

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: FIN - Student Loans and Interest Budget 2017
Attachments: FIN - Student Loans and Interest Budget 2017.docx

Sensitivity: Confidential

TBS note in support any briefings/communications you may need to provide.

Please do not distribute widely.

TBS Briefing Note – For *Budget 2017* Decisions

Ministry: Finance (FIN)

Issue: Advanced Education Initiatives: Elimination of the Education Tax Credit, Reduction to the Student Loan Interest Rate, and Changes to Student Contribution Calculation

Background:

➤ s.12

➤

➤ Elimination of the Education Tax Credit was approved in December 2016.^{s.12}

s.12

Page 003

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.14

Page 004 to/à Page 005

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

Page 006

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:32 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Graham, Rudy AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Subject: FW: B.C. lowers interest rates on student loans

-----Original Message-----

From: Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:02 PM
To: MacFarlane, Paige AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Vasey, Jeff AVED:EX; Carroll, Sandra AVED:EX
Subject: B.C. lowers interest rates on student loans

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/politics/lowers+interest+rates+student+loans/12969207/story.html>

Rodney Porter
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
Mobile 250 889-7494

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: FW: BC Budget 2017 Question and Answers RE:Student Loan Interest Charges
Attachments: Program staff information - Budget 2017 - Fixed Student Contribution.docx; Program staff information - Budget 2017 - interest rate reduction Student Loans.docx

Can you please have someone prepare an email for me to send to staff? Kudos of course going to the policy team for all their work coming up with FSC and supporting the work of the budget development.

Thx
dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:43 PM
To: FIN REV RSB Staff; dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; jonathan.wallace@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
Cc: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Klak, Steve M FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX; Saito, Osami FIN:EX; Kuckreja, Kanwaljeet FIN:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: BC Budget 2017 Question and Answers RE:Student Loan Interest Charges

Hi everyone,
Exciting information in post-Secondary Education support announced in the BC Budget 2017 today!
Inserted are the Q and As we've prepared to assist understanding.

A Special thank you to Kina for the Very important financial modelling that supported this work from my team, couldn't have been done without you!

Gregg- I've shared this with Tim Collins.

Dominic and Johnathan please share this with your team. I'll be in touch with the required POA to facilitate the move toward the necessary changes for implementation August 1, 2017.
Thanks everyone!
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 10:02 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Graham, Rudy AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Subject: FW: CBC Online: B.C. budget eases interest on student loans while debt continues to soar

FYI

From: Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:58 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; MacFarlane, Paige AVED:EX; Vasey, Jeff AVED:EX
Subject: FW: CBC Online: B.C. budget eases interest on student loans while debt continues to soar

CBC Online

23-Feb-2017 09:36

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Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:12 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Graham, Rudy AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Subject: FW: FYI - BCFS News Release: BC Budget takes steps to ease burden of student debt
Attachments: NR-2017 02 21-Budget-Interest-Final.pdf

From: Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Avison, Claire AVED:EX; Brewster, Kevin AVED:EX; Brown, Susan B AVED:EX; Burns, Susan G AVED:EX; Carroll, Sandra AVED:EX; Dey, Krysta AVED:EX; Dreilich, Bryan AVED:EX; Dusterhoft, Carrie AVED:EX; Grills, Kiran AVED:EX; Hodges, Nell AVED:EX; Hold - 160825 - Nielsen, Melanie AVED:EX; Hull, Deborah AVED:EX; Johnstone, Judy E AVED:EX; Lemmer, Nicola I AVED:EX; Loughran, Tony D AVED:EX; Lust, Monica AVED:EX; MacFarlane, Paige AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; McConnan, Kelly AVED:EX; Meadows, Jennifer L AVED:EX; Poirier, Dorice AVED:EX; Portal, Vincent AVED:EX; Postans, James AVED:EX; Pridmore, Kerry AVED:EX; Shaw, Mary A AVED:EX; Stock, Cathy AVED:EX; Vasey, Jeff AVED:EX; Wolsey, Ashley AVED:EX; Wyllie, Sandra AVED:EX
Subject: FYI - BCFS News Release: BC Budget takes steps to ease burden of student debt

BCFS news release attached.

BC Budget takes steps to ease burden of student debt

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

Ministry of Advanced Education

[release number]

Feb. X, 2017]

BC keeps post-secondary education affordable for more students

VICTORIA – The B.C. student loan interest rate is being reduced by 2.5% to prime, effective Aug. 1, 2017. Prime currently sits at 2.7%.

The 2.5% reduction is worth approximately \$17-million a year.

The change will place B.C. alongside Alberta and Saskatchewan who also use prime for floating interest rates. Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and the Government of Canada have a higher rate.

The provincial government pays the interest on B.C. student loans during the time that students are in-study. Interest starts to accumulate upon completion of studies. Students are not required to start repaying their loans until six months after completion.

The Province is also making loans more accessible by introducing a fixed student contribution for B.C. loan eligibility.

Effective Aug. 1, 2017, the Province will match the federal government fixed student contribution to assess eligibility. Based on income and family size, students in B.C. will be expected to make a fixed contribution starting at \$1,500, with the exception of students with dependants, students who identify as Aboriginal learners, students with disabilities and students who identify as current or former youth-in-care who will be exempted from making a fixed contribution.

The simplified methodology will provide low and middle income students with more latitude to save money, budget, and plan for their future. It will also allow students to hold jobs while in study, gaining valuable work experience and earning a paycheque without affecting their student financial assistance. It is estimated that a quarter of borrowers in B.C. will receive on average \$1,400 more.

This change results in borrowers receiving an estimated \$15 million more in B.C. student loan funding. It also reduces the application burden and streamlines service delivery, supporting the provincial commitment to Red Tape Reduction.

Media contact:

Rodney Porter
Ministry of Advanced Education

250 889-7494
rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 11:26 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Budget Note

Hi Daryn, the additions make sense to me.

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 11:17 AM
To: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: Budget Note

Hi Steve – apologies for the short window of review time... this is what we proposed (yellow as existing and blue as additions).

With a further investment of \$38 million over three years, the government is also increasing affordability and access to post-secondary education by reducing the interest rate on BC Student Loans by almost half to the prime rate, down from prime rate plus 2.5%. Further, with an additional \$10 million over the three-year fiscal plan, we will make the student loan process more streamlined and predictable by implementing a fixed student contribution model that will allow students, particularly adult learners, to hold jobs while in study, gaining valuable work experience and earning a paycheque without affecting their student financial assistance

Thanks for your feedback.

Daryn Martiniuk

Executive Director

Student Services Branch | StudentAid BC

Ministry of Advanced Education

Tel: 250-356-5277 | Cell: 250-213-3973



Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Sorry – I see it now.

dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

I did ☺

The only additional piece that you hadn't given us was the Q and As for the interest rate changes we created this morning which I shared with you this am...so you've got everything that I've got

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 3:18 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Surely you could share the embargoed information with this close circle, no?

dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 2:41 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Hi everyone,

I've heard from our GCPE rep Sonya Zoeller who shared the embargo lifts when the minister stands in the house to deliver the budget. Sonja has attached my name to a master email list to signify the publicity of the previously confidential information. As soon as I hear from her I will email you all that we can share the information broadly.

Thanks,
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Importance: High

Hi everyone,
Inserted are the Q and As related to the FSC (prepared by AVED) and interest rate change (Prepared by RSB)
Also inserted is the original TBS note and the edited version by Randall and I.

Steve – Daryn had asked when FIN-GCPE (Sonja) may be releasing and info so that he could coordinate his GCPE rep also. Can you please let us all know or if you'd like me to call and ask her directly?

Thanks!
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Looks good Janine, thanks! Please send on to AVED.

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 7:59 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Importance: High

Hi Janine – see note from Sonya, can you/your team take a look at to add any Q&A you think we or HPAS might receive?
Due back to me at noon.

Thanks!

Steve

From: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:57 PM
To: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Awesome. Thanks.

I have very limited information on the changes for student loans, so I've only included three key messages. Maybe someone with more knowledge of the changes could add a couple of questions and answers to help phone staff?

The MSP info I've also sent to Suzanne Anderson for a review on Monday. But perhaps you are in a better position to anticipate the types of questions phone staff are likely to get.

Thanks!

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:54 PM
To: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Budget info for staff

Sonja you can send them to myself, I will coordinate with the team to get the feedback to you

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2017, at 12:27 PM, Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX <Sonja.Zoeller@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Steve,

I've just gotten around to preparing some information about MSP and student loan changes in budget for frontline staff.

Who can I send those to for quick review on Monday?

Thanks!

Sonja Zoeller
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Finance
Direct: 250-387-1248
Cell: 250-812-6844

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

This e-mail was intended for a specific recipient. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure. Any privilege that exists is not waived. If you are not the intended recipient, do not distribute it to another person or use it for any other purpose. Please delete it and advise me by return e-mail or telephone.

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:10 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

I sent you this very audio recording... Did you get it?

dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:55 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX; Luchies, Cindy FIN:EX; Lang, Lara P FIN:EX; Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; Janssen, Matt FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

Looping you all in too

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:34 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

From: Symes, Elan C FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:08 AM
To: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: Fwd: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

----- Original message -----

From: "Mentzelopoulos, Athana FIN:EX" <Athana.Mentzelopoulos@gov.bc.ca>
Date: 2017-02-23 7:53 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: "Foster, Doug FIN:EX" <Doug.Foster@gov.bc.ca>, "Symes, Elan C FIN:EX" <Elan.Symes@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

From: tno@gov.bc.ca [<mailto:tno@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 9:33 PM
Subject: Scrum: Wilkinson - student loans

Scrum
Wilkinson scrum following afternoon QP
22-Feb-2017 17:00

Page 020 to/à Page 021

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Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 9:47 AM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate
Attachments: Student Loans.docx

Hi Gord – here are some thoughts for you.

dm

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 8:06 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

One last try – feel free to make any tweaks to this....

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 11:10 AM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Student Loan contribution rate

Hi Gord – I'm going to guess that this is more information than what you'd like to put in this note, however based on our conversations I know there is an appreciation for the complexity of the program. We're happy to look at another draft if that will help.

Also, we've attached Q's and A's to help support the understanding.

Thx
dm

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 1:05 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Thanks for this and for your patience with my many questions. See what you think of the attached. If you can get back to me with comments in about an hour that would be great.

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 9:11 PM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Student Loan contribution rate

Hi Gord,

Here are some edits for your consideration. I have also enclosed a copy of the Information Bulletin we drafted with our GCPE shop, before it was decided to proceed with just the budget announcement, to give some ideas on what the ministry was looking to highlight.

We will still work on the Q&A to help improve the understanding.

Let me know if you have any questions regarding the edits or need something else.

Daryn

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 12:30 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Let me know if this hits mark. Feel free to use track changes if edits/clarification needed. Thanks.

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Yes, we will pull something together. Is a late Tuesday/ Mid-day Wednesday timeline going to work?

Daryn

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 2:47 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Thanks Daryn. s.12,s.13

s.12,s.13

Is this possible?

Gord

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 12:30 PM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

I was literally about 5 minutes from sending you this...

Please let me know if you're looking for more/ different information and we'll try to get you what you're looking for.

I'm in the office this afternoon, so, you can reach me at 2502133973 if necessary.

dm

Ps. Appreciate you sending me the language for the budget document; to close the loop - yes, I have seen that.

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Any chance I can get it this weekend?

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 12:35 PM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Hi Gord – here are some small suggested edits, they are represented in red. The other comment is a further suggestion, recognizing that this may not fit with the overall nomenclature in the message – this is represented by yellow highlight.

I'm bouncing around from meeting to meeting, but will try to get you the other information ASAP.

dm

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:43 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Is this OK?

And for those students who have to supplement those savings with student loans, today we are going to make loans a bit more accessible by introducing a fixed student contribution for B.C. loan eligibility, which greatly simplifies the application process.

Effective August 1, 2017, consistent with federal changes, we are going to introduce a fixed student contribution for the calculation of student loans.

This is a clearer process that will also help low and middle income students who utilize student loans. This change results in borrowers receiving an estimated \$15 million more in B.C. student loan funding annually.

Of course, there comes the time when studies are complete and the loan that society provides—interest and payment free while the student is in school—needs to be repaid. And we're going to try to make that more affordable also. I can confirm that we will be lowering the interest rate on student loans from prime-plus-2.5% to just prime, effective August 1, 2017.

So, for example, with prime at 2.7% right now, former students in repayment would have to pay 5.2% today.

After August 1, they will just pay that prime amount. This measure will save people in repayments \$11.3 million this year, and \$17 million in each of the next two years.

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Where can I reach you?

From: Enemark, Gord FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: Student Loan contribution rate

Can you please call me before 11:45 if you can?

Thanks

Gord Enemark
Treasury Board Staff
250 217 6130

AVED – What changes are you making to student loans and how will it help student who need to acquire debt to help finance their education?

Key Messages:

s.13

s.13

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 12:48 PM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Klak, Steve M FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loans

Thank you!

From: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 11:07 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Klak, Steve M FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: Student loans

Hallo Daryn,

The Minister of Finance recently approved the fiscal impacts of the following on a prospective basis:

- Reduce the current student loan interest rate of 5.2% to prime (i.e. 2.7%); and,
- Increase affordability and accessibility to student loans by matching the federal government's fixed student contribution for the calculation of Canada Student Loans.
 - Based on family income and family size, students will be expected to make a fixed contribution of \$1,500 or up to a total of \$3,000 per academic year to fund their studies.
 - The Province will align with the federal funding model except that it will not use its per academic year student contribution cap of \$3000. This will avoid potential under assessments for wealthier individuals.

If you have any questions, do let me know.

Regards,
Natasha

Natasha Thambirajah
Treasury Board Analyst
Performance Budgeting Office, Treasury Board Staff
Ministry of Finance, Province of British Columbia
T: (250) 387 9071 | C: (250) 217 1142

 Please consider the environment before printing.

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 1:38 PM
To: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loans

Hi Alex,

Here are a couple bullets for your consideration.

- Increasing affordability and access to post-secondary education and reducing student cost of borrowing by cutting the interest rate on BC Student Loans by almost half to prime rate from prime rate plus 2.5%.
- Making the student loan process more streamlined and predictable by implementing a fixed student contribution model that will allow students, particularly adult learners, to hold jobs while in study, gaining valuable work experience and earning a paycheque without affecting their student financial assistance.

dm

From: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 10:36 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loans
Importance: High

Sorry I didn't see this email until now – this afternoon would be optimal please

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 3:14 PM
To: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Student Loans

Hi Alex,

We're pulling the bullets together... Do you have a deadline that you're working towards?

dm

From: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 1:08 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Student Loans

Oops.... It bounced back ☺

From: Chandler, Alex FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 1:06 PM

To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall FIN:EX
Subject: Student Loans

We are working on the Budget document and hope to include a description of the changes to students loans (rate + simplified criteria).

Could you please send a few bullets that explain the changes and their impact on affordability / access.

Many thanks,

Alex Chandler
Executive Director, Treasury Board Staff
Performance Budgeting Office
Ministry of Finance

phone: 250.387.3943
email: alex.chandler@gov.bc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 8:02 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction

From my perspective, it is what it is... I think we have no choice but to proceed and hope that it comes in lower, such as our previous experience.

dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: FW: TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction

Are you both OK with this? If not then I am escalating to you for the next step

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca [mailto:dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; john.hartin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; anne.gabriel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
Subject: RE: TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction

Hello Janine,

There are multiple reasons why we are moving to a brand new system in April 2018 and this is one of them. Everything in the current system is hard coded and many patches were implemented over the years to accommodate program changes, including integration. Most changes require significant effort and I have stopped being surprised by the level of effort required to make them, even those that seem very simple from an untrained eye. There is nothing we can do at this time but limit the number of changes we make to the current system. Unfortunately, it is not possible to entirely avoid making changes due to government mandated policies. We are in the same boat with changes coming from Budget 2016. The fact that IPs pay a very small annual fee for the ongoing services compared to what it would cost if each had their own contract, also makes these change management costs look even worse.

I'm sorry there is nothing we can do about the cost but if there are issues with timing of delivery, let me know and we can work with D+H to ensure the change is in place on time.

Dom

Dominic Demers
Directeur, Exécution du programme / Director, Program Delivery

Programme canadien de prêt aux étudiants / Canada Student Loans Program
Emploi et Développement social Canada / Employment and Social Development Canada
Tél/Tel: 819-654-8438 Courriel/E-mail: dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX [<mailto:Janine.Grouette@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: April 13, 2017 4:39 PM
To: Demers, Dominic D [NC]
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: FW: TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction
Importance: High

Hi Dom,
s.16

Thanks a lot,
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 7:54 AM
To: kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
Cc: Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; anne.gabriel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; john.hartin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; jasmine.somogyvari@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
Subject: Re: TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction

This is approved
Thanks Kyle!

Janine Grouette
Director StudentAid BC and Contract Governance
Office:259-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0893

On Apr 11, 2017, at 8:31 AM, "kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca" <kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca> wrote:

Hello,

Please see attached *TA 2017 - 175 BC Interest Rate Reduction* for your review and approval.

The service provider is scheduled to commence work on this initiative as of Monday, April 17th, 2017.

Let me know if you approve and/or have questions.

Thank you,

Kyle Henderson

Federal, Provincial and Territorial Relations and Pricing Model / Relations fédérales, provinciales et territoriales et Modele de tarification

Canada Student Loans Program / Programme canadien de prêts aux étudiants

(819) 654-8552

kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Cc: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Attachments: Program staff information - Budget 2017 - Fixed Student Contribution.docx; Program staff information - Budget 2017 - interest rate reduction.docx; RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Further info from FIN on the forthcoming changes. Please treat as confidential

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Importance: High

Hi everyone,

Inserted are the Q and As related to the FSC (prepared by AVED) and interest rate change (Prepared by RSB)

Also inserted is the original TBS note and the edited version by Randall and I.

Steve – Daryn had asked when FIN-GCPE (Sonja) may be releasing and info so that he could coordinate his GCPE rep also. Can you please let us all know or if you'd like me to call and ask her directly?

Thanks!

Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA

Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance

Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC

Office: 250-387-1199

Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Looks good Janine, thanks! Please send on to AVED.

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 7:59 AM

To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Importance: High

Hi Janine – see note from Sonya, can you/your team take a look at to add any Q&A you think we or HPAS might receive?
Due back to me at noon.

Thanks!

Steve

From: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:57 PM
To: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Awesome. Thanks.

I have very limited information on the changes for student loans, so I've only included three key messages. Maybe someone with more knowledge of the changes could add a couple of questions and answers to help phone staff?

The MSP info I've also sent to Suzanne Anderson for a review on Monday. But perhaps you are in a better position to anticipate the types of questions phone staff are likely to get.

Thanks!

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:54 PM
To: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Budget info for staff

Sonja you can send them to myself, I will coordinate with the team to get the feedback to you

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2017, at 12:27 PM, Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX <Sonja.Zoeller@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Steve,

I've just gotten around to preparing some information about MSP and student loan changes in budget for frontline staff.

Who can I send those to for quick review on Monday?

Thanks!

Sonja Zoeller
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Finance
Direct: 250-387-1248
Cell: 250-812-6844

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

This e-mail was intended for a specific recipient. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure. Any privilege that exists is not waived. If you are not the intended recipient, do not distribute it to another person or use it for any other purpose. Please delete it and advise me by return e-mail or telephone.

Fixed Student Contribution - Info Sheet

Key Messages:

- We are changing how students are assessed for financial assistance. We will no longer count earnings during the student's study or pre-study periods as resources, and we will not consider most student assets. Instead, students will be expected to contribute a fixed amount based on their previous year's family income. This means students with low income will have lower expected contributions than those with higher incomes.
- Students will be able to hold jobs while in studies without their earnings affecting their financial aid eligibility or the amount of their award. The award calculation will be much simpler, and students will be able to predict their funding level more easily. It will also mean more funding will be disbursed to students, mainly to those in the lower income brackets, resulting in ~\$15M more in student funding per year.

Background:

- Currently, when a student applies for SFA, StudentAid BC assesses information about the student's income and other financial assets and resources, as well as their expected educational and living costs, and calculates an amount it will award that student in financial assistance.
- Beginning Aug. 1, 2017, government will simplify the application process and exclude resources other than the student's previous year's income when assessing their need for financial assistance. Students with low income will be expected to contribute less towards their education costs than those with higher incomes. Further, for all students, the previous year's tax return will be used to report income, rather than speculating on the upcoming year's income.
- Applicants facing barriers to employment will be exempt from making any contribution at all, including Indigenous students, students with permanent disabilities, students with dependent children, and current or former youth in care.
- Estimates suggest that 24% of BC borrowers will receive on average \$1,400 more in provincial funding under the new BC model, while only 9% will receive on average \$1,100 less, with 67% unchanged. As per line #3, there will be a modest ongoing cost increase for bad debts of almost \$2M/yr.

Fixed Student Contribution – Q & A

1. What does Student Financial Assistance (SFA) currently look like in British Columbia?

- Student financial assistance (SFA) supplements funds already available to the student through work, savings, family resources and income.
- Both the federal and provincial governments have programs in place to provide SFA to students. British Columbia administers the federal program on behalf of the federal government.
- A student's award can be made up of a combination of non-repayable funds (grants, bursaries, and scholarships) and repayable funds (loans), with some of the funding provided by the federal government and some provided by B.C.
- There are maximum funding weekly limits in place for both federal and provincial loans. As such, a student's award may not fully meet their assessed need, particularly for students in high-cost programs or with high living costs.

2. How is eligibility for student financial assistance (loans, grants and bursaries) currently assessed in B.C.?

- Currently, when a student applies for SFA, StudentAid BC assesses information about the student's (and their spouse's, if applicable) income and other financial assets and resources, as well as their expected educational and living costs, and calculates an amount it will award that student in financial assistance.
- For dependent students (typically, those who finished high school less than four years prior and who have not demonstrated financial independence), the applicant's parents are also expected to make a contribution to their child's education costs based on family size and income.
- The basic equation is that a student is determined to require financial assistance when their expected costs exceed the resources already available to them (in other words, **costs - resources = need**).

3. How are a student's resources currently calculated?

- Under the current model, a student's resources include
 - income they earn in the four months before their study period
 - income they expect to earn during their study period
 - spousal income during these periods (if applicable)
 - student and (if applicable) spousal assets (RRSPs, RESPs, motor vehicles, real estate, owned businesses, etc.)
- Under the current framework, students are expected to contribute 80% of their discretionary income from the pre-study period, as well as 100% of their income from the study period less an exemption of \$100 per week. Any income a student earns above \$100 per week while in study reduces their funding dollar-for-dollar. This creates a disincentive for earning income to cover education costs.
- Currently, a student estimates their expected assets and income weeks or months in advance of their actual study period. This can result in large discrepancies between projected and actual earnings, leading to inaccurate needs assessments and a high number of reassessments when actual earnings differ.

4. What is a Fixed Student Contribution (FSC)?

- For the 2017/18 academic year, B.C. will change the needs assessment process and will begin using a fixed student contribution (FSC) model to assess eligibility for student financial

assistance. Under the federal model (see Q. 5 below for BC model) the student's expected contribution amount, along with the parent and/or spousal contribution as applicable, will be used in the calculation of a student's resources.

- Students with previous year's gross family income **at or below** the low-income threshold set by Canada Student Loan (CSLP) will be expected to contribute \$43.27 per week of study, to a maximum of \$1,500 per academic year, towards the costs of their education.
- Students with previous year's gross family income **above** the low-income threshold will be expected to contribute an additional 15% of their income above the threshold, prorated weekly based on the number of weeks in the study period.
- Spouses with low income are not expected to contribute to their partner's education costs. Spouses with higher income will be expected to contribute 10% of their income above the low-income threshold, based on the number of weeks in the study period. Spouses who are full-time students themselves are exempt from making a contribution; spouses in receipt of social assistance or disability benefits are also exempt.
- Parents of dependent students will be expected to contribute to their child's education costs as under the current model.

5. How does the B.C. Fixed Student Contribution model differ from the federal model?

- StudentAid BC maintains a dual need assessment system, whereby the calculation of a student's need is assessed separately under federal and provincial criteria.
- In the student's federal need assessment, a student's expected contribution will be capped at \$3,000 per academic year – their contribution will be a maximum of \$86.54 per week, for a maximum of 35 weeks.
- B.C. will assess the expected student and spousal contributions in the same way, except that, in order to maintain the province's needs-based approach to student financial assistance, the B.C. need assessment does not include a \$3,000 cap on the student's expected contribution.

6. How is the FSC model different than the current model?

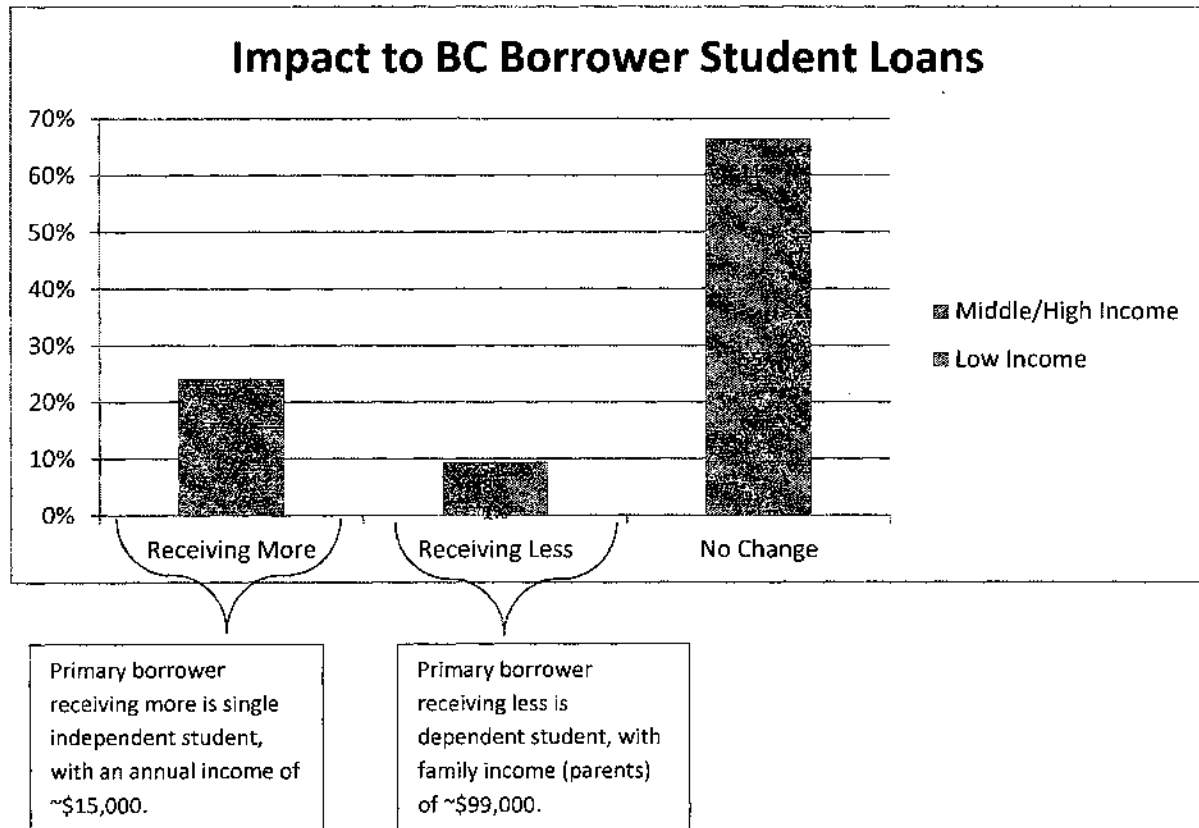
- Under the FSC model, the amount students will be expected to contribute is based on their previous year's gross family income and family size.
- Pre-study and study period income, as well as student and/or spousal assets, will no longer be assessed as resources.
- Applicants facing barriers to employment will be exempt from making any contribution, including Indigenous students, students with permanent disabilities, students with dependent children, and current or former youth in care.

7. How will the change impact borrowers?

- Many applicants from low-income families will see their expected contribution drop compared to the current assessment model. This will, in turn, reduce their total assessed resources and increase their assessed need, resulting in greater eligibility and higher financial assistance awards for these students.
- The introduction of the FSC will simplify the student loan application and assessment processes: approximately one-third of the questions currently on the SFA application will be removed, and reassessments resulting from application errors or a change in students' circumstances will be reduced.
- Borrowers will no longer need to estimate their earnings or savings, and will be better able to predict the amount that they'll need to contribute towards their education costs.

- The FSC model will result in increased SFA eligibility for adult learners, many of whom may work while studying, or who have spouses whose resources would previously have been considered in determining eligibility.
- Students will be able to work and gain valuable job experience during their studies without that income affecting the amount of financial aid they will receive.

8. Who are the receiving more and receiving less?"



9. Provide three vignettes showing an assessment under BC's current and FSC models to illustrate the difference (1. No change; 2. Someone who receives more; and 3. Someone who receives less).
Note that the tables below do not include the federal portion of students' funding.

Scenario 1: NO CHANGE

Single college student, living at home in a family of four with a family income of \$88,863, taking a 39 week Practical Nursing course. Total Costs: \$20,056

	Status-Quo	B.C. Fixed
Student Contribution	\$800	\$5,829
Spousal Contribution	n/a	n/a
Parental Contribution	\$671	\$671
Student Need	\$18,585	\$14,689
BC Student Loan	\$4,290	\$4,290

Student contribution increases because under FSC we're looking at total family income (parent's income for dependent students), rather than just the student's income.

Loan amount stays the same as maximum BC loans (\$110 per week) would be distributed in either case due to high program costs.

Scenario 2: RECEIVING MORE

Single college student living away from home with an income of \$13,970, taking a 17-week Health Sciences course. Total Costs: \$6,834

	Status-Quo	B.C. Fixed
Student Contribution	\$5,034	\$750
Spousal Contribution	n/a	n/a
Parental Contribution	n/a	n/a
Student Need	\$1,800	\$6,578
BCSL	\$720	\$1,870

Student contribution decreases because under FSC we're no longer considering the student's assets. This student is "low-income" therefore only contributes the minimum for a single term of \$750 under FSC.

Loan amount increases to BC maximum under FSC (\$110 per week), based on increase in Student Need

Scenario 3: RECEIVING LESS

Dependent student in a family of 4 with a family income of \$125,000, taking a 26-week Health Sciences course. Total Costs: \$5,312

	Status-Quo	B.C. Fixed
Student Contribution	\$0	\$10,650
Spousal Contribution	n/a	n/a
Parental Contribution	\$2,858	\$2,858
Student Need	\$2,429	\$0
BCSL	\$972	\$0

Student contribution increases because under FSC we're looking at total family income (parent's income for dependent students), rather than just the student's income/assets. Student had no income or assets to assess under status-quo, however parents have significant income, which is assessed under FSC

Because of significant student contribution, resources exceed costs making student need/student loans \$0

Budget 2017 Student Loan Changes
Information for Staff

- **BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction**

- Key message

s.13

-

Page 043

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 1:51 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI – approved scripting for Tier 2 response re: the interest rate change.

Teresa

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 4:23 PM
To: Colthorpe, Glenn AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Cc: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Approved.

From: Colthorpe, Glenn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 2:48 PM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Draft text for your review, please, for a response to Tier 1 and an informational note to Tier 2 re interest rate reduction inquiries:

Tier 1: Transfer calls to SSU.

Tier 2: A reduction to the student loan variable interest rate to Prime was announced in *Budget 2017* for implementation on August 1, 2017. More details will become available closer to the implementation date and will be posted to the StudentAid BC website.

(D+H doesn't have an SABC-specific website for this information to be posted on.)

Glenn

Glenn Colthorpe
Communications and Content Administrator
Student Services Branch | StudentAid BC
Ministry of Advanced Education
Tel: 250-387-7444

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Colthorpe, Glenn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Do we have final scripting for tier 2, and frankly for D+H to put on their website?

dm

From: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Colthorpe, Glenn AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Hi Susan,

Not sure if this one was addressed yesterday after I had to leave?

If no...preferred this to be handled by Tier 2, and our response should be a reduction to Prime was announced in Budget 2017 for implementation on August 1, 2017. More details will become available closer to the implementation date.

Thanks,

Teresa

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 9:00 AM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Hi Teresa. Just FYI and in case you or Daryn have some thoughts on this...
Susan

From: Jan McCann [<mailto:jan.mccann@dh.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 7:26 AM
To: Colthorpe, Glenn AVED:EX
Cc: Naudia Larrow
Subject: Interest rate reduction announcement on SABC website

Hi Glenn,
Is this proposed legislation that has to be passed or is it already a done deal?

Latest News



March 2017

Budget 2017

In *Budget 2017*, the Government of British Columbia announced the reduction of the variable interest rate on B.C. student loans from prime plus 2.5% to just the prime rate, effective August 1, 2017.

Jan McCann

Team Leader
Customer Support Contact Centre

D+H

t: 905-306-2652

jan.mccann@dh.com

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Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:24 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

You lost me, sorry
I meant the literal meaning of restate.
Does Clyde's email help? If not please phone me

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Thanks, Janine.

"Restate" is not a term I'm familiar with, but I gather it means the interest has been calculated for a particular time period and applied or added to the balance. Yes? So once that's done, why does the rate that was applied in that process need to be kept active and in the system? Again, which interest calculations still actively need to use the old rate?

Is it worth asking other jurisdictions what the process (and cost) has been when they've made interest rate changes, if that hasn't been done already? The proposed solution, to artificially reduce the prime rate, seems very odd to me.

Again, sorry for the "Finance 101" request...
Susan

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:04 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

The interest rate change (if eventually budget ratified) is effective August 1, 2017. We will not be restating prior interest accrued.

It's like when your mortgage rate changes, the bank does not restate all previous interest.
Does this help?

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC

Office: 250-387-1199

Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:40 AM
To: Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Hi FIN folks.

Forgive my ignorance on this, but don't we want the change to affect interest calculation for loans in prior school years, since it is intended to impact all B.C. borrowers with in-grace and in-repayment status as well as new borrowers?

I'm not sure what their statement "***Any interest calculation prior to the school year (Aug 1, 2017) will still be based on the old interest rate (prime + spread)***" means. Which interest calculations still need to use the old rate?

Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Senior Policy Analyst
Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
(250) 952-7494

From: kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca [<mailto:kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:18 AM
To: Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX
Cc: anne.gabriel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; john.hartin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Clyde,

Please see below the response from the service provider:

There are 2 variables that contribute to interest rates on BC's variable rate interest loans: 1) Floating prime rate (which varies by effective date) and 2) a fixed spread.

BC provincial loan is currently using the same rate parameters as Federal (prime + 2.5%) for the provincial loan interest rate calculation.

The requirement for BC is to remove the fixed spread rate so that the provincial loan will be based on prime only for 2017-18 school year. This includes new and in repayment/default loan. Any interest calculation prior to the school year (Aug 1, 2017) will still be based on the old interest rate (prime + spread).

Since the spread rate is a constant in the system and cannot be reduced to 0% as it would also affect interest calculation for loans in prior school years, the solution is to reduce the prime rate such that 'new prime' + spread = prime. For example, in Aug 1, 2017 the prime rate for BC provincial loan will be changed to 0.2% so that the effective

rate is 0.2% + 2.5% = 2.7%(assuming prime is still 2.7%). The system has been modified to accept a negative prime rate if the prime is reduced further in the future.

The effort to systematically undertake the requirements based on the assumptions provided is reflected in the high level estimate POA response.

As mentioned previously please have the assumptions reviewed and validated as soon as possible – please track any concerns directly on the POA – and return your feedback to us immediately after, we can move along with this change. If CSLP/BC don't support our underlying assumptions in POA, we will need to conduct 4 to 6 weeks of Discovery. If we can get confirmation of the assumptions in the attached then we can proceed to execution w/out discovery, expediting delivery.

Let me know how you want to proceed.

Thank you,

Kyle Henderson

Federal, Provincial and Territorial Relations and Pricing Model / Relations fédérales, provinciales et territoriales et Modele de tarification

Canada Student Loans Program / Programme canadien de prêts aux étudiants

(819) 654-8552

kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

From: Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX [<mailto:Clyde.Bersky@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: 2017-03-14 4:07 PM

To: Henderson, Kyle K [NC]; 'Adrienne Lucyk'

Cc: Gabriel, Anne; Hartin, John JDE [NC]; Seguin, Diane D [NC]; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX

Subject: RE: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Good afternoon Kyle,

Janine and I discussed the POA this morning, and took the opportunity to forward our concerns to Adrienne during the Can-BC Int/Ops Call. Our primary concern is with the cost estimate – in that interest rate changes, such as changes to the prime rate, occur on a continual basis and have been modified without cost. We would like to know why this particular interest rate change would be different?

Adrienne let us know that she is looking into this for us.

Cheers,

Clyde Bersky

Contract Administrator | StudentAid BC | Revenue Solutions Branch | Ministry of Finance

2000 1810 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8T 4J1 | 250.356.0253 | Clyde.Bersky@gov.bc.ca

From: kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca [<mailto:kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca>]

Sent: March-14-17 7:57 AM

To: He, Kina FIN:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX

Cc: anne.gabriel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; john.hartin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX

Subject: POA - BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction

Hello,

Please see attached the POA for the *BC Student Loan Interest Rate Reduction*. The service provider has added their information to *Section 2: D+H Assessment*.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

If you're in agreement with the POA, we will initiate the Task Authorization (TA) with the service provider.

Thank you,

Kyle Henderson

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Modele de tarification

Canada Student Loans Program / Programme canadien de prêts aux étudiants

(819) 654-8552

kyle.henderson@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Pivetta, Alys AVED:EX; Stone, Marlowe J AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: SABC Directors' Meeting - Agenda for April 18, 2017
Attachments: CMEC Extranet -- Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on Student Financial Assistance (ICCSFA) -- Document Library -- MEETINGS -- 2017.htm; TA 2017 - 175 BC Variable Interest Rate Change draft v3.doc; CSLPFPTR_MasterListofQuestions_ISADRAFT_20170321_V03.docx

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Stuart – can we please add the inserted docs to the SharePoint site to support the few agenda items ideas I had

The ICCSFA call for agenda items is already on our Directors agenda as a regular monthly item which is great. (the CMEC site notes 3 inserted docs related to this topic that I would like to present to support our discussion on this)

I have 2 other items if there is time:

1. Heads up of circulating Master List of ISA questions (doc inserted)
2. Interest rate change timeline from CSLP (related Task Authorization Inserted)

Thanks heaps,
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Pivetta, Alys AVED:EX; Stone, Marlowe J AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX
Subject: SABC Directors' Meeting - Agenda for April 18, 2017

Hi Everyone,

Please find the link to the agenda for next Tuesday's Directors' meeting below:

<https://aved.collaborate.gov.bc.ca/committees/sabc-gc/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2Fcommittees%2Fsabc%2Dgc%2FShared%20Documents%2FSABC%20Director%20Meetings%2F2017&InitialTabId=Ribbon%2ELibrary&VisibilityContext=WSSTabPersistence>

Thank you,
Stuart Timewell

Sr. Project Analyst
Student Services Branch | StudentAid BC
Ministry of Advanced Education
Tel: 778-698-2151

Page 053 to/à Page 069

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.17

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 9:29 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Subject: RE: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi everyone,

Thanks very much for your input. I just wanted to close the loop on this. Daryn reviewed and requested we remove some of the more detailed language, with a closing statement that more information will become available closer to program year launch. I've included the final approved language below for everyone's reference.

Thank you all.

In *Budget 2017*, the Government of British Columbia announced the reduction of the variable interest rate on B.C. student loans from prime plus 2.5% to just the prime rate, effective August 1, 2017.

Also on August 1, 2017, we are changing how students are assessed for financial assistance. We will no longer count earnings during the student's study or pre-study periods as resources, and we will not consider most student assets. Instead, students will be expected to contribute a fixed amount based on their previous year's family income.

More information to follow closer to the launch of the 2017/18 program year.
Read *Budget 2017* [here](http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm). <http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm>

Teresa

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 11:05 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX
Subject: RE: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Slight recommendation in the 2nd paragraph from me too for your consideration

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 10:15 AM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Hi all,

For the purposes of this announcement, it would be simpler (and would not require retraction later) if we just said, "Students will be able to work part-time while in studies without their earnings affecting their financial aid eligibility or the amount of their award."

Susan

From: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 10:10 AM
To: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Hi everyone,

Yes, I agree with Ben and Janine's proposed changes. Final wording below. I will send to Daryn for final sign-off prior to posting. Thanks everyone.

In *Budget 2017*, the Government of British Columbia announced the reduction of the interest rate on variable repayment term B.C. student loans from prime plus 2.5% to just the prime rate, effective August 1, 2017. This announcement will save B.C. students in student loan repayment an estimated \$11.3 million this year and an estimated \$17 million in each of the next two years.

Also on August 1, 2017, we are changing how students are assessed for financial assistance. We will no longer count earnings during the student's study or pre-study periods as resources, and we will not consider most student assets. Instead, students will be expected to contribute a fixed amount based on their previous year's family income. ~~to those with low income, this means students with low income will have lower expected contributions than those with higher income.~~ Students will be able to hold part-time jobs (less than 32 hours a week) while in studies without their earnings affecting their financial aid eligibility or the amount of their award. Both the financial assistance application process and the calculation of a student's award will be more streamlined, and students will be able to predict their funding level more easily. It will also mean more funding will be disbursed to students. ~~(Students will benefit mainly those in lower income brackets.)~~

More information to follow.

Read *Budget 2017* [here](http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm). <http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm>

Teresa

From: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 9:31 AM
To: Butler, Teresa AVED:EX
Cc: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX
Subject: FW: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Hi Teresa,

Please see Ben's suggested language for the "what's new" section for the budget announcement. I agree with the revision that is suggested.

Thank you,

Stuart

From: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX

Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 8:49 AM

To: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX

Cc: Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX

Subject: RE: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Hi Stuart,

The highlighted statement below omits the fact that students working 32 hours a week or more are not eligible for funding (at least for now).

Do you think that it might be good to manage everyone's expectations by modifying that statement somewhat to say:

"Students will be able to hold part-time jobs (less than 32 hours a week) while in studies without their earnings affecting...."

Thanks

Ben

From: Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:42 AM

To: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX

Subject: FW: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

For discussion – just want to read against policy see highlighted field.

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 7:54 AM

To: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX

Cc: Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AVED:EX; Stone, Marlowe J AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Graham, Rudy AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX

Subject: Re: SABC Website "What's New" text for Review

Thanks Stuart, great that we're doing this!

I've reviewed for the interest rate change. Can you add 'an estimated ' in front of all dollar values.

Thanks a lot,

Janine

On Feb 28, 2017, at 7:20 AM, Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX <Stuart.Timewell@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

Please review the below text, that will be added to SABC's website under "what's new", for approval at today's Directors meeting.

In *Budget 2017*, the Government of British Columbia announced the reduction of the interest rate on variable repayment term B.C. student loans from prime plus 2.5% to just the prime rate, effective August 1, 2017. This announcement will save B.C. students in student loan repayment \$11.3 million this year and \$17 million in each of the next two years.

Also on August 1, 2017, we are changing how students are assessed for financial assistance. We will no longer count earnings during the student's study or pre-study periods as resources, and we will not consider most student assets. Instead, students will be expected to contribute a fixed amount based on their previous year's family income. This means students with low income will have lower expected contributions than those with higher incomes. Students will be able to hold jobs while in studies without their earnings affecting their financial aid eligibility or the amount of their award. Both the financial assistance application process and the calculation of a student's award will be more streamlined, and students will be able to predict their funding level more easily. It will also mean more funding will be disbursed to students, mainly those in lower income brackets.

More information to follow.

Read *Budget 2017* [here](http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm). <http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2017/default.htm>

Thank you,
Stuart Timewell
Sr. Project Analyst
Student Services Branch | StudentAid BC
Ministry of Advanced Education
Tel: 778-698-2151

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Student loan interest rate history

Hi Sonya,

I just spoke to Steve Pleva and we both wanted to be sure that you were dovetailed in to this email strand as there is also anticipated Student Loan program changes coming up in the Budget as well. This email doesn't explain those, it's a question about some background only but did spark us to be sure we included you. You may have already been contacted by GCPE for AVED per Randall below too.

Please give me a call if you'd like to discuss.

Thanks,

Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC

Office: 250-387-1199

Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loan interest rate history

Rodney Porter is AVED's GCPE Director. I believe the historical interest rate question came to Daryn from Rodney.

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:34 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loan interest rate history

Ok thank you – can you please let me know the names of everyone too when you have a moment

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From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:33 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX

Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loan interest rate history

Thanks, Janine. And regarding who GCPE is working with, our understanding is that AVED's GCPE staff are working with GCPE HQ but we'll confirm that FIN's GCPE is involved.

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:11 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loan interest rate history

I did some checking around....

yes, we have since direct lend (august 2000). But we also did in the risk sharing world. (so from Aug 1, 1995)

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
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Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Student loan interest rate history

Hey there – ty ☺
I hope Stuart can answer – I don't know how long but its been a long time!

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 12:05 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: Student loan interest rate history

Hi Janine,

Welcome back!

Our GCPE office is asking how long the interest charged on student loans has been prime plus 2.5%. Can you advise?

Thanks,
Randall

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2016 10:52 AM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit note
Attachments: FW: Education tax credit follow-up; FW: Education tax credit follow-up; FW: Education tax credit follow-up

Importance: High

Just in case something comes up while I'm away.

dm

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2016 3:22 PM
To: Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Cc: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note
Importance: High

Hi Dara,

These are the supporting emails as between AVED policy area and David Karp related to this so that you've got the details for the high level bullets you're asking David for.

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2016 3:05 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Ok will send to David Karp

From: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX <Natasha.Thambirajah@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Klak, Steve M FIN:EX
Cc: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Great. Let me know when you can send me a fix list note. Need one asap.

I'm working with GH on their fix list note so that's one you don't have to worry about.

From: Klak, Steve M FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2016 10:53 AM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Revised pro-rated outlook for 17/18 and annualization for out-years. Also added the potential policy change related to entitlement.

Steve Klak, CPA, CA
Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director
Ministry of Finance and Office of the Premier
Province of British Columbia
(250) 356-1387

From: Klak, Steve M FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 5:08 PM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Yes we're on the same page. Wasn't aware of the August 1st implementation. Not sure if the forgone savings for next year (based on 16/17) is annualized or pro-rated and the branch has left for their Xmas party. Will need to confirm first thing tomorrow. As discussed, we don't have any science for the out years. Would simply straight-line across all 3 years. We 'll have to adjust if required along the way.

Steve Klak, CPA, CA
Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director
Ministry of Finance and Office of the Premier
Province of British Columbia
(250) 356-1387

From: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 4:04 PM
To: Klak, Steve M FIN:EX

Cc: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Steve,

Are we on the same page?

s.12,s.13

N

From: Klak, Steve M FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 4:02 PM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Natasha, as requested. Janine, please advise if I have erred in any way. Thank you

Steve Klak, CPA, CA
Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director
Ministry of Finance and Office of the Premier
Province of British Columbia
(250) 356-1387

From: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 10:14 AM
To: Richards, Tara R FIN:EX; Klak, Steve M FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit note

Hi –

s.12,s.13

N

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Fianagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Hi Natasha,

I have updated our calculations for the savings from eliminating the education tax credit from what we said in the note I sent you on Friday. s.12,s.13
s.12,s.13

Thanks,

David.

David Karp
Strategic Advisor | Tax Policy Branch | Ministry of Finance
107 – 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8
Tel. 250-387-5044 | Email: David.Karp@gov.bc.ca

From: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2016 12:13 PM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX

Cc: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

Thanks, David.

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2016 12:13 PM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit note

s.12,s.13

. Update attached.

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Thambirajah, Natasha FIN:EX
Cc: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: Education tax credit note

Hi Natasha,

Here is my note on education tax credits ^{s.15,s.17} I have also attached a document that
AVED provided, and an email from Anita about student loan fiscal plan stuff.

s.22

questions.

but can check emails on my phone if you have

Thanks,

David.

David Karp
Strategic Advisor | Tax Policy Branch | Ministry of Finance
107 – 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8
Tel. 250-387-5044 | Email: David.Karp@gov.bc.ca

.....

.....

s.12,s.13

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 4, 2016 1:33 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi there --any more word on this?

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 6:49 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: Re: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Janine - I have not heard anything from our DMO. As soon as we do, I'll let you know. In general Paige was receptive to the process you paved the way on for RAP.

Daryn Martiniuk
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2016, at 4:27 PM, Grouette, Janine FIN:EX <Janine.Grouette@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi there --I did give Elan a heads up that Paige intended to contact her but I have not heard anything more. Would you have an update on this? I will need to circle it through our SFO and EFO for sure as well!

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance
1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2016 11:40 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

As discussed, here's the latest versions and below are Daryn's comments re approvals

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 9:18 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Thanks Randall.

I think that Paige has a role to play with the approval process, especially between AVED/FIN. What exactly that looks like (e.g. do we follow a similar/ identical approach as the RAP discussion) I do not know. So I would like to get her thoughts on how she would like to reach out to Elan.

I will be speaking with Paige tomorrow, and likely make the recommendation to follow the RAP model, and ascertain direction. Nonetheless, it's recognized that this definitely impacts things on FIN side of the responsibility matrix and that we need engagement/ support.

We can talk more about this tomorrow, should there be items for discussion.

dm

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:08 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Janine,

Daryn's in meetings 'til 5:00, but here are the current versions. Perhaps you should wait to share them until he replies.

These reflect a few minor changes since the last versions you saw. Paige has reviewed and I believe she plans to run them by with our EFO before sending to our DM.

For next steps, I believe both DMs and ministers need to sign off, then, pending direction to the contrary, the two DMOs will need to coordinate who will arrange with cabinet operations to have it added to an cabinet agenda.

Randall

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 2:51 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)
Importance: High

Hi Daryn – if your review is complete I need to send these to our executive as well (Elan, Steve, Tara)

Am I good to do that now?

What do you see as the approval for these prior to Cabinet forwarding?

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, August 5, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Daryn,

Revised versions attached.

Randall

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2016 2:35 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Randall,

s.12,s.13

Thoughts? It'd be great if we can clean these up for Paige's review next week. I also wouldn't mind passing them past Kerry before she goes too (which is Monday).

dm

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2016 11:12 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Sherwood, David FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Daryn,

Attached are the latest drafts of the concept papers. They reflect feedback provided by David Sherwood and Kina He (see below). David and Kina have not yet seen these versions but I believe I have reflected their feedback accurately, as well as making some editorial changes.

A couple changes to note:

- s.12,s.13
-

Thanks,

Randall

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 11:19 AM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Sherwood, David FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Thanks, Kina.

Just to confirm, should I check with Daphna to get clarification on the tax impact or will you? I am happy to do it since I initially contacted Paul Flanagan about it in March, but I would like to confirm your preference first.

Please let me know.

Thanks,
Randall

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2016 10:07 AM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Sherwood, David FIN:EX; Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Randall,

s.12,s.13

Please let me know if you have any questions or I can be of further assistance.

Thanks!

Kina He, MBA
Program Financial Manager
Ministry of Finance - Revenue Solutions Branch
Phone: 250-356-0250 Email:kina.he@gov.bc.ca

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From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 3:11 PM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Kina.

s.12,s.13

Thanks,
Randall

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:33 AM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Randall,

Some questions about the concept papers.
s.12,s.13

Thanks.

Kina

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 9:38 AM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Kina,
s.12,s.13

Thanks,
Randall

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 4:43 PM

To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX

Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Randall,

s.12,s.13

Thanks!

Kina

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 9:52 AM

To: He, Kina FIN:EX

Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

That's terrific! Thanks, Kina.

Some additional background on this. The ideas for the concept papers were discussed by the SABC Governance Committee, so David is aware. If he is around this week you may want to have him review the drafts before sending them back to me. If that's not possible it can probably wait until after Daryn reviews them. Either way, David and Daryn should review them before they proceed to ministry executives.

Thanks,
Randall

From: He, Kina FIN:EX

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 9:36 AM

To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX

Subject: RE: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Randall,

Thanks for sending the attachments. I believe Janine should have shared the documents with me but too busy last week to do so, but she did mention that we need to review the math for these documents. I'll do the review and provide feedback by this Thursday. Is the timeline ok for you? Let me know.

Thanks!

Kina He, MBA

Program Financial Manager

Ministry of Finance - Revenue Solutions Branch

Phone: 250-356-0250 Email:kina.he@gov.bc.ca

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From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 9:28 AM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Kina,

Did Janine share these documents with you? If so, do you know what their status is? Daryn is back next week and I need to have them ready for his review on Tuesday.

Thanks,
Randall

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 9:20 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: Concept papers: student loan interest (DRAFT)

Hi Janine,
s.12,s.13

Thanks,
Randall

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 4:23 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Tax expenditure: Education Tax Credit

Hi Daryn,
s.12,s.13

Some details are below but they were interspersed with a couple phone calls.

Let me know if I need to do anything more with this.

Randall

From: Mills, Daphna FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 3:20 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Tax expenditure: Education Tax Credit

Hi Randall,

s.12,s.13

Please feel free to call if you want a more detailed description of [all the caveats in] the methodology.

Thanks,
Daphna

Daphna Mills
Tax Policy Analyst
Policy & Legislation Division
Ministry of Finance
Tel. 250-387-3926
Email: daphna.mills@gov.bc.ca

From: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 2:00 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Cc: Mills, Daphna FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Tax expenditure: Education Tax Credit

s.12,s.13

If you need this refined, let Daphna know and she can help you out.

Paul

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 12:56 PM
To: Flanagan, Paul FIN:EX
Subject: Tax expenditure: Education Tax Credit

Hi Paul,

Not sure you'll recall but I was your TB analyst until a couple months ago. I'm now with Advanced Education, and I'm trying to track down some info related to tax expenditures in the recent federal budget.

As you're probably aware, the federal budget announcement included some new student financial aid initiatives that will be funded in part by eliminating the education and textbook tax credits (but not tuition credits). s.13

I'd appreciate any help you can offer.

Thanks,

Randall Gerlach
Director of Policy & Program Planning
Student Services Branch
BC Ministry of Advanced Education
250-387-6191

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; Butler, Teresa AVED:EX; Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX; Landry, Dara M FIN:EX
Cc: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Attachments: Program staff information - Budget 2017 - Fixed Student Contribution.docx; Program staff information - Budget 2017 - interest rate reduction.docx; RE: Student Loan contribution rate

Importance: High

Hi everyone,
Inserted are the Q and As related to the FSC (prepared by AVED) and interest rate change (Prepared by RSB)
Also inserted is the original TBS note and the edited version by Randall and I.

Steve – Daryn had asked when FIN-GCPE (Sonja) may be releasing and info so that he could coordinate his GCPE rep also. Can you please let us all know or if you'd like me to call and ask her directly?
Thanks!
Janine

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Looks good Janine, thanks! Please send on to AVED.

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 7:59 AM
To: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: FW: Budget info for staff
Importance: High

Hi Janine – see note from Sonya, can you/your team take a look at to add any Q&A you think we or HPAS might receive?
Due back to me at noon.

Thanks!

Steve

From: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:57 PM
To: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Subject: RE: Budget info for staff

Awesome. Thanks.

I have very limited information on the changes for student loans, so I've only included three key messages. Maybe someone with more knowledge of the changes could add a couple of questions and answers to help phone staff?

The MSP info I've also sent to Suzanne Anderson for a review on Monday. But perhaps you are in a better position to anticipate the types of questions phone staff are likely to get.

Thanks!

From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:54 PM
To: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Budget info for staff

Sonja you can send them to myself, I will coordinate with the team to get the feedback to you

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2017, at 12:27 PM, Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX <Sonja.Zoeller@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Steve,

I've just gotten around to preparing some information about MSP and student loan changes in budget for frontline staff.

Who can I send those to for quick review on Monday?

Thanks!

Sonja Zoeller
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Finance
Direct: 250-387-1248
Cell: 250-812-6844

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

This e-mail was intended for a specific recipient. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure. Any privilege that exists is not waived. If you are not the intended recipient, do not distribute it to another person or use it for any other purpose. Please delete it and advise me by return e-mail or telephone.

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 5:04 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: interest rate

Honestly I don't know but am thinking it might be to align with other program changes.

Kina He
Program Financial Manager
StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Ministry of Finance - Revenue Solutions Branch
Phone: 250-356-0250 Email:kina.he@gov.bc.ca

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From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:19 PM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX
Subject: RE: interest rate

Hi Kina, just to clarify, why would the change be effective Aug 1 rather than April 1? I realize Aug 1 is the date of program year launch, but that shouldn't concern repayment, should it? For example, if the Bank of Canada reduces prime rate, the change goes into effect immediately, doesn't it?

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:16 PM
To: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: interest rate

Hi Randall,

s.13

Thanks!

Kina He

Program Financial Manager

StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance

Ministry of Finance - Revenue Solutions Branch

Phone: 250-356-0250 Email:kina.he@gov.bc.ca

Notice of Confidentiality: This message is private and confidential intended for the addressee only. If you received this message in error, please contact the sender immediately and destroy all copies of this transmission. Any copying, re-transmission, distribution, disclosure or other use of this information including taking or omitting any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited.

Page 096

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.14;s.16

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 9:16 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Both of you have done such a phenomenal job pulling this work together... I'm just happy to add some value. 😊

Thx
dm

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 9:13 AM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Thanks, Daryn.
s.12,s.13

I'll incorporate all the edits and send it back over to him. Thanks everybody.
Susan

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 8:56 AM
To: van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX; Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Morning – here are my edits... Please feel free to wordsmith anything that does not make sense.
s.12,s.13

Thx
dm

From: van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 8:25 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

I've made a couple of edits, highlighted in blue.

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 5:56 PM
To: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Daryn.

I received this from David and have done some initial revisions. Mostly just clarification, but there were a few incorrect bits. He had some trouble with the Completion Grant, which is understandable.

My additions are yellow highlighted, proposed deletions are struck out, and comments are in red.

Hopefully you will have some time free to review and make edits -- as mentioned, he'd like it back tomorrow.
Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Policy Analyst
Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
(250) 952-7494

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 5:13 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

I just did a revision after initial comments from my manager. Here's the revised text (sorry if you started reviewing the earlier text but there aren't too many changes – just a few additions):

s.12,s.13

Page 099

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Susan,

As requested, I've pasted the background I've put together based on what you've provided. Can you let me know if I've made any mistakes?

Thanks,

David.

s.12,s.13

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2016 9:52 AM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX

Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit follow-up

Good morning David.

Attached, please find a document describing s.12,s.13
s.12,s.13

The document also contains the supporting material you have already received by email on December 5. Note, one or two minor revisions have been made to that supporting material, and this version should be considered the version of record.

I hope this will provide you with the information you need to draft your note. I'm available to answer questions or to provide further information as needed.

Best wishes,
Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Policy Analyst
Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
(250) 952-7494

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2016 4:33 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: Fwd: Education tax credit follow-up

As discussed.

Daryn Martiniuk
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Karp, David FIN:EX" <David.Karp@gov.bc.ca>
Date: December 1, 2016 at 4:29:58 PM PST
To: "Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX" <Daryn.Martiniuk@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Daryn,

s.12,s.13

I'm working towards a deadline of Wednesday – if you don't think you'll be able to get me information before then, please let me know. I'm happy to discuss further.

Thanks!

- David

David Karp

Strategic Advisor | Tax Policy Branch | Ministry of Finance
107 – 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8
Tel. 250-387-5044 | Email: David.Karp@gov.bc.ca

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

SFA Awards Information

Program Year	Borrowers	Awards	BCSL Awarded	CSL Awarded	Total Award
2015/16	55,143	73,347	\$194,041,631	\$307,364,825	\$501,406,456
2014/15	59,710	80,936	\$212,314,215	\$337,812,056	\$550,126,271
2013/14	62,310	84,019	\$217,425,734	\$339,815,875	\$557,241,609
2012/13	63,355	84,757	\$220,887,641	\$344,815,054	\$565,702,695
2011/12	65,129	86,428	\$232,173,545	\$361,257,035	\$593,430,580
2010/11	64,453	85,144	\$231,100,424	\$358,025,520	\$589,125,944
2009/10	61,258	79,732	\$220,171,502	\$340,519,425	\$560,690,927
2008/09	53,991	68,076	\$194,073,465	\$318,051,010	\$512,124,475
2007/08	51,872	63,798	\$186,708,493	\$307,164,109	\$493,872,602
2006/07	54,426	67,025	\$197,796,267	\$321,764,433	\$519,560,700
2005/06	58,480	70,969	\$211,855,319	\$352,375,519	\$564,230,838
2004/05	60,795	73,966	\$223,402,878	\$309,852,132	\$533,255,010
2003/04	68,018	82,943	\$148,022,217	\$346,954,513	\$494,976,730
2002/03	66,190	78,589	\$136,824,105	\$326,098,640	\$462,922,745
2001/02	66,752	77,911	\$91,904,074	\$312,404,651	\$404,308,725
2000/01	64,387	74,913	\$88,908,507	\$295,798,123	\$384,706,630

5. Amount of student loan interest paid in the most recent year for which data is available, as well as what the prime interest rate was that year (FIN December, 2016)

Fiscal Year	Interest Rate	Interest Rate Income
2016/2016	Prime (2.7%) +2.5%	\$35,000,000

6. Background info on what the key provincial grants/bursaries/etc. are for students (participation and financial information from Estimates February, 2016).

BC Completion Grant

- The B.C. Completion Grant helps B.C. students manage student loan debt loads. This grant targets those who borrow substantial amounts of money for their post-secondary education, and rewards them for the successful completion of a year's studies by eliminating a percentage of their student loan debt.
- SABC sets a yearly loan reduction threshold for all B.C. post-secondary students based on the number of students who are eligible for the B.C. Completion Grant and the program's budget for that year. Receipt of the B.C. Completion Grant reduces the principal balance of a student's loan to that threshold; any provincial loan a student has above that threshold amount will be forgiven upon successful completion of that year's studies.
- The completion grant supports roughly 22,000 students per year allocating roughly \$30 million to eligible students.

BC Loan Forgiveness Program

- The BC Loan forgiveness Program supports graduates with outstanding Canada-BC Student Loans that are working in in-demand occupations in underserved communities, where access to health care is limited or with children in occupations where there is an identified shortage.
- SABC will pay off some or all of the outstanding BC portion of their Canada-BC Student Loan, over a 5-year term, depending on hours worked per year.
- 2015/2016 program year saw approximately 1,200 recipients and approximately \$2,500,000 in expenditures.

BC Access Grant for Labour Market Priorities

- The BC Access Grant for Labour Market Priorities provides non-repayable grant funding to encourage B.C. students to attend targeted high priority programs. This grant supports B.C.'s Skills for Jobs Blueprint, which seeks to equip B.C.'s workforce with the education and skillsets necessary to meet the growing demand of BC's industrial and resource based economies.
- This grant provides up to \$16,400 annually, supporting direct costs associated with tools and relocation, as well as outstanding student loans.
- Approximately 1,400 students have received over \$6 million in support to date.

BC Permanent Disability Programs

- BC operates a suite of programs that target students with permanent disabilities: BC Supplemental Bursary for Students with Disabilities; BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities; Severe Permanent Disability Benefit; BC Access Grant for Deaf Students; and the Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities.

- The programs provide a comprehensive package of financial aid to students with permanent disabilities to remove disability-related barriers and facilitate access to post-secondary education.
- 2015/2016 program year saw approximately 3,000 recipients of PD grants and approximately \$7 million in expenditures.

AVED use options for revenue resulting from potential elimination of Education Tax Credit

The Ministry of Advanced Education administers StudentAid BC, providing financial assistance to B.C. students pursuing a post-secondary education. Financial assistance consists of a mix of an integrated Canada-B.C. student loan and Federal and Provincial non-repayable grants, tailored to individual student circumstances and need. Student loans are interest-free while the student is in-study; interest (at the current rate of prime +2.5%) begins to accrue once studies end, and repayment, administered by the Ministry of Finance, begins six months after completion of studies, with repayment typically occurring over a 9.5 year period.

The federal government and a number of other provinces have recently made notable enhancements to their student loan programs, and in many cases the costs were partially or entirely offset by eliminating education-related tax credits similar to tax credits that exist in B.C. s.12,s.13

s.12,s.13

s.12,s.13

Page 109 to/à Page 111

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

4. Background data on the number of students that have BC student loans and \$ amount of student loans (AVED August, 2016).

Student Financial Assistance Awards Information					
Program Year	Borrowers	Awards	BCSL Awarded*	CSL Awarded*	Total Award*
2015/16	55,143	73,347	\$194,041,631	\$307,364,825	\$501,406,456
2014/15	59,710	80,936	\$212,314,215	\$337,812,056	\$550,126,271
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* Amount awarded reflects loan amounts only and does not include non-repayable (grant) funding

5. Background info on what the key provincial grants/bursaries/etc. are for students (participation and financial information from Estimates February, 2016).

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- The B.C. Completion Grant helps B.C. students manage student loan debt loads. This grant targets those who borrow substantial amounts of money for their post-secondary education, and rewards them for the successful completion of a year's studies by eliminating a portion of their student loan debt.
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student's loan to that threshold; any provincial loan a student has above that threshold amount will be forgiven upon successful completion of that years' studies.

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Fiscal Year	Interest Rate	Interest Rate Income
2016/2016	Prime (2.7%) +2.5%	\$35,000,000

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 8:55 AM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX
Cc: van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi David.

I'm at my desk for most of the day today, so I should be reachable by phone. I can certainly walk you through the needs assessment process and how the fixed contribution model impacts that.

If you are seeking information on the numbers provided by FIN (which is anything to do with bad debt expense, incremental costs, etc. Tables 1,2, and 6 in the background material), Kina He in your ministry is our source for those numbers and could describe to you how she arrived at them. You might want to connect with her directly.

Susan

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2016 9:16 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: Re: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Susan and Burke,

Sorry for the belated reply — I've been out of the office unexpectedly this week.

This information looks excellent. I think you've covered everything I was looking for.

Susan, I'll probably try to get in touch with you tomorrow afternoon to talk about a couple items you touched on in your note (particularly the relationship between federal and provincial needs assessments, and how the savings from bad debt is arrived at). I'm very unfamiliar with student loans so I want to make sure I understand them correctly.

So I don't think further information will be needed; I'll just be in touch to make sure I properly understand the information you provided.

Thanks for turning this around so quickly!

Cheers,

David.

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: December-06-16 9:51 AM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit follow-up

Good morning David.

Attached, please find a document describing options to repurpose potential revenue realized from an elimination of the education tax credit, including an articulation of AVED's preferred option. The document also contains the supporting material you have already received by email on December 5. Note, one or two minor revisions have been made to that supporting material, and this version should be considered the version of record.

I hope this will provide you with the information you need to draft your note. I'm available to answer questions or to provide further information as needed.

Best wishes,
Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Policy Analyst
Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
(250) 952-7494

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2016 4:33 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: Fwd: Education tax credit follow-up

As discussed.

Daryn Martiniuk
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Karp, David FIN:EX" <David.Karp@gov.bc.ca>
Date: December 1, 2016 at 4:29:58 PM PST
To: "Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX" <Daryn.Martiniuk@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Daryn,

s.12,s.13

Thanks!

- David

David Karp

Strategic Advisor | Tax Policy Branch | Ministry of Finance

107 – 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8

Tel. 250-387-5044 | Email: David.Karp@gov.bc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 11:27 AM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Thanks Susan, I appreciate the revisions. I have a few follow-up questions/comments:

s.12,s.13

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2016 10:01 AM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi David.

Daryn and I have reviewed the text and we've clarified a few things.^{s.13} is a tough one to explain succinctly, and works a bit differently than how you described it, so most of the edits are on that part, along with some clarification on s.13

Sorry it's a bit of a mess. Thought about putting it into a Word doc and tracking changes, but then thought better of it. Thanks for the opportunity to review and provide edits. Let me know if you have any questions. I'm away in a meeting 10-12, but back at my desk after that if you have follow-up.

Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Policy Analyst

Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch

B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education

(250) 952-7494

From: Karp, David FIN:EX

Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 5:13 PM

To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX

Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

I just did a revision after initial comments from my manager. Here's the revised text (sorry if you started reviewing the earlier text but there aren't too many changes – just a few additions):

s.12,s.13

Page 119

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

From: Karp, David FIN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Susan,

As requested, I've pasted the background I've put together based on what you've provided. Can you let me know if I've made any mistakes?

Thanks,

David.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has identified several options that could be pursued if government wishes to eliminate the education tax credit and allocate the additional revenue to other post-secondary support programs. s.12,s.13

s.12,s.13

From: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2016 9:52 AM
To: Karp, David FIN:EX
Cc: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX; Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX; van Drimmelen, Burke AVED:EX
Subject: FW: Education tax credit follow-up

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I hope this will provide you with the information you need to draft your note. I'm available to answer questions or to provide further information as needed.

Best wishes,
Susan

Susan Karim, M.Ed. | Policy Analyst
Policy and Program Planning Unit, Student Services Branch
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education
(250) 952-7494

From: Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2016 4:33 PM
To: Karim, Susan AVED:EX
Cc: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Subject: Fwd: Education tax credit follow-up

As discussed.

Daryn Martiniuk
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Karp, David FIN:EX" <David.Karp@gov.bc.ca>
Date: December 1, 2016 at 4:29:58 PM PST
To: "Martiniuk, Daryn AVED:EX" <Daryn.Martiniuk@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Education tax credit follow-up

Hi Daryn,

s.12,s.13

I'm working towards a deadline of Wednesday – if you don't think you'll be able to get me information before then, please let me know. I'm happy to discuss further.

Thanks!

- David

David Karp

Strategic Advisor | Tax Policy Branch | Ministry of Finance

107 – 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8

Tel. 250-387-5044 | Email: David.Karp@gov.bc.ca

Dennison, Kelly AVED:EX

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:41 AM
To: He, Kina FIN:EX; Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Subject: RE: Mechanism for reducing the BC Student Loan interest rate

Importance: High

Hi Stuart – THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL please – not to be shared at all. It's an expected Budget announcement that is not publicly known until after Budget Locke up. If that means you"" wait until after Budget day to work on this I agree.

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Revenue Solutions Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

From: He, Kina FIN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Timewell, Stuart AVED:EX
Cc: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Subject: Mechanism for reducing the BC Student Loan interest rate
Importance: High

Hi Stuart,

As you know, BC will reduce the student loan interest rate from prime + 2.5% to prime (ie. 2.7%). We'd like to work together with AVED to be sure the conveyance of the interest rate change to the students is covered off after the budget announcement on Feb 21. s.13,s.14

s.13,s.14

s.13,s.14

For your information. I suspect AVED is already rolling on this given the FSC part will be announced on Feb. 21 too. It'd be great if you could provide some information about how AVED will roll on the interest rate change and let me know how RSB can help. We have begun internally preparing the POA for the agreement with CSLP to request the changes for interest rate calculations.

Thanks.

Kina He
Program Financial Manager
StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance
Ministry of Finance - Revenue Solutions Branch
Phone: 250-356-0250 Email:kina.he@gov.bc.ca

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From: Pleva, Steve W FIN:EX
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 9:43 AM
To: Windsor, Devon FIN:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX

From: Gerlach, Randall AVED:EX
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 4:21 PM
To: Callow, Sharlane AVED:EX; He, Kina FIN:EX
Cc: Karim, Susan AVED:EX; Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX; Demianchuk, Janette FIN:EX
Subject: Policy priorities list for sharing with ASAP
Attachments: SABC Policy Priorities List Sept 2016 (for ASAP).docx

Hi Sharlane and Kina,

In advance of next week's meeting with Gail and Stephanie, I'd like to share with them a redacted version of our policy priorities list. I've asked their advice on what policy work should be undertaken for the year ahead, so to facilitate that I want to let them know what we've already identified.

In the attached version of the list, I've deleted in track changes what I think are the items we shouldn't share but I'm hoping you can review and confirm.

As I'll be away after tomorrow, could you please let Susan know by end of day Wed if you have any changes? I'll ask Susan to incorporate your feedback and send the list to Gail and Stephanie by Thursday.

Thanks,
Randall



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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

From: [Grouette, Janine FIN:EX](#)
To: diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
Cc: john.hartin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; anne.gabriel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; [Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX](#); [Bersky, Clyde FIN:EX](#); [He, Kina FIN:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Interest rate
Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:36:15 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Yes thank you for this follow up.
Kindly,

Janine Grouette
Director StudentAid BC and Contract Governance
Office:259-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0893

On Apr 11, 2017, at 4:28 AM, "diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca" <diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca> wrote:

Hi Janine,

Please find below the Service Provider's response to the interest rate issue;

<image001.png>

Can we now consider this issue as closed?

Please get back to me.

Thank you

Diane Séguin

Agent de Programmes/Program officer
Mise en oeuvre stratégique et relations avec les fournisseurs/Strategic
Implementation & Service Provider Relations
Exécution du programme/Program Delivery
Programme canadien de prêts aux étudiants/Canada Student Loans Program
Tél/Tel: 819-654-8360
Courriel/E-mail: diane.m.seguin@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca
<image002.jpg>


-----Original Message-----

From: Demers, Dominic D [NC]

Sent: 2017-04-03 8:47 AM

To: 'Grouette, Janine FIN:EX'

Cc: Hartin, John JDE [NC]; Seguin, Diane D [NC]; Gabriel, Anne

 Subject: RE: interest rate

Hello Janine,

s.22

The POA is clear and

D+H even reiterated this in the assumptions section.

Diane, can you please re-confirm with Adrienne and ask her to ensure s.22

s.22 Please advise when done.

Merci

Dom

Dominic Demers

Directeur, Exécution du programme / Director, Program Delivery

Programme canadien de prêt aux étudiants / Canada Student Loans Program

Emploi et Développement social Canada / Employment and Social Development

Canada

Tél/Tel: 819-654-8438 Courriel/E-mail: dominic.demers@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX [<mailto:Janine.Grouette@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: March 30, 2017 7:50 PM

To: Demers, Dominic D [NC]

Subject: Fwd: interest rate

Hi Dom,

I need your help to fix this. In the questions associated with our poa we've been very clear the interest rate change was to the variable rate only.

Can you please confirm the d and h will remedy their misinformation in the market Thanks Janine

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX"

<Ben.Ferrel@gov.bc.ca<<mailto:Ben.Ferrel@gov.bc.ca>>>

Date: March 30, 2017 at 4:36:10 PM PDT


To: "Grouette, Janine FIN:EX"

<Janine.Grouette@gov.bc.ca<<mailto:Janine.Grouette@gov.bc.ca>>>

Subject: RE: interest rate

Hi Janine,

s.22

 Our meeting was focused on how the outreach services provided by D+H may be leveraged to assist institutions address poor repayment performance, and as the interest rate change is not my area of expertise I did not respond directly to her

comment.

s.22

How would you like to proceed in correcting this? s.22

s.22

s.22

If you would prefer the latter, could you please provide a suggestion in terms of what should be communicated at this time?

Thank you very much Janine, and my apologies if this is causing you grief.

Regards,
Ben

From: Grouette, Janine FIN:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 4:25 PM
To: Ferrel, Ben AVED:EX
Subject: interest rate
Importance: High

Hi there,
Devon shared that there may be some erroneous info being shared about our BC Student loan interest rates.

Can you please give me the details so that I can try to get this corrected? Thanks a lot!

Janine Grouette, CPA, CMA
Director StudentAid BC Finance and Contract Governance Revenue Solutions
Branch, Ministry of Finance

1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC
Office: 250-387-1199
Cell: 250-216-0894

