommended 10 trades based on evidence-based criteria to identify which trades would benefit most from becoming certified in terms of wage growth and job opportunities, while minimizing increases to consumer costs for the public and labour supply issues for employers during COVID-19 recovery.
- The initial trades have the lowest number of uncertified persons working in them, which enables the trades training system time to adapt and minimizes the disruption for workers and employers, particularly during COVID-19 economic recovery.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- Government is deeply concerned about challenges employers and workers are facing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to helping B.C.'s trades to fully recover and benefit from a more highly skilled and productive workforce.
- Workers without a credential are more likely to lose work during a labour market disruption
- Introducing Skilled Trades Certification trades will help provide workers with the recognition and credentials that support employment resiliency when times are tough.

Title: Investments in Trades Training

Issue: The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) provides primary oversight and funding for B.C.'s trades training system, with contributions from several ministries and the federal government and in partnership with industry and employers.

Key Messages and Background:

- **About \$300 million is invested in B.C.'s trades training system each year to help over 47,000 students (apprentices and K-12 students) gain the training and support needed to succeed in today's trades jobs.**
 - AEST is responsible for the oversight and funding of the trades training system in B.C.
 - In 2022/23, my ministry will provide \$104.5M to the Industry Training Authority (ITA) to lead and coordinate British Columbia's skilled trades system, including overseeing the implementation of Skilled Trades Certification.
 - In 2022/23, the ITA will allocate about \$73M to purchase trades training seats at public and private training providers in BC.
 - Government will also provide funding to BC's trades training system for provincial access grants, employer and apprentice tax credits, through the K-12 system, as well as federal grants and employment insurance benefits.
- **An apprenticeship in the skilled trades is an important entry point to a long-lasting, well-paying career that will help build B.C.'s infrastructure.**
 - Implementation of Skilled Trades Certification will increase the value and prestige of the trades while ensuring we have the highly skilled workforce in place to build a better province.
 - The ITA will continue to work with partners, including the K-12 education system, post-secondary institutions, trades unions, industry associations, and employers to deliver inclusive trades training that supports a strong, sustainable economy.
- **Our government is working hard to make sure more people can access skills training and complete their apprenticeships.**
 - When allocating seat funding, the ITA considers demand for seats, consults with industry through 10 Sector Advisory Groups, and uses B.C.'s Labour Market Outlook to ensure investments are supporting apprentices to complete training and meet industry needs.
 - Wait times to receive training are an important issue for apprentices and employers. That's why government has recently made available \$5m for training institutions to address any waitlist issues around the province.
 - For fiscal 2021/22, AEST provided \$3.0M in capital funding for technology and trades equipment to public post-secondary institutions.

Title: Workforce Development Programs

Issue: The Ministry is investing in programming that ensures B.C. has the workforce to meet current and emerging labour market needs

Key Messages and Background:

- The Ministry is investing over \$100M in 2022/23 in workforce development programs that support planning and training, retraining, and upskilling people so they are prepared for the jobs of today and tomorrow.
 - The Ministry anticipates serving Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information (See Appendix 1 for program descriptions and Appendix 5 for success stories):

	Budget allocation 2022/23 (in millions)	Participants served 2020/21	Target participants 2021/22	2022/23
Programs for vulnerable and underrepresented groups	\$51.2	6,587	8,200	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
Skills Training for Employment (STE)	\$35.0	5,014	5,800	
BladeRunners	\$6.2	728	1,400	
Industry Training Authority pre-apprenticeship training	\$10.0	845	1,000	
Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG)	\$10.0	2,028	1,000	
B.C. Employer Training Grant (ETG)	\$10.0 (\$6 WDA, \$4 LMDA)	9,120	7,000	
Sector Labour Market Partnerships (SLMP)	\$6.0 (LMDA)	N/A	N/A	
Indigenous Skills Training and Education programs	\$24.0 (\$12 WDA, \$12 B.C.)	2,928	2,500	
TOTAL	\$101.2	20,663	17,800	

- The Ministry invests \$95M in programs that are delivered by training and service providers in partnership with communities, employers, sectors, labour, and Indigenous Peoples.
- The Ministry also invests \$6M in SLMP programming that supports sectors with workforce development planning, research, and implementation. (See Appendix 7 for success stories; See also Appendix 3 for details on tools and resources provided through WorkBC.ca)
- These programs are mostly funded through the Canada-BC Workforce Development Agreement (WDA) with some funding from the Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) and the Province.

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 1 of 23

- Over the past two years, the Ministry increased its investments in skills training and will continue to invest more, per SSFGS' recommendation #14.
- **Annually, over 18,000 program participants develop skills relevant to the labour market.**
 - In 2020/21, 20,663 British Columbians received skills training and employment supports, and 70% found employment or moved into further education and training by completion. (*Note: 2020/21 participant numbers are not typical, due to additional economic recovery funding. 2021/22 figures not yet available.*)
 - The Ministry's economic recovery programs served over 13,000 additional participants over 2020/21 and 2021/22 (*See Appendix 2 for details and Appendix 6 for success stories*).
- **Workforce development programs align with provincial, regional, and local labour market needs across the province and include a focus on supporting vulnerable and underrepresented groups to gain skills and employment.**
 - Ministry programs are available across all regions of the province and include a specific focus on supporting access to training in rural and remote communities (*see Appendix 4 for regional funding breakdown*).
 - The Ministry collaborates with community organizations, local governments, sectors, and employers and uses labour market data to align programs and priorities with labour market needs.
 - The Ministry's focus on vulnerable and underrepresented groups and Indigenous Peoples responds to SSFGS' recommendation #3 to improve gender and racial equity. (*See Indigenous programs note for details on programming for Indigenous Peoples*)

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The Ministry invested an additional \$190.7M in funding in 2020/21 and 2021/22 to support people, sectors, and communities impacted by COVID-19 through economic recovery. (*See Appendix 2 for program breakdown*)

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 2 of 23



- Programs were adapted for safe delivery and expanded to respond to increased vulnerabilities of people and meet emerging labour needs as a result of the pandemic.

Appendix 1: Workforce Development Program Descriptions:

Key messages:

- Under the WDA, B.C. provides a broad suite of skills training and employment programs, including programs focused on serving vulnerable and underrepresented groups, and supporting employers, communities, and sectors.
- These programs complement programs delivered by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR), including WorkBC Centres that connect EI-eligible workers to supports and services to transition into other jobs.
- WDA programs are designed to be flexible to meet the unique and diverse needs of individuals, employers, and communities.

Program information:

1. *Indigenous skills training and education* supports skills training and education delivered in community that is based on the needs and priorities identified by Indigenous communities.
2. *Skills Training for Employment (STE) program* provides skills training and employment supports to vulnerable and under-represented groups to help them obtain skills and sustainable employment. Employment supports may include counselling, mentoring, work experience, wage subsidies, transportation, childcare, equipment, and disability supports. Programs are specifically targeted to the following populations: Young Adults, Young Adults at Risk, Older Workers 55+, Survivors of Violence and/or Abuse, and Individuals Facing Multiple Barriers to Employment.
3. *BladeRunners* provides life skills, job readiness skills, work experience/on-the-job training, job coaching and ongoing supports to unemployed and precariously employed youth at risk. A majority of participants are Indigenous youth.
4. *Industry Training Authority (ITA) pre-apprenticeship trades training* prepares Indigenous people, women, and other equity-seeking groups for apprenticeships and jobs in trades.
5. *Community Workforce Response Grant program (CWRG)* provides funding to communities and sectors to support in-demand skills training leading to secure and sustainable employment for unemployed and precariously employed (part-time, seasonal or casual) British Columbians. Funding streams include:
 - 1) *Emerging Priorities*: Supports communities experiencing a shift in their labour market that requires skills training to address (industry closure, natural disaster such as forest fire or flood, new economic development opportunity).
 - 2) *Indigenous Communities*: Provides funding to Indigenous communities for the skills training and supports needed to meet local labour market needs.
 - 3) *Workforce Shortages*: Supports sectors and industries to address the skills training needs of workers linked to jobs in demand.
6. *B.C. Employer Training Grant (ETG)* is a cost-sharing grant program that provides employers throughout B.C. with skills training funding for their workforces, including prospective new hires. The grant funding helps employers respond to their changing labour needs and helps develop a skilled workforce with the right mix of skills. In turn, this helps British Columbians access the

skills training needed to succeed in today's labour market, while increasing job security and supporting career advancement.

7. *Sector Labour Market Partnerships (SLMP) Program* helps industry and employers understand and respond to labour market changes, and supports collaborative partnerships for long-term, strategic and sustainable solutions to workforce challenges at the sector, region or population level.

Appendix 2: Economic Recovery Workforce Development Program Breakdown:

Key messages:

- The COVID-19 pandemic had greater impacts on the most vulnerable and underrepresented British Columbians, as well as workers in certain sectors, with impacts to their employment income, mental health, and career trajectories.
- As part of its StrongerBC Economic Recovery plan, in 2020/21, government invested \$20M in provincial funds in a new Ministry-led Short-term Skills Training initiative. The Skills Training for Economic Recovery stream under the CWRG supported people most impacted by COVID-19 to develop the knowledge, skills, and competencies for good job opportunities while the economy recovered. A focus of the initiative was reducing barriers to access such as affordability.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- The additional WDA funding complemented the Province's StrongerBC economic recovery plan, working toward an inclusive and sustainable recovery. The Ministry and SDPR planned for the use of these funds in partnership and developed a Spending Plan (see below) for investments.
- \$27M in additional WDA funding was also invested in the new Short-term Skills Training Initiative In 2021/22. The Province committed another \$4M in funding in 2021/22 as well.

Funding Source/Program Name	Forecasted AEST Expenditures (in millions)	Participants served with skills training and employment supports ¹
WDA Spending Plan 2020/21 and 2021/22		
Services and Supports for Vulnerable Populations	Advice/Recom mentations; Government Financial Information	3,248
Services and Supports for Indigenous Peoples		73
Services and Supports for Hardest-Hit Sectors & Impacted Workers/Youth		1,091
Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities		1,145
WDA Spending Plan subtotal		5,557
Funding transferred to SDPR (not included in totals)		
Short-Term Skills Training Initiative 2020/21 and 2021/22		
CWRG: Skills Training for Economic Recovery (additional WDA funding)		2,728

¹ Not all funded initiatives counted participants served. See descriptions below table for activities undertaken. Where programs are ongoing, the target for 2021/22 is used.
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Funding Source/Program Name	Forecasted AEST Expenditures (in millions)	Participants served with skills training and employment supports ¹
CWRG: Skills Training for Economic Recovery (provincial funding)	Advice/Recommendations;	2,618
Short-Term Skills Training Initiative subtotal	Government Financial Information	5,346
Indigenous economic recovery programs		2,491
TOTAL		13,394

WDA spending plan program information:

- 1) Services and Supports for Vulnerable Populations: ensured base programs for vulnerable and underrepresented groups had necessary supports to address pandemic impacts; supported new programs for vulnerable groups; expanded peer employment supports for persons experiencing homelessness; and provided access to laptops and internet to enable virtual training.
- 2) Services and Supports for Indigenous Peoples: provided training in entrepreneurship and technology and tutoring supports for Indigenous youth.
- 3) Services & Supports for Hardest-Hit Sectors & Impacted Workers/Youth: provided supports for training for sectors and employers as well as for youth entrepreneurship; supported micro-credential development; and expanded access to WorkBC services to clients ineligible for Employment Insurance.
- 4) Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities: provided programs and supports for persons with disabilities; expanded access to WorkBC services for people with disabilities ineligible for Employment Insurance; provided employer supports, assistive technology, and employment services for youth with disabilities; undertook a project for injured workers; and provided grants for persons with disabilities.

Appendix 3: WorkBC.ca

The WorkBC website, and related tools and services, provide career, skills training and labour market information to British Columbians.

Key Messages

- WorkBC.ca supports people with access to the information they need to plan for and achieve a successful career, by providing comprehensive information on jobs, careers, skills training and labour market trends.
- WorkBC.ca is one of the most highly accessed government websites, with over 4.4 million visits (up to January 31, 2022) and expected approximately 5.1 million by the end of 2021/2022.
- The target audiences for WorkBC.ca are job seekers, career explorers, students, parents, educators, and employers. Specific content is provided for Indigenous people, women, youth, mature workers and persons with disabilities.
- To complement WorkBC.ca, the Ministry also participates in outreach to the public by:
 - Directly connecting with British Columbians through the Find Your Fit (FYF) Tour. In 2021/2022, in-person events were impacted by COVID-19 and have been implemented at a reduced capacity, in accordance with BCCDC approved health and safety plans.
 - Attending in-person events such as career fairs and conferences. This past year, due to the health and safety measures set out by the Provincial Health Officer, many of these events were cancelled or moved to a virtual platform.
 - Actively engaging with the public through social media channels (170,020 followers), as well as through phone, email and live chat via the WorkBC Contact Centre.
 - Sharing information annually through an advertising campaign. This year, the focus was on “Find Your Place” to describe how British Columbians can be a part of economic recovery from COVID-19. Advertisements were developed for placement across traditional and digital media.
- The Ministry invested \$5.6M in 2021/2022 for WorkBC.ca-related information, tools and supports to assist British Columbians, sectors and communities.

Additional Information

- WorkBC.ca is regularly updated with new content, tools and resources focused on career planning, employment services, skills training and labour market information, including:
 - Job Board – approximately 50,000 B.C. job postings available on a given day, connecting job seekers and employers.
 - Career-related tools and resources – such as 500 career profiles, 147 Career Trek videos, Career Quizzes, Cost of Living Calculator, Career Transition Tool and Career Search Tool.

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 8 of 23

- Labour Market Outlook – B.C.’s labour market and employment data and forecasts centred on specific information related to regions, industries and careers.
- Publications – WorkBC Parents’ Guide and BC’s Career Guide for Indigenous People offer information to support career planning for targeted audiences.
- Access to WorkBC Centres and their Employment Services (centres across the province that help people to find employment and career-related services).
- To ensure people are provided with the most current information related to work and career support, two new resources were launched on WorkBC.ca this year:
 - Career Education Resources for Teachers and Counsellors – offer lesson plans, learning activities, tools and resources to support career education in classrooms and online learning environments.
 - Career Resources for Parents – help start conversations between parents and their youth to provide a foundation of knowledge to equip youth on their career journey towards a fulfilling career.

Connecting with British Columbians		
April 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022		
Online	WorkBC.ca	4,466,708 visits (<i>Est. 5,364,601 visits by March 31</i>)
	Jobs	44,643 postings; 127,092 vacancies
	Videos	147 Career Trek videos (<i>Estimated 165 videos by March 31</i>)
	Career Tools	7 interactive tools
	Social Media	172,020 followers
Direct Connections	Find Your Fit	25 schools visited; 38 schools planned
	Virtual Events	13 events attended; 49,077 attendees
	Research	84 participants
Sharing Information	Information Campaign	Advertising (traditional and digital media)
	Publications	4,371 guides distributed

Appendix 4: Regional breakdown of workforce development programming

Key messages

- Ensuring access to skills training is available throughout the province, is a priority for WDA funded programs.
- To increase access, AEST:
 - works with a network of service delivery agencies, employers, industry organizations, and communities to deliver skills training programs and services that align with local labour market needs and are available to all British Columbians;
 - provides service providers with flexibility in programming to accommodate the unique needs of people in rural and urban areas;
 - provides funding for participants to cover costs of travel, such as transportation and accommodation, to increase access to training;
 - supports training that is delivered virtually and/or that leads to employment in occupations with the potential for virtual employment; and
 - provides online applications for grant programs – the Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) and the BC Employer Training Grant (ETG) – to ensure communities and employers in all the regions of the province can access funding opportunities.

Economic Development Region	Participants Served	Funding	B.C. Population ³	Participants employed or in further training at completion ⁴
Cariboo	7%	9%	3%	64%
Kootenay	5%	7%	3%	66%
Mainland/Southwest	47%	39%	61%	70%
North Coast and Nechako	6%	8%	1%	83%
Northeast	5%	7%	1%	72%
Thompson-Okanagan	14%	14%	12%	71%
Vancouver Island/Coast	15%	16%	17%	67%

³ Estimates from BC Stats for 2020.

⁴ Only includes STE, BladeRunners, ITA pre-apprenticeship training, and CWRG, as this outcome is most relevant to these programs.

Appendix 5: Success stories from base workforce development programming

Skills Training for Employment

Individuals Facing Multiple Barriers to Employment

Program Name: FreshSTART (Skills Training and Readiness Training) for Employment

Organization funded: Partners in Resources Inc.

Personal Information

Peer Employment Program (PEP) and Outstanding Women Learning and Leading Program

Organization Funded: INEO Employment Counseling

Personal Information

Personal Information

Community Workforce Response Grant Program – Emerging Priorities Stream

Organization funded: A.W.A.R.E. – Assisting with Awareness Regarding Employment Society

Trainer: Discovery Community College

Project Funded: Personal Support - Mental Health Worker Project

This project provided participants with the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to work as Personal Support workers and Mental Health Workers. Training included essential skills, occupational skills, job search skills and a work experience practicum.

Participant testimonial:

Personal Information

Further base project examples:

STE Program Examples

- **The Indigenous Youth Employment Project** supports Indigenous young adults at risk to overcome barriers and acquire the necessary skills and training to achieve sustainable employment. Delivered by the Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House to participants in the Greater Vancouver Regional District. Delivered by Workforce Development Consulting Services of Northern B.C. **STE: Young Adults at Risk Program**
- **The QUEST Plus Pipeline Construction Worker Training Program** is focussed on serving Métis young adults at risk, Quest provides participants with pre-employment skills, Pipeline Construction Certification and job search skills to obtain sustainable employment in the construction, natural resources, energy, and infrastructure sectors. **STE: Young Adults at Risk Program**
- **The First Nations Youth Training Program** combines work experience with certificate training that provides participants with the foundation for entry into the job market. Participants are supported throughout the program and during their transition into long-term employment. Delivered by Blue Collar Silviculture Ltd. in Wells, Quesnel, Campbell River, Port Hardy and Port Alberni. **STE: Young Adults at Risk Program**
- **The Youth Breakthrough to Employment and Training (Youth BEAT)** supports young adults with mental health challenges to break through to employment and training. It provides support, training and mentorship tailored to meet the individual needs of participants and provides a full range of wrap around supports, essential skills development and industry recognized certificate training. Delivered in the North Shore **STE: Young Adults at Risk Program**
- **The Gateway Program** targets those in rural and remote communities. It includes short-term occupational certification training, Indigenous cultural components and work experience (with possible wage subsidies) in the participant's community. Accepts participants from across B.C. **STE: Survivors of Violence and/or Abuse Program.**
- **The Experience Matters! program** offers short-term certificate and on-the-job training, work experience (with possible wage subsidies), employer matching, job placement, mentorship and coaching services. Program is delivered throughout BC at locations based on participant needs. Service Provider: Bowman Employment Services Inc. **STE: Older Workers 55+ Program.**
- **The Qmunity WORKS program** has a focus on participants that identify as LGBTQ2S+ (and their allies). It provides online blended learning in occupational and short-term skills in areas such as computers, math and English, as well as job search assistance and hands-on work

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 13 of 23

experience in inclusive environments. Job coaching, wage subsidies, job placements, language supports and Indigenous cultural components are also available. Delivered in Nanaimo for 60 participants. **STE: Individuals Facing Multiple Barriers Program**

- **Future Troopers** connects Immigrant young adults with supportive employer partners to address urgent skills shortages. Delivered by DIVERSEcity in Surrey. **STE: Young Adults Program**
- **Youth Employment Connect: Training for Jobs** provides individualized guided support and structured group-based training for young adults to pursue employment in the information and communication technology, and marketing and sales sectors. Delivered by SUCCESS in Coquitlam. **STE: Young Adults Program**
- **Game Changer: An Employment Program for Immigrant Youth** assists young adults new to Canada in securing sustainable employment or education through an individualized employment plan and group-based services. Serves participants from Greater Victoria and surrounding communities. **STE: Young Adults Program**

Community Workforce Response Grant Project Examples

- **The Canadian Tourism Professional for Agri-Tourism Project** provides Indigenous youth with entrepreneurial training focussed on Agri-tourism or developing a market ready, shelf stable product to offer in retail, domestic and International markets. **CWRG: Emerging Priorities Stream**

Funding to: Community Futures Development Corporation of Central Interior First Nations
Trainer: University of Victoria Peter B. Gustavson School of Business
Participant Target: 20
Location: Kamloops

- **The Craft Brewing and Packaging Project** prepares students for a career in the Craft Brewing and Packaging Industries. It includes hands-on experience working with industry experts developing and mastering brewing recipes, operating commercial brewing equipment, and running a successful business. Includes participant financial supports. **CWRG: Emerging Priorities Stream.**

Funding to: Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce
Trainer: North Island College
Participant Target: 12

B.C. Employer Training Grant ExamplesTransportation Sector

In 2021/22, the ETG supported 58 employers with approximately **\$740K** to provide skills training to 155 employees in the transportation sector. Of that funding, approximately **\$270K** supported 17 employers in B.C.'s rural regions. An example includes:

- Northern Thunderbird Air Inc., an air medevac transport company in Prince George was approved for approximately \$17K to train 9 participants in engine maintenance inspection, allowing these employees to upskill and obtain their designation from Transport Canada.

In 2021/22, the ETG provided approximately **\$570K** to support 31 employers to train 50 truck drivers in Class 1 Mandatory Entry Level Training. Of that funding, approximately **\$256K** supported 12 companies in B.C.'s rural regions. Examples include:

- D7 Mechanical Ltd., a fire-suppression company in Prince George, was approved for \$40K to train 4 truck drivers, allowing the company to upskill its workers and provide stable full-time work for its employees.
- Diggin' It Excavating Ltd., a septic excavation company in Salt Spring Island was approved \$30K to train 3 truck drivers. The funding allowed the company to upskill its workforce from delivery drivers to licensed truck drivers.
- Aqua Flow Trucking Lt., a trucking and fluid hauling company that operates primarily in the oil and gas industry in Wonowon, was approved for \$40K to train 4 truck drivers. The funding allowed the company to upskill its workforce from pump operators to licensed truck drivers.

Healthcare and Social Assistance Sector

In 2021/22, the ETG supported 136 employers with approximately **\$865K** to provide skills training in the healthcare and social assistance sector. Some examples include:

- \$1K to the Young Women's Christian Association to train 45 social workers to de-escalate emotional distress, allowing the organization to better meet the needs of marginalized individuals they serve.
- \$1K to Richmond Society for Community Living to train 12 workers in defensive driving skills, allowing the organization to safely transport its clients to various events.

In 2021/22, at least **\$171K** was provided to 54 childcare providers for skills training in early childhood education programs. An example includes:

- \$21K to Coast Mountain Children Society in Terrace to train 32 new Early Childhood Educators. The funding allows the organization to fill much needed childhood spaces in Northern communities, while upskilling its workforce to advance from assistants into Early Childhood Educators.

Construction Sector

In 2021/22, the ETG supported 50 employers with approximately **\$418K** to provide employment related skills training to 231 employees in the construction sector. Of that funding, approximately **\$199K** supported 17 employers in B.C.'s rural regions. Examples include:

- NAPP Enterprises Ltd., a hazardous material remediator from Prince George, was approved for over \$4K to train 10 employees in equipment handling for substations and hydro dams, allowing the company to upskill its workforce to expand and take on work with BC Hydro.
- R&B Plumbing & Heating Ltd. in North Vancouver was approved for \$1K to train and certify 2 employees as heating systems installers, allowing the company to upskill its workforce to meet new municipal requirements.
- Canfor Corporation, a lumber company in Prince George, was approved for \$26K to train 16 employees in industrial wood processing, allowing the company to upskill its workforce and succession plan.

Appendix 6: Success stories from workforce development programming for economic recovery

Community Workforce Response Grant: Skills Training for Economic Recovery

Organization Funded: Vinica Education Society

Project Name: Equity in Wine Leadership Training

The Equity in Wine Leadership Project provides BIPOC participants with wine industry-specific skills training, mentorship from industry leaders and job placement services for advancement to management positions in the wine industry.

Personal Information

Community Workforce Response Grant: Skills Training for Economic Recovery Stream

Organization Funded: B.C. Care Providers Association

Trainer: Discovery Community College

Project Name: Health Care Assistant Diploma Project

Participant testimonial:

Personal Information



Community Workforce Response Grant: Skills Training for Economic Recovery

Organization Funded: BC Care Providers Association

Trainer: Discovery Community College

Project Name: Health Care Assistant Diploma Project

Participant testimonial:

Personal Information

Further economic recovery project examples:

Skills Training for Employment Program

- **The AEGIS program** prepares participants for work as **Community Support Workers**. Participants receive instruction in theoretical knowledge, workplace practice and skills, and professional, personal, and community supports. **Eligible individuals in small BC communities receive assistance with travel and living expenses to participate in the program's core locations.** Delivered by Canadian Vocational Training Centre in Prince George, Kelowna, Vernon, Langley, Terrace, Kamloops and Prince Rupert. **(STE: *Survivors of Domestic Violence Program*)**
- **The SAFE program** prepares survivors of domestic violence for work as a **medical office assistant, dental receptionist, or early childhood educator** assistant. Training includes multilingual pre-employment, occupational training, work experience, and support services. Delivered by the Progressive Intercultural Community Society (PICS) in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. **STE: *Survivors of Domestic Violence Program***
- **The Practice Care program** supports survivors of domestic violence who are newcomers and/or visible minorities. Training includes essential skills, soft skills, and **ECE skills and certification**. Participants also receive wraparound supports and long-term mentoring. Delivered by DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society in Surrey (currently online). **STE: *Survivors of Domestic Violence Program***.
- **The Net-Work Connections Program** helps persons with disabilities develop digital literacy skills to find employment. Training includes employment coaching, short-term work experience placements, and ongoing support. Delivered in Prince George and Smithers by Kopar Administration. **STE: *Persons with Disabilities Program***.
- **Skills Training for Young Adults with Disabilities Program** prepares young adults for careers in the fields of security, hospitality/tourism, or social services, with job-specific training, certifications, industry knowledge and connections with employers. Delivered by the Open Door Social Services Society in Kamloops. **STE: *Persons with Disabilities Program***
- **The Reaching Independence Through Employment program** supports persons with disabilities in successfully entering the workforce. Participants receive one-on-one and group-based life skills training, employment counselling, personal counselling,

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 19 of 23

vocational assessments, work experience, and financial supports. Delivered in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Mission and Maple Ridge to serve 70 participants. **STE: Persons with Disabilities Program**

- **The Computer Skills for the Office Certificate program** helps participants find employment in office support positions. Training includes computer fundamentals, core courses, and pre-employment training. Service Provider: Langara College. Delivered online for participants from Cariboo, Kootenay, Vancouver Island/Coast, Mainland/Southwest, North Coast & Nechako, Northeast, Thompson/Okanagan **STE: Economic Recovery: Immigrants, Francophone & Visible Minorities Program**
- **The PICS E-Agriculture Training program** provides participants in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley with in-demand skills to find sustainable employment in the agriculture industry. Training includes digital literacy, language skills, occupational training, and pre-employment supports.

Service Provider: Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (PICS) **STE: Immigrants, Francophone & Visible Minorities**

Community Workforce Response Grant Program

- **The Northeast Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) Training Project** provides participants with training needed for employment in community paramedicine, emergency response and private industry. Graduates receive Primary Care Paramedic certification. Training will combine courses on Haida Gwaii and a preceptorship in Vancouver. Tuition, travel and accommodation support are included. **Skills Training for Economic Recovery.**

Delivered in Masset

Funding to: Haida Gwaii Community Futures Development Corporation; Trainer: Columbia Paramedic Academy
Participant Target: 16. Delivered in Haida Gwaii and Vancouver.

- **The Sik-E-Dakh Farm School Project** provides Indigenous participants with knowledge and skills required for employment in the agriculture industry. The Project includes training in farm tools and machinery, fruit and livestock production, soil management, sustainable agriculture systems, small farm business planning and an experiential practicum. **Skills Training for Economic Recovery**

Contact Catherine Poole, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs & Accountability, 250-508-0420

Last Updated: March 15, 2022

Page 20 of 23

Funding to the Sik-E-Dakh Development Corporation Ltd.

Participant target: 16; Training by Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Delivered in SikEDakh, North Coast

- **The Wildfire Fighting Program** is a 4-week program that provided participants with the knowledge, skills, and certificates required to apply for a job in the Wildfire Fighting Industry. Students will receive 24 certificates related to Wildfire Fighting as well as employment preparation / wildfire interview skills training. **Skills Training for Economic Recovery**

Funding to: Coast Mountain College; Trainer: Coast Mountain College

Participant Target: 12; Training location: Terrace, North Coast & Nechako EDR.

Indigenous Communities served: Wet'suwet'en and Gitxsan Nations

- **The Residential Construction Training Project** provides participants with theoretical and practical knowledge required for employment as an apprentice carpenter in the construction industry, as part of the T'silhqot'in Nation's housing strategy. The project includes courses in Worksafe, Trades Mathematics, Drawings & Specifications, Site Layout, Concrete Forms and Frame Residential Housing. **CWRG - Skills Training for Economic Recovery**

Funding to: T'silhqot'in National Government; Trainer: Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Participant Target: 16; Training location: Riske Creek

Indigenous Communities served: Tl'etinqox-T'in Government, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation

- **The Professional Bookkeeper Certificate Program for Immigrant and Racialized Women Project** provides learners with a thorough understanding of the technical knowledge and applications of general bookkeeping principles, as well as basic computer skills and business communications. **CWRG - Skills Training for Economic Recovery**

Funding to: Langara College; Trainer: Langara College

Participant Target: 20; Training location: Online

Appendix 7: Sector Labour Market Partnerships program success stories

Indigenous Peoples and Reconciliation

- Invested approximately **\$2.3M in four recent projects** which create opportunities for **Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in B.C.'s economy**. Examples include:
 - **Indigenous Tourism BC** - \$440,010 to support in-depth labour market research on the Indigenous tourism sector and develop a strategy to retain and increase Indigenous employment and identify skills development and training needs in the Indigenous tourism sector.
 - **First Nations Technology Council** - \$1,349,644 over 3 years to conduct labour market research that identifies employment trends, in-demand jobs, barriers, and emerging skill needs across sectors in all BC's economic regions, allowing Indigenous peoples better access to the growing digital economy in B.C.

Systemic Barriers -- Gender and Race

- Invested approximately **\$4.7M in five projects** over three years **addressing barriers to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the B.C. labour force** across multiple sectors and regions. Examples include:
 - **HR Tech Group** – \$1.68M over 3 years to increase the attraction, retention and advancement of women, Indigenous peoples, individuals with diverse abilities, and other under-represented groups in skilled occupations within B.C.'s technology sector through the implementation of diversity and inclusion strategies to recruit, retain and support career development in these professions.
 - **Inclusion Powell River Society** - \$803,015 over two years for an inclusive Economy Research Project, to research cross-sector inclusive employment models and provide recommendations for employers to increase workforce participation of people with disabilities.

Health Care and Social Sector

- Invested approximately **\$4.1M in four projects** over 4.5 years in which **support education, training and labour mobility** in B.C.'s social services sector. Examples include:
 - **Federation of Community Social Services of BC** - \$450,805 to support the creation of a strategy for the improvement of education and training in the social services sector, inclusive of both post-secondary education (for future workers) and professional development (for current workers).
 - **Early Childhood Educators of BC** - \$3,051,705 over 4.5 years to support a sector-led evaluation to measure the direct and indirect effects of the implementation of the provincial Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy on the sector.

Supporting Sectors in Transition

- Invested approximately \$856,000 for projects supporting workers in transition. Examples include:
 - **Centre of Training Excellence in Mining** - \$325,820 over 2 years to help meet the mining sector's future skills and training needs through the Mining Skills Roadmap. The project fulfils a recommendation of the provincial BC Mining Jobs Task Force Final Report, to collaborate with AEST on the development and implementation of a cohesive roadmap for enhanced mine sector training to meet the mining sector's future skills and labour needs through a collaborative, inclusive, innovative and geographically focused approach.
 - **British Columbia Forest Safety Council** - \$530,403 over two years to provide essential entry-level skills training for individuals in rural communities looking to enter the forest sector and evaluate the efficacy of the sector-led Forestry Fundamentals pilot program.

Supporting Apprentices in B.C. / Skilled Trades Certification

- Invested approximately \$2.8M in two projects to support apprentices in B.C. Examples include:
 - **Construction Foundation of BC** - \$2,127,000 over 2 years to develop and test a pathway to accelerate apprenticeship training to support individuals in obtaining an apprenticeship in the construction trades.
 - **Canadian Apprenticeship Forum** - \$650,000 over two years to calculate the return on training investment to assess actual costs and quantify the associated benefits and impacts of training apprentices from an employer perspective.

Supporting Small Businesses

- **The British Columbia Chamber of Commerce** - \$348,500 to develop regionally customized "Resiliency, Restart and Transition to Recovery Playbooks" to provide small businesses across the province with strategies to effectively respond and adapt to COVID-19 workforce challenges during and after the pandemic.

Intentionally
Left Blank

Title: COVID-19 Impacts of Employee Vaccination Policy

Issue: COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Employee Terminations

Key Messages and Background:

- Effective November 22, 2021, all employees in the BC Public Service were required to provide proof of vaccination, and compliance with this policy is a condition of employment.
- Accommodations for medical or other grounds protected under B.C.s Human Rights Code were also considered.
- Approximately 1% of employees chose not to be vaccinated or chose not to disclose their vaccination status. Those employees were placed on unpaid leave for 3 months, at the end of which they were informed they would face termination if still unvaccinated and if no accommodation was in place.
- Unfortunately, within in our ministry^{Person} employees have been terminated as a result of not complying with the vaccination policy.
- It would be inappropriate to share more details given these are human resource matters that must be treated with an appropriate respect for the privacy of those employees.
- However, I can confirm the ministry did take steps to ensure these terminations did not substantively impact ministry operations and service delivery.
- Questions about to the details and application of the vaccination policy are appropriately addressed to the Minister of Finance as the minister responsible for the BC Public Service Agency.

Title: **Collective Bargaining 2022**

Issue: **2022 Collective Bargaining Mandate – Key Facts and Issues**

Key Messages and Background:

- **Public post-secondary sector is preparing for the upcoming round of collective bargaining.**
 - Labour relations, collective bargaining, and management compensation frameworks in the public post-secondary education sectors are established by statute to ensure that complex yet common issues are dealt with on a sectoral basis, while allowing post-secondary institutions some control over day-to-day human resource and labour relations issues.
 - The key government priorities for this round of public sector collective bargaining are:
 - Government Financial Information
 - The key issues during upcoming collective bargaining for our sector will likely include:
 - Government Financial Information
 - We look forward to post-secondary unions and employers reaching freely negotiated agreements so we can continue working together to make life better for everyone in our province.
 - Specific questions about the 2022 public sector bargaining mandate should be directed to the Minister of Finance.

Contact: Pratibha Bhatnagar, Director, Labour Relations Policy, Governance and Corporate Planning, Government

Last Updated: February 11, 2022

Page 1 of 2

- **There are 30 collective agreements in the UPSEA (research university) sector and 42 collective agreements in the (PSEA) teaching universities, institute, and colleges sector.**
 - The University Post-Secondary Employer Association (UPSEA) represents the 6 big universities and has a coordinating role only, with the 6 universities bargaining independently with individual bargaining plans.
 - The UPSEA sector has over 39,000 FTE employees (unionized and management) representing 8% of the provincial workforce.
 - The Post-Secondary Employer's Association (PSEA) is the accredited bargaining agent that bargains on behalf of its 19 members including 5 teaching universities, 3 institutes, and 11 colleges. There is one sectoral bargaining plan for these teaching institutions.
 - The PSEA sector has over 33,000 FTE employees (unionized and management) representing 7% of the provincial workforce.

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- The COVID-19 pandemic created challenges for public post-secondary institutions, with fast-changing environments that has required quick adaptation by the sector and flexibility to rapid change as the sector shifted from working and teaching remotely in 2020 to returning to in-person learning in September 2021.
- As a result of the changes implemented throughout the course of the pandemic, it is anticipated that health and safety, remote work/online teaching, and workload will be key issues during the upcoming round of collective bargaining.

Title: Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC)

Issue: The CPABC has previously requested amendments to their governing legislation.

Key Messages and Background:

- **The CPABC serves the public by overseeing the training and conduct of highly trained professional accountants in British Columbia.**
 - The CPABC is the regulator of Chartered Professional Accountants in British Columbia, established under the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act (Act)*.
 - The CPABC is the BC chapter of a national professional accounting organization amalgamated from numerous organizations in late 2014.
 - Government's role in the oversight of this profession is to manage the enabling legislation and carry out board appointment and review functions provided in the *Act*.
- **The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) is always ready to hear from the CPABC on how to better protect the public by ensuring that British Columbians understand the CPABC's role and the expertise and accountability it stands for.**
 - The Ministry welcomes legislative change requests. As with any legislative proposal, there are often many competing priorities, and government must balance those priorities against limited room on the legislative agenda.
 - AEST is committed to evidence based policy development and will review any research and data that the CPABC provides to substantiate their legislative requests.

Advice/Recommendations

- As with all legislative proposals, the proposed amendments require further policy research to ensure there will not be impacts on other stakeholders in the financial sector.
- The Ministry has requested further information from CPABC to support the policy work required for these proposals and will continue working closely with CPABC throughout this process.

COVID-19 Impact Summary: N/A

Title: Post-Secondary Institution Board Appointments

Issue: AEST is responsible for appointments to boards of public post-secondary institutions, advisory agencies, professional associations and one Crown agency.

Key Messages and Background:

- **Board appointments to Post-Secondary Institutions**
 - The board appointment process is open, consistent, diverse, merit-based and transparent.
 - We want to ensure that the post-secondary system works for everyone.
 - We're taking care to support British Columbians and ensure we have the right leadership in place in our public post-secondary institutions.
 - It is important that universities, colleges and institutes have boards that reflect the diversity of our province, with diverse perspectives, appropriate competencies, geographic representation and gender balance. Appointments are based on merit.
 - Since July 2017, there have been a total of 736 appointments through order in council, ministerial order, and letters; including 425 reappointments (57.8%), and 311 new appointments (42.2%).
- **Post-Secondary Institution Board Composition**
 - Most University Boards include 8 members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC), including two nominated by the alumni association; College and Institute boards include 8 or more appointed members.
 - As of March 1, 2022, females represent 53.2% of board composition, which is an increase from 52.4% last year (as of March 2021) and a further increase from January 2017 when it was only 42.9%.
 - We are committed to strengthening diversity and inclusion. Since January 2020, we have appointed 79 members of visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ2S+ individuals on all of the public post-secondary institutions, advisory agencies, professional associations boards (as of March 1, 2022).
- **Indigenous representation on Post-Secondary Institution Boards.**
 - Indigenous representation on every board has been a priority for this government. Between July 2018 and April 2021 every public post-secondary board in B.C. has had an Indigenous appointee, compared to 11 institutions in 2012. Due to recent resignations, Capilano University and British Columbia Institute of Technology do not currently have Indigenous representation on their boards. Government is actively working to restore Indigenous representation on these boards as vacancies arise. We currently have 51 or 24.2% Indigenous representation on 23 public post-secondary boards.

- Bi-annual Gatherings with Indigenous Board members facilitate strong connections between boards, government, and Indigenous partners, and address a variety of themes particularly relevant to Indigenous board members and recognizing the unique challenges that may relate to Indigenous board members in particular.
- **Post-Secondary Institution Board Remuneration**
 - Appointees to University Boards receive no remuneration.
 - Appointees to Colleges and Institutions receive an honorarium as per the Treasury Board Directive (TBD) 2/20 and as per OIC 180/95.
 - All post-secondary institutions are required to disclose their board members' annual remuneration on their websites by end of June each year.

COVID-19 Impact Summary: N/A –

Attachment – Current and Upcoming Vacancies Table

Board Appointments (as of March 1, 2022)		
Current and upcoming vacancies		Indigenous Members
Universities – 8 LGIC appointed board members		
<u>Research Universities:</u>		
Royal Roads University	*RRU has 6 LGIC members 2 terms expire July 31, 2022	Personal Information
Simon Fraser University	1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 2 terms expire July 31, 2022	
Thompson Rivers University	5 terms expire July 31, 2022	
University of British Columbia	*UBC has 11 LGIC members 1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 3 terms expire July 31, 2022	
University of Northern British Columbia	1 vacancy 3 terms expire July 31, 2022	
University of Victoria	1 vacancy 3 members reach their sixth year on July 31, 2022 1 term expires July 31, 2022 (alumni position nominated by the alumni association)	
<u>Teaching Universities:</u>		
Capilano University	1 vacancy 1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 (alumni position nominated by the alumni association) 5 terms expire July 31, 2022 (including 1 alumni position nominated by the alumni association)	
Emily Carr University of Art and Design	2 vacancies (including 1 alumni position nominated by the alumni association) 4 terms expire July 31, 2022 (including 1 alumni positions nominated by the alumni association)	
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	1 member reaches their sixth year on June 9, 2022 (alumni positions nominated by the alumni association) Advice/Recommendations 2 terms expire July 31, 2022	
University of the Fraser Valley	3 terms expire July 31, 2022	
Vancouver Island University	1 vacancy 1 term expires July 31, 2022 (alumni position nominated by the alumni association)	

Colleges and Institutes – 8 or more LGIC appointed board members			
British Columbia Institute of Technology	1 vacancy 6 terms expire July 31, 2022		Personal Information
Camosun College	3 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Coast Mountain College	4 terms expire July 31, 2022		
College of New Caledonia	1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 2 terms expire July 31, 2021		
College of the Rockies	1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 5 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Douglas College	1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 3 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Justice Institute of British Columbia	7 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Langara College	6 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	3 terms expire December 31, 2021		
North Island College	1 vacancy 1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 3 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Northern Lights College	2 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Okanagan College	1 vacancy 1 member reaches their sixth year on July 31, 2022 3 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Selkirk College	3 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Vancouver Community College	4 terms expire July 31, 2022		
Crown Agency – Appointed by Minister’s Order			
	#MO	Terms Expiring	Indigenous
Industry Training Authority	9 members on the Board	1 vacancy 4 terms expire May 1, 2022	Personal Information
Professional Associations			
	#LGIC	Terms Expiring	Indigenous
BC Society of Landscape Architects	4	3 terms expire July 31, 2022 1 term expires October 31, 2022	Personal Information
BC Registered Music Teachers’ Association	1	No expiries in 2022	

Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia	3	2 term expiry June 3, 2022	Personal Information
Other Agencies – Appointed by Letter			
	#By Letter	Terms Expiring	Indigenous
BC Council on Admissions and Transfer	19	9 terms expire Aug 31, 2021	Personal Information
Degree Quality Assessment Board	13	4 Vacancies 5 term expire Nov 30, 2021	
StudentAid BC Appeal Committee	7	5 Vacancies 2 term expire Oct 26, 2020	

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank

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

BUDGET / RESOURCE SUMMARY ESTIMATES NOTES	Section 4
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
Vote 12 Workforce Innovation and Skills Training	83
Vote 12 Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	84
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services	85
Vote 12 Executive and Support Services Minister's Office	86
Vote 46 Capital Funding	87
Institutional Financial Health – 5YR Net Income	88
Tabs intentionally left blank	89-90

Advanced Education and Skills Training
QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE to Estimates 2022/23
(\$000's)

Table 1 – Budget 2022 Resource Summary Table - 2021/22 to 2024/25

For budget documents Reference: see Table 6	Sub-Vote Description *	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Vote 12	Educational Institutions and Organizations	2,365,919	2,395,535	2,379,762	2,380,205
	Student Support Programs	72,074	72,074	72,074	72,074
	Private Training Institutions	1	1	1	1
	Workforce Development and Skills Training	16,873	17,351	17,311	17,311
	Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	98,877	104,476	105,023	105,023
	Executive and Support Services	23,197	23,257	23,020	23,020
Vote 12	MINISTRY TOTAL	2,576,941	2,612,688	2,597,191	2,597,634

* Sub-Vote budget amounts are shown net of spending funded by recoveries from other sources.

Table 2 - Summary of changes by Sub-Vote – 2021/22 to 2022/23

For budget documents Reference: see Table 6	Sub-Vote Description	2021/22 Estimates	Changes *	2021/22 Restated Estimates	Change (see Table 4)	2022/23 Estimates
Vote 12	Educational Institutions and Organizations	2,380,919	(15,000)	2,365,919	29,616	2,395,535
	Student Support Programs	74,195	(2,121)	72,074	0	72,074
	Private Training Institutions	1	0	1	0	1
	Workforce Development and Skills Training	17,013	(140)	16,873	478	17,351
	Transfers to Crown Corporations, Agencies	98,877	-	98,877	5,599	104,476
	Executive and Support Services	21,076	2,121	23,197	54	23,251
Vote 12	MINISTRY TOTAL	2,592,081	(15,140)	2,576,941	35,747	2,612,688

* Prior year Estimates may be restated to reflect re-organizations to ensure year-over-year comparability.

EIO: \$15M increase to recoveries for Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) program funding, prior years were recorded as CRF revenue

SSP, ESS: \$2.121M moved from SSP sub-vote to ESS for realignment of expenses with ministry resource requirements

WDST: \$0.140M Welcome BC.com administration budget transferred to Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI)

Table 3 – Summary of Budget 2022 changes to Ministry operating budget

Description	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	3- Year Increase
Collective Agreements (SSNM) for PSIs	10,695	10,695	10,695	32,085
Health Care Assistant Training	25,540	0	0	25,540
Skilled Trades Certification	6,620	7,127	7,127	20,874
Early Childhood Education Expansion Program	1,300	1,300	1,300	3,900
Emily Carr P3	783	672	1,115	2,570
Legal	48	48	48	144
LDMA Program Recovery	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(45,000)
WelcomeBC.com Administration Transfer	(140)	(140)	(140)	(420)
Total Budget 2022 decisions	29,846	4,702	5,145	39,693

Advanced Education and Skills Training - Estimates 2022/23

Table 4 – Breakdown of changes by sub-Vote and decision - 2021/22 restated to 2022/23

Sub-Vote	Prior Budget impacts *	SSNM Lift	Emily Carr P3	Health Training	Early Childhood Education	Skilled Trade Certification	Legal	Total
Educational Institutions and Organizations	(8,462)	10,695	783	25,300	1,300	-	-	29,616
Student Support Programs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Private Training Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Workforce Development and Skills Training	-	-	-	-	-	475	3	478
Transfers to Crowns	(546)	-	-	-	-	6,145	-	5,599
Executive & Support Services	(231)	-	-	240	-	-	45	54
Total Change	(9,239)	10,695	783	25,540	1,300	6,620	48	35,747

* Year-over-year changes to base budget allocation will include impacts decisions from previous budgets. Previous Budget decisions' impacts on 2022/23 net decrease of (\$9.239M) is comprised of:

EIO: (\$8.462M) reduction is the net result of adjustments primarily related to compensation increase at PSIs, Health Career Access Program, Health Expansion Program, and Tech Strategy

Transfers to Crown: \$0.546M reduction related to Industry Training Authority (ITA) Performance Management Framework Adjustment

ESS: \$0.231 reduction related to Health Career Access Program (HCAP) Related Training in 21/22 (Year 1) and compensation increases

Table 5 - Post-Secondary Institutions Capital Plan

Description	Reference	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan	TOTAL
Total PSI Capital spending from all sources	Budget & Fiscal Plan document, Table 1.	1,220,500	1,546,700	1,502,100	4,269,300
Ministry Capital Funding, Vote 48, provincial funding contribution	All year fiscal plan years shown in Ministry Service Plan, page 16; 2022/23 only shown in Estimates, Vote 48, page 195	547,521	647,163	666,221	1,860,905

Table 6 - Budget Documents Reference

Vote No.	Vote Name	Blue Book Page	Blue Book Supplement Page
12	Ministry Operations – AEST	29-32	22-23
48	Other Appropriations – Capital Funding (Post-Secondary Institutions)	195	70-71

Advanced Education and Skills Training - *Estimates 2022/23*

Budget Letter Direction

Each year, the ministry's budget decisions and final allocations are formally conveyed by way of the budget letter from the Minister of Finance, received typically on or after budget day. The budget letter will provide direction related to restrictions on the ministry's authority to spend the Estimates and Supply Act provide.

For reference, AEST's *Budget 2021* Letter dated May 28, 2021 included the following basic STOB restrictions¹:

STOB 50 - Salaries

- Budget 2021 STOB 50 allocations are maximum amounts, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Chair of Treasury Board. Ministries are expected to manage leave liability amounts.
- Deputy Ministers are to ensure an approval framework is in place that provides appropriate executive sign-off on ministry hiring and use of overtime to ensure that ministries remain within their overall STOB 50 budget.

STOB 57 - Travel

- Travel is restricted to non-discretionary travel only.
- Deputy Minister pre-approval is required for all out-of-province travel.
- Ministries are not to pay for business class air travel. Any exceptions to this directive require prior approval by the Secretary to Treasury Board.
- Deputy Ministers are to ensure an approval framework is in place that provides appropriate executive sign-off for all ministries travel within the province to minimize travel costs and restrict both discretionary travel and the number of ministry participants travelling to a meeting.
- Ministerial travel policy is set out in Core Policy and Procedures Manual section 10.4.4:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/core-policy/policies/travel#1041>

STOB 65 - Office and Business Expenses

- Deputy Ministers are to ensure an approval framework is in place that provides appropriate executive sign-off on ministry office and business expenses to ensure that ministries minimize discretionary office and business expenses.
- **New Furniture and Equipment:** Ministries are restricted to purchases for critical business needs or health and safety requirements that meet all the requirements on the "Furniture and Equipment Purchase checklist".
- **Conferences:** Attendance should be limited to conferences deemed essential for job-required purposes. Pre-approval by the Deputy Minister is required to attend a conference or Federal/ Provincial/ Territorial meetings.
- **Meeting Rooms:** Meetings should normally be scheduled in government meeting rooms/facilities or should be facilitated remotely wherever possible.

STOB 67 - Informational Advertising

- Ministries must obtain approval from the Deputy Minister of Government Communications and Public Engagement prior to spending funds from their STOB 67 allocations. Further, any requests to reallocate funding into STOB 67 must receive initial approval from the Deputy Minister of Government Communications and Public Engagement and then by the Chair of Treasury Board.

STOB 68 - Statutory Advertising and Publications

- STOB 68 budget allocations are restricted to statutory advertising and publications only. Ministries are required to obtain approval from the Secretary to Treasury Board prior to redirecting STOB 68 funding to other ministry expenditures (e.g., to off-set other ministry pressures).

STOB 73 (Amortization)

- Surpluses in STOB 73 may not be used to off-set pressures or overspending in other STOBs without prior approval from the Secretary to Treasury Board.

STOB 75 - Tenant Improvements

- Deputy Ministers are to ensure an approval framework is in place that provides appropriate executive sign-off on tenant improvements less than \$50,000 and must ensure that ministries have sufficient operating funding to pay for the related amortization costs.

¹ For Standard Objects of Expense (STOB) descriptions please see page 1 of the **Blue Book Supplement**.

Advanced Education and Skills Training - *Estimates 2022/23*

- If a ministry does not have the resources to pay for the related amortization costs, prior approval must be obtained from the Chair of Treasury Board.
- All requests for tenant improvements in excess of \$50,000 must be sent to the Real Property Division in CITZ.

STOB 77 - Transfers-Grants

- *Budget 2021* STOB 77 allocations are maximum amounts
- STOB 77 expenditures are to be made only for grants previously approved, in writing, by Treasury Board or the Chair of Treasury Board.
- Ministries are not to provide any new STOB 77 expenditures without the written approval of the Secretary to Treasury Board at a minimum. Please consult with Treasury Board Staff regarding the level of approval required for such requests.

STOB 79 - Transfers-Entitlements

- *Budget 2020* STOB 79 allocations are maximum amounts.

STOB 80 - Transfers-Shared Cost Arrangements

- *Budget 2021* STOB 80 allocations are maximum amounts.
- Ministries may enter into one-year STOB 80 funding commitments for the renewal or replacement of existing agreements without further approval, provided the costs are fully managed within a ministry's STOB 80 allocation.
- Ministries are not to enter into any multi-year STOB 80 agreements, or new one-year agreements for new or expanded services and/or programs, without approval of the Secretary to Treasury Board at a minimum. Please consult with Treasury Board Staff regarding the level of approval required for such requests.
- For any STOB 80 agreements for which your ministry wishes to pay 100% of the cost at the outset of the agreement similar to a STOB 77 expenditure, prior approval must be obtained from the Chair of Treasury Board. A rationale must also be included as to why this transfer should not be classified under STOB 77.
- As outlined in Treasury Board Directive 5/04, agreements with other governments over \$2 million or have no set limit must have prior Treasury Board approval. Ministry staff should consult with TBS regarding the need for a negotiating mandate from Treasury Board related to any new major agreements.

Vote – to – Vote: STOB rules apply to each Vote independently. Funding allocations in each Vote are limited to STOB rules as well as to the Vote Descriptions applicable by Vote **AND** by Sub-Vote.

Ministry Resource Summary - February 22 2022

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Educational Institutions and Organizations	2,365,919	2,395,535	2,379,762	2,380,205
Student Services Programs	72,074	72,074	72,074	72,074
Private Training Institutions	1	1	1	1
Workforce Development and Skills Training	16,873	17,351	17,311	17,311
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	98,877	104,476	105,023	105,023
Executive and Support Services	23,197	23,251	23,020	23,020
Total	2,576,941	2,612,688	2,597,191	2,597,634

Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services	504	504	504	504
Total	504	504	504	504

Capital Plan (\$000)				
Educational Institutions and Organizations - Post-secondary Institutions	498,391	547,521	647,163	666,221
Total	498,391	547,521	647,163	666,221

Contact: Dawn Ngo (Corporate Finance)
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

Phone: (778-698-8558)
22-Feb-22

Ministry Resource Summary - continued

Other Financing Transactions (\$000)				
Receipts	0	0	0	0
Disbursements	0	0	0	0
Net Cash (Requirements)	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	0	0	0	0
Total Disbursements	0	0	0	0
Total Net Cash Source	0	0	0	0

Public Post-Secondary Sector	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Budget	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Combined Income Statement (\$000)				
Total Revenue	7,556,163	7,777,768	8,073,816	8,300,812
Total Expense	7,324,081	7,682,048	7,973,713	8,202,903
Operating Results	232,082	95,720	100,103	97,909
Gain (Loss) on sale of capital assets	0	0	0	0
Net Results	232,082	95,720	100,103	97,909

Contact: Dawn Ngo (Corporate Finance)
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

Phone: (778-698-8558)
February 22, 2022

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING

Summary of Recoveries and Revenue

(\$000s)

Recoveries (Internal and External)	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	
Educational Institutions and Organizations <i>Internal recoveries from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, under the Employment Program of BC (Restated for 2021/22), and from the Ministry of Health for health sector training.</i>	(32,002)	(44,431)	1
Student Services Programs <i>Costs may be recovered from organizations and the Federal Government for national program participation. (e.g. Reimbursement for travel or conference costs)</i>	(139)	(2,939)	2
Private Training Institutions <i>The Private Training Institutions program is fully funded by various fees received from private training institutions</i>	(3,437)	(3,565)	3
Workforce Development and Skills Training <i>Costs may be recovered from ministries, Crown agencies, boards and commissions, the Federal Government and parties external to government, for activities described within this sub-vote.</i>	(207,544)	(140,534)	4
Executive and Support Services <i>Internal recoveries from other ministries. External recoveries from application fees paid by both public and private institutions for Degree quality assessments.</i>	(595)	(595)	
TOTAL RECOVERIES - Ministry Operations	(243,717)	(192,064)	

Revenue	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	
Student Support Programs <i>Recovery of Prior Year Expenditures Student Loan Administration Fee</i>	(1,440) (40) (1,400)	(1,440) (40) (1,400)	5
Private Training Institutions <i>Miscellaneous Licences and Permits</i>	(1) (1)	(1) (1)	6
Executive and Support Services <i>Foreign Exchange Gain Loss</i>	(38) (40)	(38) (40)	7
<i>Less: Commissions Paid/Withheld</i>	1	1	
<i>Less Doubtful Account - Misc. Revenue</i>	1	1	
TOTAL REVENUES	(1,479)	(1,479)	

Please refer to notes on page 2

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING
Summary of Recoveries and Revenue
(\$000s)

Notes:

Recoveries

1. Educational Institutions and Organizations

- Recoveries increased by \$12.429M, for funding received from the Ministry of Health to support health sector training.

2. Student Services Programs

- Increase in recoveries by \$2.80M to offset the costs associated with the administration and delivery of federal student loan program for the Canada Study Grant Program (previously recorded outside the vote in Section 25).

3. Private Training Institutions

- Recoveries increase \$128K to reflect new fee structure.

4. Workforce Development and Skills Training

- Decrease in recoveries by \$67.010M due to one-time investment by Federal Government in response to COVID-19 initiatives.

Revenue

5. Student Loan Administration Fee

- Funds paid to the Province for the administration of the Canada Student Loan program.

6. Miscellaneous Licences and Permits

- This revenue is related to fines and penalties charged by the Private Training Institutions Branch.

7. Foreign Exchange Gain Loss

- Revenue is recorded for variances between currency exchange rate.

Revenues do not appear in the *Estimates* specific to AEST, however are listed by source type.
(e.g. Natural Resources, Taxation, Crown Land Tenures, Miscellaneous)

Contact: Dawn Ngo, Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

Phone: (778-698-8558)
January 27, 2022

Title: Vote 12 – Ministry Operations

Issue: Overview of the Ministry's 2022/23 operating budget allocation

Key Messages and Background:

- **Budget 2022** provides my ministry with a total 2022/23 operating budget of \$2.61 billion via Vote 12 in the Estimates.
- Ministry budget is \$36 million higher than 2021/22 due mainly to increased funding for Post-Secondary Institutions for costs related to compensation increases for ratified collective agreements under the Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate (SSNM).
- The 2022/23 operating budget also included investments in Skilled Trades Certification, Early Childhood Educator training programs, and Health programs.
 - Gross and net spending (after recoveries) by sub-Vote, and itemized changes, are provided in the following table and bullets:

2021/22 Estimates Restated	2022/23 Estimates (beginning at page #29 in Blue Book)			Change from 2021/22 Restated	
(Net)	Gross	Recoveries	Net	\$	%
2,365,919	Educational Institutions and Organizations	2,395,537	-2	2,395,535	29,616 ¹ 1%
72,074	Student Services Programs	74,876	-2,802	72,074	0 0%
1	Private Training Institutions	3,565	-3,564	1	0 0%
16,873	Workforce Development and Skills Training	141,033	-123,682	17,351	478 ² 3%
98,877	Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	104,476	0	104,476	5,599 ³ 6%
23,197	Executive and Support Services	23,769	-518	23,251	54 ⁴ 0%
2,576,941	Total Operating Expenses	2,743,256	-130,568	2,612,688	35,747 1%

- **¹ Educational Institutions and Organizations**
Total increase of \$29.916M is comprised of the following:
 - \$25.300M for the Health Care Assistant Program (HCAP)
 - \$10.695M for the Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate
 - \$1.300M for the Early Childhood Educator program (ECE)
 - 0.783M for Emily Carr University for Art and Design P3 costs
 - Net decrease of (\$8.462M) from adjustments approved in prior years, including compensation to PSIs, Tech Strategy and Health Programs
- **² Workforce Development and Skills Training**
Total increase of \$0.478M is comprised of the following:
 - \$0.475M for ministry resourcing for the Skilled Trades Certification
 - \$0.003M for legal services costs
- **³ Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies**
Total increase of \$5.599M is comprised of the following:
 - \$6.145M in funding to the ITA for Skilled Trades Certification
 - (\$0.546M) reduction due to completion of the ITA Performance Management Framework
- **⁴ Executive and Support Services**
Total increase of \$0.054M is comprised of the following:
 - \$0.045M for legal services costs
 - \$0.009M for Minister's Office budget realignment

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22	Estimates 2021/22 (Restated)	Estimates 2022/23	Increase/ (Decrease)	Increase/ (Decrease)
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	%
Educational Institutions and Organizations (EIO)	2,380,919	2,365,919	2,395,535	29,616	1.25

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23:

This sub-vote provides funding to universities, colleges, institutes, educational agencies, and other organizations to support the post-secondary education system and for initiatives that enhance student performance and access. Costs may be recovered from ministries, educational organizations, and the federal government for activities described within this sub-vote.

The most significant component of this sub-vote is \$2.3 billion in operating grants to public post-secondary institutions.

This funding is used by institutions to ensure approximately 205,148¹ full-time equivalent (FTE) students have access to a broad range of programs. It funds the costs associated with serving these students, including faculty, laboratories, and student services (e.g., registrar's office).

YEAR OVER YEAR CHANGE:

The 2021/22 budget was restated for comparison purposes and was reduced by \$15 million consisting of:

- Increase of \$15.000M for recoveries related to Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) program funding, recorded in prior years as CRF revenue.

In 2022/23 funding to institutions will increase by a net \$29.616 million consisting of:

Increase from Budget 2022 approvals - Total \$38.078M:

- Increase of \$ 25.300M for Health Career Access Program (HCAP) initiative funded on a one-time basis in 2022/23
- Increase of \$ 10.695M for Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate
- Increase of \$ 1.300M one-time funding for Early Childhood Educator Expansion program
- Increase of \$ 0.783M for Emily Carr University for Art and Design for P3 costs

Partially offset by net decrease of (\$8.462M) from adjustments approved in prior years, including compensation to PSIs, Tech Strategy and Health Programs.

¹ For 2022/23, the student space target is comprised of 185,630 AEST FTEs plus 19,518 ITA FTEs for a total of 205,148 FTEs.

2022/23 EIO BUDGET BREAKDOWN
By Standard Object of Expenditure (STOB):

STOBs	Description	2022/23 Budget (\$000)
50	Salaries and Benefits	-
85	Operating Costs	1
77, 79, 80	Government Transfers	2,439,965
88, 89, 90	Recoveries	(44,431)
	Total	2,395,535

2022/23 Estimates
Student Services Programs
Government Transfers by Program Type
(\$000's)

	2021/22 Estimates	2022/23 Estimates
<u>Disability Programs</u>		
BC Access Grant - Students with Permanent Disabilities	2,600	2,600
Severe Permanent Disability Benefit	600	600
BC Access Grant - Deaf Students	150	150
Disabled Students Grants	500	500
Centre for Access Post-Sec Educ Resources	516	516
Academic Communications Equity - Formerly (PCAS)	185	185
Prog for Institutional Loans of Adaptive Technology	79	79
Supplemental Bursary for Students with Disabilities	2,700	2,700
Learning Disability Assessment Bursary	57	57
	<u>\$ 7,387</u>	<u>\$ 7,387</u>
<u>Loan Reduction/Forgiveness Programs</u>		
BC Loan Forgiveness Program	1,500	1,500
	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
<u>Aboriginal Programs</u>		
Aboriginal Service Plans	4,400	4,400
First Nations Education Steering Committee	100	100
Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a (WWN)	371	371
	<u>\$ 4,871</u>	<u>\$ 4,871</u>
<u>Scholarships, Bursaries and Grants</u>		
BC Access Grant (1)	37,332	37,332
BC Access Grant - base funding lift (2)	4,000	4,000
Student Society Emergency Aid Fund	100	100
Nurses Education Bursary	1,000	1,000
Adult Upgrading Grants	3,600	3,600
Provincial Tuition Waiver Program	4,000	4,000
	<u>\$ 50,032</u>	<u>\$ 50,032</u>
<u>Other Student Services Programs</u>		
Assistive Technology BC	1,500	1,500
Part Time Student Assistance	210	210
Community Adult Literacy	2,400	2,400
	<u>\$ 4,110</u>	<u>\$ 4,110</u>
Total	<u>\$ 67,900</u>	<u>\$ 67,900</u>
<u>STOB Totals</u>		
STOB 77	56,782	56,782
STOB 79	7,971	7,971
STOB 80	3,147	3,147
	<u>\$ 67,900</u>	<u>\$ 67,900</u>

Notes:

(1) Introduction of the new B.C. Access Grant in B.2020 was supported by re-investment of the Grant for Labour Market Priorities (\$5.5M) and the B.C. Completion Grant (incl. B.C. Completer Graduates) (\$31.8M) in the 20/21 budget.

(2) Student Services Programs received an additional \$4M as part of B.2020 in 20/21, 21/22 & : base budget to support the B.C. Access Grant

Student Services Program Descriptions

Aboriginal Service Plans

Funding for public post-secondary institutions to help increase access, retention and success rates for Indigenous learners.

Adult Upgrading Grant

This program provides needs-based grants to eligible low income learners enrolled in adult upgrading programs, including Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and Adult Special Education. These grants are intended to offset the costs associated with tuition (where applicable), fees, books, unsubsidized childcare, technology, and transportation for learners most in need of financial assistance.

Assistive Technology BC

ATBC delivers the federal Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities, to help students overcome educational barriers due to their disability by purchasing assistive technology equipment and paying for support services to help them access their studies by reducing the impact of their disability.

BC Access Grant

The B.C. Access Grant provides up-front, non-repayable financial assistance to low and middle-income learners who are enrolled in eligible full-time and part-time programs at B.C. public post-secondary institutions.

BC Loan Forgiveness Program

Forgives outstanding debt on BC student loans at a prorated amount up to 20% per year for up to five years for eligible professionals who provide at least 100 - 400 hours per year of in-person service at a publicly funded facility in an underserved community.

BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities

A needs-based program that provides financial assistance to full-time students with permanent disabilities. This program replaces up to \$1,560 per academic year in BC student loan funding with non-repayable grant.

Severe Permanent Disability Benefit

The provision for Students with Severe Disabilities is adjudicated by the Canada Student Loans Program. This program alleviates student loan debt for those students who become severely disabled.

BC Access Grant for Deaf Students

This program helps deaf or hard of hearing students with the additional costs incurred while attending specialized post-secondary institutions where curriculum is delivered in American Sign Language. Up to \$30,000 per program year.

Community Adult Literacy Program

Provides grants up to \$25,000 per program to community literacy organizations, working in partnership with public post-secondary institutions, that deliver non-credit literacy, numeracy and essential skills programs.

BC APSD (APSD - Assistance Program for Students w. Perm. Disabilities)

A needs-based grant program provides financial assistance to students with a verified permanent disability to offset the costs of adaptive services and/or equipment to access education. Up to \$12,000.

First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)

Supports the Indigenous Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners table and supports First Nations participation and success in post-secondary education and training.

Learning Disability Assessment Bursary

Assists students attending BC public post-secondary institutions with upfront costs, up to \$1,800, on a learning disability assessment.

Nurses Education Bursary

Bursaries for students enrolled in a full-time nursing program at a designated post-secondary institution that leads to a Certificate, Diploma or Degree recognized for practice in BC. Up to \$2,000.

Part Time Student Assistance

Funding provided to public post-secondary institutions for the data entry of part-time applications.

Student Society Emergency Aid Fund

Assists student societies with bursaries for students in emergency financial situations, who may otherwise have to postpone their studies. SSEAF operates as a matching program whereby the Ministry matches the funds raised, up to an institutional maximum allocation, by a participating institution's student society.

Supplemental Bursaries for Students with Disabilities

Bursary program for students with disabilities with exceptional educational costs. The \$800 bursary is available to full-time students who carry 40% or greater full course load and \$400 is available to part-time students who carry between 20% and 39% of a full course load.

Centre for Accessible Post-Secondary Education Resources (CAPER)

Provides alternative text format services to students and instructors. CAPER serves clients who cannot use conventional print due to visual impairments, learning disabilities, physical limitations, neurological impairments, and multiple disabilities. This program is delivered by Langara College.

Academic Communications Equity - ACE (Formerly, Post-Secondary Communication Access Services - PCAS)

This program coordinates and provides quality assurance on the delivery of specialized services to deaf and hard of hearing students at public post-secondary institutions including American Sign Language interpreting, real time and TypeWell captioning. The program is delivered by BCIT.

Program for Institutional Loans of Adaptive Technology (PILAT)

A service for the accommodation of students at public post-secondary institutions who require specialized adaptive technology and/or software. Through this program, PSIs are able to accommodate students with disabilities while they are on campus.

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program improves access, services and educational outcomes for former youth in care by waiving tuition fees. Tuition fees are defined as all tuition and mandatory fees a student must pay an institution in order to successfully complete the program/courses they are enrolled in.

Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a (WWN)

Funding is provided for the operation of WWN which is a Nisga'a post-secondary institute. This funding is provided in support of the implementation of the Nisga'a Final Agreement. Additional funding is provided to the UNBC/WWN Federation Agreement.

STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAMS

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates Restated 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates 2022/23
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Student Services Programs	74,195	(2,121)	72,074	-	72,074

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23:

- This sub-vote provides for the administration, operations, and delivery of student services programs. This sub-vote also provides financial, income, and other assistance to and for students, including scholarships, bursaries, loan forgiveness programs, transfers to students, and transfers for initiatives that enhance student performance and access. Costs may be recovered from educational organizations, the federal government, and parties external to government for activities described within this sub-vote.
- Many Student Services programs are based on need. They provide financial assistance where students and their immediate families do not have the resources to meet the costs of post-secondary education, adult basic education and basic living expenses.
- Policy determining eligibility for student financial assistance is the responsibility of Student Services Programs. Decisions to change policy are made in consultation with the Ministry of Finance – Revenue Solutions Branch (FIN – RSB) who manage student loans.
- In 2020/21, the B.C. Government introduced a new B.C. Access Grant that supports learners most in need to access post-secondary education at B.C. public institutions. The B.C. Access Grant budget of \$37.132 million is supported by reinvestment of the B.C. Access Grant for Labour Market Priorities (\$5.5 million) and B.C. Completion Grant (incl. B.C. Completion Grant for Graduates) (\$31.8 million) plus an additional \$4 million base budget lift in the 20/21, 21/22 and 22/23 for a total budget of \$41.332 million.
- 2021/22 was restated for the budget realignment of \$2.121M from Student Services Program (SSP) sub-vote to the ESS sub-vote for existing resource requirements.
- 2022/23 includes an increase in administrative expenditures for SSP of \$2.8M from the Federal Government for the administration of the CSFA (Canada Student Financial Assistance), offset by a corresponding increase to recoveries. The purpose of this change is to better reflect the purpose of the funding and encourage public visibility for the federally contributed amounts. These changes are intended to improve the accuracy of public disclosure of the funding.

Estimates 2022/23

Standard Object of Expenditures

Description	2021/22 Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2021/22 Estimates Restated (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Salaries and Benefits	5,229	(1,625)	3,604	2,125	5,729
Operating Costs	1,059	(365)	694	671	1,365
Government Transfers	67,900	-	67,900	4	67,904
Other Expenses	9	6	15	-	15
Recoveries	(2)	(137)	(139)	(2,800)	(2,939)
Total	74,195	(2,121)	72,074	-	72,074

Government Transfers by STOB

STOB 77 Grants

(In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates
BC Permanent Disabilities Programs – (\$3,450)	
- BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities	2,600
- Severe Permanent Disability Benefit	600
- BC Access Grant for Deaf Students	150
BC Access Grant	37,332
BC Access Grant – base funding lift	4,000
Suppl. Bursaries for Persons with Disabilities	2,700
BC Loan Forgiveness	1,500
Nurses Education Bursary	1,000
Aboriginal Service Plans	4,400
Community Adult Literacy	2,400
First Nations Education Steering Committee	100
Total - Grants	56,782

STOB 79 Entitlements

(In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates
Adult Upgrading Grants	3,600
Provincial Tuition Waiver Program	4,000
Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a (WWN)	371
Total - Entitlements	7,971

STOB 80 Transfers Under Arrangements

(In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates
Student Society Emergency Aid Fund	100
Assistive Technology BC	1,500
Part Time Student Assistance	210
Learning Disability Assessment Bursary	57
Disabled Students Grants (APSD)	500
Supports for Students with Disabilities:	
- Cent. for Accessible Post-Sec. Education Resources (CAPER)	516
- Academic Communications Equity (formerly PCAS)	185
- Program for Institutional Loans of Adaptive Technology (PILAT)	79
Total – Shared Cost Arrangements	3,147

Total – Grants and Transfers	67,900
-------------------------------------	---------------

Private Training Institutions

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates 2022/23	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates 2022/23
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Private Training Institutions	1	0	1	0	1

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23:

This sub-vote provides for the policy, administration, operations, and compliance related to providing for quality education standards for private post-secondary institutions. This sub-vote also provides for the administration of the Student Tuition Protection Fund. Costs may be recovered from ministries, government organizations and from private post-secondary institutions for services described within this sub-vote.

- The Private Training Institutions Branch (PTIB), under the authority of the Private Training Act, regulates over 300 private training institutions in BC and provides consumer protection by assisting students affected by institution closures, handling student complaints, enforcing standards, and publishing information about institutions.
- Net increase of \$128K in expenditures and offsetting recoveries resulting from new fee regulations in FY 22/23, to closer reflect the level and nature of underlying costs associated with the branch's operations. The increase pertains to legal service costs and higher amortization for IMIT systems, offset by lower staffing, contracts and commissions costs.

Estimates 2022/23

By Standard Object of Expenditure

Description	2021/22 Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease)	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Salaries and Benefits	2,766	(430)	2,336
Operating Costs	652	558	1,210
Other Expenses	20	-	20
Recoveries	(3,437)	(128)	(3,565)
Total	1	-	1

2022/23 Estimates
Workforce Development and Skills Training
Government Transfers by Program Type
(\$000's)

		Funding Source			
Sub-Sub-Vote	Program	Provincial	WDA	LMDA	Total STOB 80
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	Skills Training for Employment	Government Financial Information			
Labour Market Policy and Planning	BC Employer Training Grant (ETG)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	BC Employer Training Grant (ETG)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	Pre-apprenticeship Programs (Industry Training Authority)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	BladeRunners				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program (ACBTP)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	SDPR Persons with Disabilities (PWD)				
Labour Market & Skills Training Programs	Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund				
Labour Market Policy and Planning	Sector Labour Market Partnerships				
Total - Government Transfers					

Workforce Development and Skills Training

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22 \$000	Increase/ (Decrease) \$000	Estimates 2021/22 Restated \$000	Estimates 2022/23 \$000	Increase/ (Decrease) \$000
Workforce Development and Skills Training	17,013	(140)	16,873	17,351	478

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23

This sub-vote provides for the development and implementation of policy and programs to support the development and training of British Columbia's workforce. It includes oversight of the Industry Training Authority and the negotiation and implementation of federal/provincial agreements related to workforce development and training. This sub-vote also provides for the development of labour market information that is disseminated to British Columbians through multiple platforms and methods and development of industry-led workforce development strategies and strategic initiatives. Costs may be recovered from ministries, Crown agencies, boards and commissions, the federal government, and parties external to government, for activities described within this sub-vote.

- Increased funding of \$0.478 million for ministry resourcing to support the Skilled Trades Certification program (\$0.475 million) and legal services costs (\$0.003 million).
- 2022/23 Government Transfers and Recoveries reflect the notional funding under the Workforce Development Agreement (WDA) with the Federal government. 2021/22 includes one-time funding provided to the Province under the WDA in response to COVID-19 initiative investments by the Federal government.
- The \$0.140 million restatement to 2021/22 relates to the transfer of the Welcome BC.com administration budget to Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI).

Standard Object of Expenditures

Description	2021/22 Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2021/22 Estimates Restated (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Salaries and Benefits	15,200	-	15,200	(2,589)	12,611
Operating Costs	10,283	(140)	10,423	(593)	9,830
Other Expenses	4,031	-	4,031	-	4,031
Government Transfers	194,763	-	194,763	(63,350)	131,413
Recoveries	(207,544)	-	(207,544)	67,010	(140,534)
Total	17,013	(140)	16,873	478	17,351

Government Transfers

	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Workforce Development Agreement Programs ¹	111,313
Labour Market Development Agreement Programs	10,100
Provincial Indigenous Skills & Training Development	10,000
Total	131,413

¹ - \$111,313 estimates (notional WDA funding)

Contact: Dawn Ngo, Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

Phone: Government
January 27, 2022

Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates (Restated)	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates 2022/23
	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)
Industry Training Authority	98,877	0	98,877	5,599	104,476

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23:

This sub-vote provides for transfers to the Industry Training Authority.

Net increase of \$5.599M in 2022/23 is comprised of:

- \$6.145M in additional funding to the Industry Training Authority to support the implementation of the Skilled Trades Certification program
- \$0.546M reduction related to the ITA Performance Management Framework Adjustment
- Payments are made to the ITA quarterly

Estimates 2022/23

By Standard Object of Expenditure (STOB)

Description (In \$000s)	2021/22 Estimates	Increase/ (Decrease)	2021/22 Estimates Restated	Increase/ (Decrease)	2022/23 Estimates
Government Transfers	98,877	-	98,877	5,599	104,476
Total	98,877	-	98,877	5,599	104,476

Executive and Support Services

BUDGET SUMMARY:

	Estimates 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates Restated 2021/22	Increase/ (Decrease)	Estimates 2022/23
	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)
Executive and Support Services	21,076	2,121	23,197	54	23,251

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022/23:

This sub-vote provides for ministry leadership and direction, establishment of policy and accountability, and provides program support for the post-secondary system and student services programs. This sub-vote also provides for quality assessment for public and private post-secondary degree-granting institutions and the Corporate Services Secretariat. This sub-vote also provides for the office of the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, the Parliamentary Secretary for Skills Training, and for corporate services to the ministry. Costs may be recovered from ministries, government organizations, the federal government, and parties external to government for activities described within this sub-vote.

- Increase in funding of \$0.054M compared to restated estimates is attributable to the following:
 - \$0.009M increase related to the MO budget realignment.
 - \$0.045M increase to support increasing legal service costs.
- 2021/22 was restated for the budget realignment of \$2.121M from Student Services Program (SSP) sub-vote to the ESS sub-vote for existing resource requirements.

Estimates 2022/23 by Standard Object of Expenditure (STOB)

Minister's Office

Description	2021/22 Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2021/22 Estimates Restated (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Salaries and Benefits	541	-	541	9	550
Operating Costs	102	-	102	-	102
Government Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Recoveries	-	-	-	-	-
Total	643	-	643	9	652

Corporate Services

Description	2021/22 Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2021/22 Restated Estimates (In Thousands)	Increase/ (Decrease) (In Thousands)	2022/23 Estimates (In Thousands)
Salaries and Benefits	16,029	1,625	17,654	-	17,654
Operating Costs	5,028	365	5,393	45	5,438
Government Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	108	(6)	102	-	102
Recoveries ¹	(732)	137	(595)	-	(595)
Total	20,433	2,121	22,554	45	22,599

1. Recoveries from application fees paid by both public and private institutions for Degree Quality Assessments.

Minister's Office Budget Breakdown
Overview of Budget by STOB
(\$000s)

	2021/22 Estimates	Increase/ (Decrease)	2022/23 Estimates	2021/22 Actuals (Jan 25/22)
50- Base Salaries	351	7	358	298
52- Benefits	118	2	120	99
54- Legislative Salaries	72	-	72	55
Salaries & Benefits ¹	541	9	550	452
57- Employee Travel ²	75	-	75	19
63- Info Systems- Operating ³	10	-	10	12
65- Office & Business Expenses ⁴	17	-	17	10
85- Other Expenditures ⁴	-	-	-	16
Operating Costs	102	-	102	57
TOTAL Operating Budget	643	9	652	509

Notes

- STOBs 50-54**
Includes salaries & benefits for 6 support staff including one Clerk and one Administrative Coordinator as well as a new Parliamentary Secretary.
- STOB 57**
Travel to post-secondary institution campuses in communities across the Province.
- STOB 63**
Information system costs related to mobile devices and data storage.
- STOBs 65-85**
Costs related to office operations and all other expenditures.

Contact: Dawn Ngo, Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

Phone: (778-698-8558)
January 27, 2022

Title: Vote 46 – Capital Funding

Issue: Overview of Capital Funding Allocation to Post-Secondary Institutions

Key Messages and Background:

- Our government is investing in education and training facilities and equipment so that students are prepared for 21st century careers.
 - Capital investments in new and expanded buildings on post-secondary campuses throughout the Province are an investment in all our futures.
 - The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training's Capital Plan prioritizes and manages capital funding to safeguard the Province's investment in capital assets, deliver core services and support government priorities

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

2022/23 – 2024/25 AEST Sector Capital Spending by Funding Source

(\$000s)

Category	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total 3 years
AEST Capital Plan Provincial Funding	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information			
Federal Funding				
Post-Secondary Institution Funding				
Third Party Funding ¹				
Total AEST Sector Capital	1,220,603	1,546,800	1,502,181	4,269,584

¹ Examples of Third-Party Funding include: donations, fundraising campaigns, and grants from other external agencies.

- As part of that investment, the provincial government is contributing almost \$1.9 billion in funding over the same period.

2022/23 – 2024/25 Approved Three-Year Capital Plan – Provincial Funding

(\$000s)

Category	2022/23	2023/24	2025/26	Total 3 years
Capital Projects	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information			
Routine Capital ¹				
Total AEST Capital Plan (Budget 2022)	547,522	647,164	666,221	1,860,907

¹ Routine capital funding is provided annually to assist with the maintenance of existing Public PSI infrastructure.

- As part of Budget 2022, ^{Advice/Recommendations} Provincial capital funding has been added to the fiscal plan.

Budget 2022 New Capital Funding Commitments

(\$ millions)

Category	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total 3 years
Routine Capital Maintenance Funding	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information			
BCIT CBA Costs (Trades & Technology Complex)				
VCC CBA Costs (Centre for Clean Energy & Auto. Innovation)				
Increase to Capital Plan Contingency*				
New Capital funding for Budget 2022	13.2	9.7	9.7	32.6

* Capital plan contingency increase was reallocated, along with existing contingencies, to DOUG Academic, RRU WS and Skills Training Equipment

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- To date, there have been no significant negative impacts of COVID-19 on AEST Capital Projects.

Title: Institutional Financial Health – 5 Year Net Income

Issue: PSI Financial Health

Key Messages and Background:

- **Public Post-Secondary institutions are part of the Government Reporting Entity; therefore, institutions' financial results consolidate into government's Public Accounts.**
 - Periodically, some institutions may experience deficits for various reasons; however, collectively the consolidated sector presents a financial surplus position.
 - Financial statements of public-post secondary institutions for 2021/22 will not be finalized until late May. Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

COVID-19 Impact Summary:

- COVID-19 has had a negative financial impact on the sector, but public post-secondary institutions are managing the challenges with their existing resources.

PSI Audited Financial Statement Results 2017/18 to 2021/22

5 Year Net Income (Loss) through to 2021/22 Forecast

From Audited Financial Statements - (in thousands)

Q3 Forecast

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
COLLEGES					Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
BC Institute of Technology	6,878	7,968	6,997	4,631	
Camosun College	2,589	1,535	285	(7,583)	
Coast Mountain College	335	371	2	(318)	
College of New Caledonia	577	3,811	1,380	1,428	
College of the Rockies	326	1,847	85	677	
Douglas College	10,846	17,046	16,290	15,733	
Justice Institute of BC	1,085	1,215	2	(3,045)	
Langara College	22,666	15,020	10,521	4,123	
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	444	651	618	1,112	
North Island College	16	57	(911)	(1,614)	
Northern Lights College	282	95	75	484	
Okanagan College	4,956	6,592	408	14	
Selkirk College	811	382	323	(968)	
Vancouver Community College	905	1,665	893	(3,160)	
College Total	52,716	58,255	36,968	11,514	
UNIVERSITIES					
Capilano University	3,800	3,840	12,459	5,927	
Emily Carr University of Art & Design	2,381	4,025	147	1,645	
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	13,284	22,060	4,672	4,170	
Royal Roads University	1,628	1,230	114	1,732	
Simon Fraser University	46,229	49,845	41,292	41,324	
Thompson Rivers University	14,363	18,191	20,219	12,377	
University of BC	120,529	135,857	89,652	81,716	
University of the Fraser Valley	10,050	22,224	12,920	4,589	
University of Northern BC	899	(1,404)	(1,077)	3,276	
University of Victoria	34,189	23,558	32,497	4,930	
Vancouver Island University	759	6,673	(2,288)	(9,037)	
University Total	248,111	286,099	210,607	152,649	
SECTOR TOTAL	300,827	344,354	247,575	164,163	

Results exclude endowment contributions.

Intentionally
Left Blank

Intentionally
Left Blank