

Information Note Advice to Minister

Date: June 12, 2015

Cliff #: 99954

Issue: Supporting Regional Growth South of the Fraser

Conclusion / Next Steps:

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Background / Facts:

- Combined enrolment at KPU and SFU increased over 40 percent between 2003/04 to 2013/14, from approximately 9,100 to 12,800 actual FTEs.
- SFU and KPU exceeded institutional FTE targets in 2013/14 (112 percent and 104 percent respectively).
- Over the last five years, actual enrolment at SFU Surrey has increased by approximately 30 percent, from 2,933 to 3,832 Activity FTEs (per SFU Institutional and Planning website).
- SFU has programming at Surrey from each of its eight faculties, either first year options or entire programs. Notable programs include Mechatronics, Entrepreneurship, Software Systems, Interactive Arts and Technology, and Applied Legal Studies (for Notaries Public). The faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Applied Sciences, and Communication, Art and Technology have the largest enrolment.
- In 2002, SFU established SFU Surrey and took responsibility for the students and programming of the former Technical University of British Columbia.
- To support the transition, the Ministry and SFU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- The Ministry also provided capital funding for space to accommodate 2,500 students.
- In 2006, the Ministry and SFU signed a new MOU that contemplated growth of the SFU Surrey campus to 5,000 FTEs by 2015, as a reasonable target for planning purposes.
- The MOU was subject to available operating and capital funding, which to date has not been available.
- The term of the MOU came to an end on March 31, 2015.
- SFU Surrey has received Ministry funding for land acquisition and for upgrades and renovation to space adjacent to the existing campus.
- KPU's Core Review Submission proposed a 2,500 FTE expansion for KPU over five years, allocated primarily in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), health-related, design, business and other demand-driven programs.

- Since 2001, in addition to routine capital support, KPU's Surrey campus has received over \$30 million from the Ministry for building expansion and renovations, building envelope replacement and library mechanical refit. KPU has also received over \$42 million from the Ministry for its Cloverdale campus.
- Grade 12 students in the region are transitioning to public post-secondary education at a slightly higher rate of 79 percent, compared to the provincial average of 76 percent. The transition rate in nearby regions is higher, Douglas (83 percent) and VCC/Langara (86 percent).
- Approximately 30 percent (12,647) of grade 12 graduates in the Surrey School District choose to go to KPU, which has a regional mandate. Other choices include SFU (10 percent) (4,248); UBC (8 percent) (3,296); BCIT (8 percent) (3,250); and, Douglas (7 percent) (2,902). Although the commute time is roughly the same, only 1.5 percent, or 641 students, go to the University of the Fraser Valley.
- A KPU submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance in October 2014, maintained the South Fraser region has 21 percent of the provincial population, with only 9 percent of funded post-secondary seats.

Analysis:

- Both institutions advocate for significant expansion in Surrey.

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Attachment(s): N/A

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South of the Fraser Background Information

Enrolment

- Over the decade 2003/04 to 2013/14, combined enrolment at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) and Simon Fraser University (SFU) Surrey increased by over 40%, from approximately 8,800 to 12,800 actual FTEs. Both SFU and KPU are exceeding student FTE targets (112% and 104% respectively in 2013/14).
- Over the last five years, actual enrolment at SFU Surrey has increased by approximately 30% (from 2,933 to 3,832 Activity FTEs, per SFU Institutional Research and Planning website).
- Both institutions are advocating for significant expansion in Surrey.
- SFU has programming at Surrey from each of its eight faculties, either first year options or entire programs. Notable programs include Mechatronics, Entrepreneurship, Software Systems, Interactive Arts and Technology, and Applied Legal Studies (for Notaries Public). The faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Applied Sciences, and Communication, Art and Technology have the largest enrolment.
- KPU's Core Review Submission proposed a 2,500 student FTE expansion for KPU over a five year period. Based on funding of \$7,200 per FTE, this expansion represents an operating lift of \$18 million. KPU indicated that new FTEs would be allocated primarily in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), as well as health-related, design, business and other demand-driven programs. In a December 2014 meeting, KPU's Vice President Academic indicated that KPU's business programs have waitlists of 1,700 students, with similar waitlists in arts, criminology and nursing programs.

Transition Rates

- Grade 12 students in the region are transitioning to public post-secondary education at a slightly higher rate of 79%, compared to the provincial average of 76%. The transition rate in nearby regions is higher, Douglas (83%) and VCC/Langara (86%).
- Approximately 30% (12,647) of grade 12 graduates in the Surrey School District choose to go to KPU, which has a regional mandate. Other choices include SFU (10%) (4,248); UBC (8%) (3,296); BCIT (8%) (3,250); and, Douglas (7%) (2,902). Although the commute time is roughly the same, only 1.5%, or 641 students, go to the University of the Fraser Valley.

Participation Rates

- A KPU submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance in October 2014 maintained that the South Fraser region has 21% of the provincial population but only 9% of funded post-secondary seats.
- Ministry per capita analysis from 2013, which examined funded FTEs per 100 of the population aged 18-29, presents a similar picture. The Kwantlen region had 7 funded FTEs per 100 of 18-29 year-olds, compared to the overall provincial level of 24. In comparison, the Douglas region had 36, and Vancouver/Langara had 42.

Capital Funding

- Since 2001, in addition to routine capital support, KPU's Surrey campus has received almost \$30 million from the Ministry for building expansion and renovations, building envelope replacement and library mechanical refit. KPU also received over \$42 million from the Ministry for its Cloverdale Trades and Technology Centre.

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- In addition to the Ministry's initial capital investment, SFU Surrey campus has received Ministry funding support for strategic land acquisition and for upgrades and renovation to space adjacent to the existing campus.

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Memorandum of Understanding for SFU

- In 2002, SFU established SFU Surrey and took responsibility for the students and programming of the former Technical University of British Columbia.
- To support the transition, the Ministry and SFU signed an initial Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- The Ministry also provided capital funding for space to accommodate 2,500 students.
- In 2006, the Ministry and SFU signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that contemplated growth of the SFU Surrey campus to 5,000 FTEs by 2015, as a reasonable target for planning purposes.
- The MOU was subject to available operating and capital funding, which to date has not been available.

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- The term of the MOU came to an end on March 31, 2015.

From: [Burns, Susan G AVED:EX](#)
To: [Friedlander, Donna AVED:EX](#); [Nickerson, Catherine M AVED:EX](#)
Cc: [Hodges, Nell AVED:EX](#)
Subject: South of the Fraser Backgrounder
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2015 3:10:11 PM
Attachments: [South of the Fraser Backgrounder \(3\).docx](#)

Hi to you both,

A few weeks ago, in response to a request from the MO for information on SFU Surrey and KPU re: additional growth for Surrey, a backgrounder was prepared. It reflects information provided/confirmed by staff in your area. I've attached the final version.

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(The SFU Surrey MOU expired at the end of March so there may be a desire to signal that growth is a priority, although without specific timelines or commitment.) The DN will contain much of the content of this backgrounder.

Anyway, wanted to keep you in the loop.

Let me know if you have any questions,

Susan