Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX

From:	Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent:	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:37 PM
To:	Burns, Susan G AEST:EX; Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX; Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX; Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX; Papadopoulos, James AEST:EX; Avendano, Christian AEST:EX; Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX
Cc:	Thorkelson, Meaghan GCPE:EX
Subject:	BC Tech Association - blog post

2,900 New Tech-Related Post-Secondary Spaces Announced by Provincial Government Today

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1

Page 02

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From:	Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent:	Monday, January 15, 2018 4:54 PM
To:	Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX; Brewster, Kevin AEST:EX; Burns, Susan G AEST:EX; Butler, Teresa MCF:EX; Dey, Krysta AEST:EX; Dreilich, Bryan AEST:EX; Edwardson, Jamie AEST:EX; Furry, Jennifer AEST:EX; Grills, Kiran AEST:EX; Higgs, Jeremy AEST:EX; Hodges, Nell AEST:EX; Hull, Deborah AEST:EX; Hurst, Trevor AEST:EX; La Rose, Yael AEST:EX; Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX; Loughran, Tony D AEST:EX; Lust, Monica AEST:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn SDPR:EX; McConnan, Kelly AEST:EX; Muter, David AEST:EX; Nielsen, Melanie AEST:EX; Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX; Poole, Catherine AEST:EX; Portal, Vincent AEST:EX; Postans, James AEST:EX; Rogers, Dorothy AEST:EX; Sawchuk, Bindi AEST:EX; Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AEST:EX; Stock, Cathy AEST:EX; Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX; Wolsey, Ashley AEST:EX
Cc:	Thorkelson, Meaghan GCPE:EX
Subject:	Embargoed: AEST NR - Students and tech sector to benefit from tech-programming expansion - Jan. 16, 915am
Attachments:	2018AEST0008-000046.pdf

Embargoed for Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 915am.

Permalink: https://news.gov.bc.ca/16179

For Immediate Release
2018AEST0008-000046
Jan. 16, 2018

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

NEWS RELEASE
Students and tech sector to benefit from tech-programming expansion

SURREY - Students and the tech sector will benefit from thousands of additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia, announced Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

The tech sector in B.C., with more than 10,200 businesses, is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the provincial economy, generating $29 billion in revenue and employing over 106,000 people. The demand for skilled tech workers presents immense opportunities for British Columbia.

"We're helping students in British Columbia by improving access to education with thousands more tech spaces that include degree, diploma and certificate programs," said Mark. "Our vibrant tech sector supports good-paying jobs, like computer programmers, engineers and information system analysts. We are investing millions of dollars in the future creators of an innovative, strong and sustainable 21st-century economy."

In total, British Columbia will add about 2,900 tech-related spaces that are expected to result in 1,000 additional grads per year by 2023. Total provincial start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million.

"The number 1 concern for B.C.'s tech sector is access to skilled talent. By creating 2,900 new student spaces, your government is working to expand B.C.'s home-grown talent pool to support the sector's continued growth," said Bruce

1

Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology. "An increase in skilled tech workers will also boost B.C.'s diverse manufacturing sector, helping to create more jobs and increase exports that drive our economy."

The 2,900 additional spaces are in new and expanded programs that include the following in the Lower Mainland:

* 440 spaces in undergraduate and graduate-level sustainable-energy engineering degrees at Simon Fraser University (SFU) Surrey

* 624 spaces in computer science and biomedical and manufacturing engineering degrees at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver campus)

* 300 spaces in information technology diplomas in cyber security, tech arts and new media at British Columbia Institute of Technology

* 40 spaces in a mechatronics and advanced manufacturing-technology diploma at Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Mark made the announcement during a visit to the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building under construction at SFU Surrey.

At SFU Surrey, there will be an additional 320 undergraduate spaces and 120 graduate spaces by 2021-22, expected to result in 140 additional graduates per year by 2023.

"This important investment will enable Simon Fraser University and other post-secondary institutions to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, and that British Columbia requires to build a strong, sustainable economy," said Andrew Petter, president, SFU. "The support provided to SFU, specifically, will create a program that will help position B.C. as a global leader in clean-tech and sustainable energy."

Investment decisions were made based on increasing programming that is in high demand from industry, enhancing pathways for transfer students, addressing regions of high demand and additional niche programming to build on the post-secondary education ecosystem supporting the tech sector.

"Today's announcement is great news for B.C.'s tech sector. Access to talent has emerged as the single greatest barrier to growth for B.C. tech companies and for companies in all sectors that embrace technology to accelerate the growth of their businesses," said Jill Tipping, president and CEO of the BC Tech Association. "By proactively planning for a tech-centric future with these new learning spaces, we enable people to develop diverse skills and not only graduate, but thrive in high-paying, progressive jobs, all around British Columbia."

Tech-sector workers earn weekly average salaries almost 85% higher than the average wage in B.C.

"The Government of British Columbia's support for training of skilled workers is key to a vibrant and innovative economy in the province," said Alejandro Adem, Mitacs CEO and scientific director. "We look forward to working with local businesses and post-secondary institutions to create training and research opportunities to ensure up-and-coming tech innovators can easily transition into the job market."

About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. - such as computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers - are expected by 2027.

"This announcement renews and reinforces my confidence that B.C. is the right place to grow a global-technology business," said Laurie Schultz, president and CEO of ACL. "Having the right people with the right skills is the number one thing all businesses look for when establishing themselves in a region, and with the projected growth of B.C.'s tech sector, investment in education will be the key to pushing that growth forward."

"Our growth is largely dependent on access to a local, well-educated workforce," noted Edoardo De Martin, Microsoft Vancouver. "The industry is at a critical point in its transformation where investment in post-secondary education is key to continued success, and we applaud this new initiative by the B.C. government."

Post-secondary institutions in B.C. award more than 10,000 credentials annually in programs that support the tech sector: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Over the next four years, the Province will invest more than $200 million in tech- and science-related post-secondary capital projects. The five-storey, 15,000-square-metre Sustainable Energy Engineering Building at Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus will allow the university to expand its research in the energy, hydrogen and electricity sectors, in addition to supporting SFU's sustainable-energy engineering degrees. It is funded by the Government of Canada's Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, Province of B.C., SFU and private donors for a total project value of $126 million.

Regional seat allocations will be announced shortly.

Learn More:

For the 2017 edition of the B.C. Labour Market Outlook, visit: http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

A backgrounder follows.

Contact:

Meaghan Thorkelson
Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Meaghan.thorkelson@gov.bc.ca
250 356-2277

BACKGROUNDER
Additional tech seats in the Lower Mainland

Simon Fraser University (Surrey) - new programming

* Start-up funding of $500,000 in 2017-18 to help ramp up to a total of 320 spaces in undergraduate sustainable-energy engineering degrees. This is expected to produce 80 additional graduates per year by 2023.

* Start-up funding of $300,000 in 2017-18 to support an eventual total of 120 graduate sustainable-energy engineering degrees. This is expected to produce 60 additional graduates per year by 2023.

University of British Columbia - new and expanded programming

* Start-up funding of $600,000 in 2017-18, in part to support the eventual creation of 624 spaces in computer science and biomedical and manufacturing engineering degrees at the Vancouver campus. This is expected to lead to 156 additional graduates per year by 2023.

British Columbia Institute of Technology (Downtown Vancouver) - expanded programming

* Start-up funding of $300,000 in 2017-18 to support the eventual creation of 300 spaces in short-term information-technology diplomas, including cybersecurity and digital arts. This is expected to produce 150 additional graduates per year by 2021.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Surrey) - expanded programming

* Start-up funding of $200,000 in 2017-18 to support an eventual total of 40 spaces in mechatronics and advanced manufacturing-technology diplomas. This is expected to generate 20 additional graduates per year by 2020.

Contact:

Meaghan Thorkelson
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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect

![British Columbia logo]

NEWS RELEASE

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

BACKGROUNDER

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Contact:

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect

From:	Steenkamp, Philip <philip.steenkamp@ubc.ca>
Sent:	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:53 AM
To:	Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX
Cc:	Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX
Subject:	Fwd: UBC expands tech training with investment from province

This went out to 70,000 people this morning. We have also repurposed this with photos and sent out on all social media channels. We anticipate a significant reach, in the 100s of thousands.

Philip

Philip Steenkamp
Vice-President | External Relations
The University of British Columbia
6328 Memorial Road | Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z2
Phone 604 822 6330 | Fax 604 822 3861
philip.steenkamp@ubc.ca | www.ubc.ca | www.externalrelations.ubc.ca

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** UBC Media Release <public.affairs@ubc.ca>
> **Date:** January 16, 2018 at 9:23:33 AM PST
> **To:** <philip.steenkamp@ubc.ca>
> **Subject: UBC expands tech training with investment from province**
> **Reply-To:** UBC Media Release <public.affairs@ubc.ca>

The University of British Columbia | Media Release | Jan. 16, 2018

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View it in your browser.

Media Release | Jan. 16, 2018

UBC expands tech training with investment from province

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From:	Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent:	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:58 AM
To:	Burns, Susan G AEST:EX; Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX; Brewster, Kevin AEST:EX; Butler, Teresa MCF:EX; Dey, Krysta AEST:EX; Dreilich, Bryan AEST:EX; Edwardson, Jamie AEST:EX; Furry, Jennifer AEST:EX; Grills, Kiran AEST:EX; Higgs, Jeremy AEST:EX; Hodges, Nell AEST:EX; Hull, Deborah AEST:EX; Hurst, Trevor AEST:EX; La Rose, Yael AEST:EX; Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX; Loughran, Tony D AEST:EX; Lust, Monica AEST:EX; Martiniuk, Daryn SDPR:EX; McConnan, Kelly AEST:EX; Muter, David AEST:EX; Nielsen, Melanie AEST:EX; Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX; Poole, Catherine AEST:EX; Portal, Vincent AEST:EX; Postans, James AEST:EX; Rogers, Dorothy AEST:EX; Sawchuk, Bindi AEST:EX; Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX; Soo, Rosilyn L AEST:EX; Stock, Cathy AEST:EX; Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX; Wolsey, Ashley AEST:EX
Subject:	Media Availability: Mark - technology spaces

Media Availability
Mark confcall SFU Surrey Campus
16-Jan-2018 09:14

Quoted: Melanie Mark

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Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX

From:	Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent:	Monday, January 15, 2018 9:23 PM
To:	Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX; Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX; Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX; Burns, Susan G AEST:EX
Subject:	Press Release - Jan. 16 Tech Announcement
Attachments:	Press Release - Jan. 16 Tech Announcement FINAL 1.docx; ATT00001.txt

RUCBC news release attached

1

Technology Talent: Investing in Students and B.C.'s Future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DUPLICATE

The Research Universities Council of BC is putting out the attached news release shortly after 3pm.

BCIT will have a news release to share shortly before noon.

UNBC and CNC are hosting a media event at 130pm to drive media coverage. They have a letter of greetings from Minister that their provost will read out.

TRU is live-streaming the event at 230pm: https://livestream.com/TRU/Live

UVic is putting out an online news brief at 3pm linking to our news release.

Technology Talent: Investing in Students and B.C.'s Future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From: Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 10:17 AM
To: Mark, Melanie AEST:EX
Cc: Papadopoulos, James AEST:EX; Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Subject: Fwd: UBC expands tech training with investment from province

Hi - This went out to 70,000 people this morning. We - repurposed this with photos and sent out on all social media channels. Anticipate a significant reach, in the 100s of thousands.

Rodney - can please track all the PSI comm activities as well. Thx

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** UBC Media Release <public.affairs@ubc.ca>
> **Date:** January 16, 2018 at 9:23:33 AM PST
> **To:** <philip.steenkamp@ubc.ca>
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The University of British Columbia | Media Release | Jan. 16, 2018

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UBC expands tech training with investment from province

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Technology Talent: Investing in Students and B.C.'s Future

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A contrast to the SFU column in Surrey Now.

Tuesday's announcement at Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus by Advanced Education Skills and Training Minister Melanie Mark was cheered by the post-secondary and tech sectors across the province.
https://www.surreynowleader.com/opinion/column-tech-investment-in-sfu-surrey-helps-entire-community/

From: Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: UNBC Receives Funding to Launch New Civil and Environmental Engineering Programs

They could have thanked Minister mark and the ministry.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 16, 2018, at 2:46 PM, Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX <Rodney.Porter@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

From: Blair Littler [mailto:Blair.Littler@rucbc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 2:45 PM
To: Loughran, Tony D AEST:EX; Burns, Susan G AEST:EX; Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX; Brewster, Kevin AEST:EX
Subject: Fwd: UNBC Receives Funding to Launch New Civil and Environmental Engineering Programs

FYI

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** UNBC President <president@unbc.ca>
> **Date:** January 16, 2018 at 2:04:41 PM PST
> **Cc:** Anne Rushton <Anne.Rushton@unbc.ca>
> **Subject: UNBC Receives Funding to Launch New Civil and Environmental Engineering Programs**
>
> Good afternoon,

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Hi Shannon;

Latest tech materials attached.

We have reached out through JTT and BCTA about validators. Particularly, Hootsuite, Microsoft, Noon and Saltworks. BCTA do not issue news releases but they are pushing out a blog post on Tuesday afternoon.

- Itinerary for SFU
- Itinerary for TRU
- Key messages
- Q&As
- SFU / Lower Mainland NR
- PG NR
- Victoria NR
- Kamloops NR
- Kelowna NR
- One pager breakdown of the seats for media
- Media rollout

Rodney Porter | Communications Director
Government Communications & Public Engagement
B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Mobile: 250.889.7494 |**email:** rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
Expansion of Tech Programming
Mezzanine, SFU Surrey Campus
250-13450 102 Ave, Surrey, BC

Date: Tuesday, January 16th, 2018　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Time: 8:30 a.m.**

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Indoor podium event at SFU Surrey Campus. Preceding announcement, Minister Mark will tour the construction site of the Sustainable Engineering Building then proceed to the Mezzanine area of SFU Surrey Campus to view displays of student projects. Minister Mark will then deliver remarks from the podium flanked by other speakers and students, followed by a media Q&A. Podium art: "Better Access for Students"
Key contacts	Media relations: Shruti Joshi Photographer: Provided by SFU Event Coordinator: Elena Banfield
7:00 a.m.	Elena Banfield and FMAV on site for technical setup.
8:20 a.m.	Minister Mark arrives at SFU Surrey Campus, met by Elena Banfield and SFU representatives at entrance to Mezzanine area off parking lot. Tour party proceeds to Environmental Engineering Building construction site. Note: tour party will be outfitted with hardhats and footwear upon arrival at site.
8:35 a.m.	Tour of Environmental Engineering Building construction site.
8:50 a.m.	Tour party returns to SFU Surrey Mezzanine, proceeds to briefing room.
8:52 a.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Elena Banfield Location: Meeting room 2746 • **Melanie Mark,** Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training • **Andrew Petter,** President, Simon Fraser University (EMCEE) • **Elder Margaret George,** SFU resident Elder • **Jill Tipping,** President, BC Tech Association • **XingLu Wang,** Mechatronic Systems Engineering student
8:59 a.m.	Speakers escorted to podium area.
9:00 a.m.	**Minister Mark** interacts with students and faculty who will have projects on display around podium area.
9:09 a.m.	**Minister Mark** and speakers gather at podium area.
9:10 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** welcomes guests and invites **Elder Margaret** to the podium to offer opening blessing.
9:11 a.m.	**Elder Margaret** offers opening blessing and territorial acknowledgment.
9:14 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** returns to podium, thanks Elder Margaret, and delivers introductory remarks. Following remarks, he introduces **Minister Mark**.
9:16 a.m.	**Minister Mark** delivers remarks.
9:19 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks Minister Mark, introduces **Jill Tipping.**
9:20 a.m.	**Jill Tipping** delivers remarks.

Event Coordinator – Elena Banfield
Cell: 604-842-0984

9:23 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks Jill Tipping, introduces **XingLu Wang.**
9:24 a.m.	**XingLu Wang** delivers remarks.
9:27 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks **Student Validator**, delivers closing remarks, and invites questions from media.
9:28 a.m.	**Media availability** - Moderated by Shruti Joshi.
9:38 a.m.	Event concludes. **Minister Mark** can return to project exhibits and engage with students.
10:00 a.m.	Minister Mark departs.

Event Coordinator – Elena Banfield
Cell: 604-842-0984

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
Expansion of Tech Programming
Mountain Room, Campus Activity Centre
Thompson Rivers University
805 TRU Way, Kamloops, B.C.

Date: Tuesday, January 16th, 2018   **Time: 2:00 p.m.**

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Indoor podium event at Thompson Rivers University Campus Activity Centre. Preceding announcement, Minister Mark will interact with engineering students who will have projects on display in the Alpine Room. Minister Mark will then proceed to the Mountain Room to deliver remarks. Set up: podium on riser, projection screens displaying images related to tech/engineering programs. 10 students will be gathered around the podium. Program-related banner and/or flags as backdrop.Podium art: "Better Access for Students"
Key contacts	Photographer: Provided by TRU Event Coordinator: Elena Banfield, GCPE, Kelly de Chantal, TRU
1:45 p.m.	Minister Mark arrives at TRU, met by Alan Shaver. Minister Mark proceeds to Campus Activity Centre, Alpine Room.
1:50 p.m.	Minister Mark visits with engineering students and observes projects in Alpine Room.
2:15 p.m.	Tour concludes, Minister Mark proceeds to Executive Room in Student Activity Centre.
2:20 p.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Kelly de Chantal Location: Executive Room • **Melanie Mark,** Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training • **Tom Dickinson,** Dean of Science, TRU (EMCEE) • **Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop,** Tshimshian and Heiltsuk Elder. • **Alan Shaver,** President and Vice-Chancellor, TRU • **Dan de Palma,** Vice-President Sales and Marketing, Streamline Transportation Technologies • **Lorelei Guidos**, TRU engineering student.
2:28 p.m.	Speakers escorted to podium area.
2:30 p.m.	Event begins. **Tom Dickinson** introduces himself, welcomes everyone then invites **Alan Shaver** to the podium to present the traditional gift of sage to Elder, **Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop,** Tshimshian and Heiltsuk Elder.
2:35 p.m.	**Alan Shaver** provides the territorial acknowledgment then presents the traditional gift of sage to Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop. Alan Shaver returns to the podium and invites Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop to the podium to provide the blessing.
2:37 p.m.	**Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop** offers blessing.
2:45 p.m.	**Tom Dickinson** thanks **Elder** and introduces **Minister Mark.**
2:46 p.m.	**Minister Mark** delivers remarks.

Event Coordinator – Elena Banfield
Cell: 604-842-0984

2:49 p.m.	**Alan Shaver** thanks Minister Mark
2:52 p.m.	**Tom Dickinson** thanks Minister Mark and invites **Dan de Palma-** the industry representative. Vice-President Sales and Marketing at Streamline Transportation Technologies to the podium to deliver remarks.
2:55 p.m.	**Dan de Palma** deliver remarks.
2:58 p.m.	**Tom Dickinson** thanks Engineering business representative and introduces engineering student **Lorelei Guidos** to the podium to say a few words.
2:59 p.m.	**Lorelei Guidos** delivers remarks.
3:00 p.m.	**Tom Dickinson** thanks Minister Mark and gives his remarks, and invites guests to enjoy light refreshments.
3:01 p.m.	**Media availability,** informal scrum style, with support from Darshan Lindsay (TRU).
3:05 p.m.	Mix and Mingle with guests.
3:30 p.m.	Event concludes.

Key Messages – Expanding tech programming
January 16, 2018

- **To obtain good-paying, 21st century jobs, people need access to affordable and relevant education and training opportunities.**

- **We're adding 2,900 tech-related spaces throughout B.C. that will produce 1,000 additional tech-grads a year by 2023 to improve access to training and education, while supporting the sector with more home grown talent.**

- **The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training will fund $4.4 million in 2017-18. This is expected to ramp up to $42 million a year.**

- **B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector. The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.**

- **Relevant tech programming in areas from software, electrical and biomedical engineering to cybersecurity, mechatronics and advanced manufacturing has been added at institutions throughout B.C.**

- **To determine the best locations and program details, we listened to students, post-secondary and industry partners as well as studying regional labour market demands and upcoming high-demand jobs.**

- **We will be announcing additional niche programming in the coming weeks and months.**

- **Premier John Horgan and our government are creating a B.C. that works for people by making informed decisions that allow them to follow their passions and reach their full potential at home, in the community and in the workplace.**

- **Over 83,400 tech-related jobs openings are expected by 2027. Jobs like computer programmers, engineers, information system analysts and software designers.**

- **The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fast growing sectors of our economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.**

NEWS RELEASE

Students and tech sector to benefit from tech-programming expansion

SURREY – Students and the tech sector in need of skilled workers will benefit from thousands of additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout B.C, announced Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy, employing over 106,000 people, and is home to more than 10,200 businesses. This demand for skilled workers presents immense opportunities for British Columbia to build upon.

"We're helping students in British Columbia by improving access to education with thousands more spaces that include degree, diploma and certificate programs," said Mark. "Our vibrant tech sector supports good paying jobs, like computer programmers, engineers and information system analysts. We are investing millions of dollars in the future creators of an innovative, strong and sustainable 21st century economy." APPROVED

In total, British Columbia will add about 2,900 tech-related spaces that is expected to result in 1,000 additional grads per year by 2023. Total provincial start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million.

"The number one concern for B.C.'s tech sector is access to skilled talent. By creating 2,900 new student spaces, your government is working to expand B.C.'s home-grown talent pool to support the sector's continued growth," said Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology. "An increase in skilled tech workers will also boost B.C.'s diverse manufacturing sector, helping to create more jobs and increase exports that drive our economy." APPROVED

The 2,900 additional spaces are in new and expanded programs that include the following in the lower mainland:

- 440 spaces in undergraduate and graduate-level sustainable energy engineering degrees at Simon Fraser University (SFU) Surrey
- 624 spaces in computer science and biomedical and manufacturing engineering degrees at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver campus).
- 300 spaces in information technology diplomas in cyber security, tech arts and new media at British Columbia Institute of Technology.
- 40 spaces in a mechatronics and advanced manufacturing technology diploma at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Minister Mark made the announcement during a visit to the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building under construction at Simon Fraser University in Surrey. At SFU Surrey, the additional spaces mean 320 undergraduate spaces and 120 graduate spaces by 2021-22 that are expected to result in 140 additional graduates a year by 2023. These are new programs.

"This important investment will enable Simon Fraser University and other post-secondary institutions to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, and that British Columbia requires to build a strong, sustainable economy," said SFU President Andrew Petter. "The support provided to SFU, specifically, will create a program that will help position B.C. as a global leader in clean-tech and sustainable energy." APPROVED

Investment decisions were made based on increasing programming that is in high demand from industry, enhancing pathways for transfer students, addressing regions of high demand and additional niche programming to build on the post-secondary education ecosystem supporting the tech sector.

"Today's announcement is great news for B.C.'s Tech sector. Access to talent has emerged as the single greatest barrier to growth for BC tech companies and for companies in all sectors that embrace technology to accelerate the growth of their businesses," said Jill Tipping, president and CEO of the BC Tech Association. "By proactively planning for a tech-centric future with these new learning spaces, we enable people to develop diverse skills and not only graduate, but thrive in high paying progressive jobs, all across British Columbia." APPROVED

Regional seat allocations will be announced shortly.

Quick Facts:
- About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. are expected by 2027 – such as computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers.
- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of the B.C. economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, employs over 106,000 people and is home to more than 10,200 businesses.
- Tech-sector workers earn weekly average salaries almost 85% higher than the average wage in B.C.
- Post-secondary institutions in B.C. award more than 10,000 credentials annually in programs that support the tech sector: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- Over the next four years, the Province will invest more than $200 million in tech and science related post-secondary capital projects. The five-storey, 15,000-square-metre Sustainable Energy Engineering Building at Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus will allow the university to expand its research in the energy, hydrogen and electricity sectors in addition to supporting SFU's sustainable energy engineering degrees. It is funded by the Government of Canada's Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, Province of B.C., SFU and private donors for a total project value of $126 million.

Learn More:
For the 2017 edition of the B.C. Labour Market Outlook, visit:
http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

A backgrounder follows.

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BACKGROUNDER

Additional tech seats in the Lower Mainland

Simon Fraser University (Surrey) – new programming
- Start-up funding of $500,000 in 2017-18 to help ramp up to a total of 320 spaces in undergraduate sustainable energy engineering degrees that is expected to produce 80 additional graduates a year by 2023.
- Start-up funding of $300,000 in 2017-18 to support an eventual total of 120 graduate sustainable energy engineering degrees that is expected to produce 60 additional graduates a year by 2023.

University of British Columbia– new and expanded programming
- Start-up funding of $600,000 in 2017-18, in part to support the eventual creation of 624 spaces in computer science and biomedical and manufacturing engineering degrees at the Vancouver campus, which is expected to lead to 156 additional graduates a year by 2023.

British Columbian Institute of Technology (Downtown Vancouver) – expanded programming
- Start-up funding of $300,000 in 2017-18 to support the eventual creation of 300 spaces in short-term information technology diplomas, including cybersecurity and digital arts, which is expected to produce 150 additional graduates a year by 2021.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Surrey) – expanded programming
- Start-up funding of $200,000 in 2017-18 to support an eventual total of 40 spaces in mechatronics and advanced manufacturing technology diplomas that will generate 20 additional graduates a year by 2020.

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release   Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and
[release number]   Training
Jan. 16, 2018

Government invests in full software engineering degree for students in Kamloops

KAMLOOPS – The dream of completing a full software engineering degree at Thompson Rivers University (TRU) is about to become a reality for students throughout the interior, announced Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

"We are making life better for people by creating more local talent for the rapidly growing tech sector," said Mark. "For the first time, there will be a full engineering degree program available in Kamloops, helping to keep home-grown talent at home. By funding more tech seats at TRU and throughout the province, we are investing in the future builders, designers and innovators of a 21st century B.C." APPROVED

Presently TRU's engineering programming requires students to transfer to another institution to complete their degree. The investment in additional tech seats means Kamloops tech businesses will have a greater supply of engineering graduates in the area, many of whom may want to stay, work and live in Kamloops.

"Students at TRU have been asking for a full engineering program and thanks to funding from the B.C. Government, we are able to give it to them," said Alan Shaver, president of TRU. "This investment means a lot to the community. Not only will the program help Kamloops meet local industry demand for software engineers; it will allow local students to work with those companies as they study to become those engineers." APPROVED

TRU will receive $400,000 in start-up funding from the B.C. Government in 2017-18, which will allow the institution to increase the number of student spaces and to offer a full software engineering degree program. The university is expected to ramp up to a total of 140 spaces in undergraduate software engineering by 2022-23, which will produce 35 additional graduates a year by 2023.

These tech spaces are part of the investment in approximately 2,900 additional spaces in tech programs at colleges, universities and institutes throughout the province, announced by Mark earlier today. Total start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million a year as programs ramp up.

"More home-grown tech talent is critical to supporting the growing tech economy in regions such as Kamloops," said Dan De Palma, Vice President Sales and Marketing at Streamline Transportation Technologies. "Much of the tech talent in the Kamloops area are alumni from the various tech programs at TRU, so I'm thrilled to see that they're expanding. By training more of B.C.'s bright minds in relevant programs, the tech sector will continue to flourish and grow." APPROVED

Of the 83,400 job openings in technology-related fields available over the next decade, 5,100 will occur in the Thompson-Okanagan region. This provides opportunities closer to home for graduates of TRU's new tech programs, should they choose to stay.

The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.

Learn More:
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http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
[release number]
Jan. 16, 2018

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and
Training

New tech seats to create exciting opportunities for Okanagan students

KELOWNA – New provincial funding will increase students' access to tech-related programs at the University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus and Okanagan College.

"Students deserve a government that works with them, providing the right opportunities that empower them to innovate, create and excel in the tech jobs of the future," said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. "Okanagan students have exciting opportunities to access tech related programs from animation to engineering and computer science." **APPROVED**

The University of British Columbia is receiving $600,000 in start-up funding in part to support new manufacturing engineering and expanded computer science degree programs at its Okanagan campus, which will result in 96 seats per year by 2022-23. This is expected to produce 24 additional graduates a year by 2023.

"This new engineering program will be very meaningful to the Okanagan," said Santa Ono, president of UBC. "Students have been asking for more tech programming and I'm delighted that we are able to give it to them. STEM jobs will be in high demand in the future, and we want to provide relevant and valuable programs that get students into those good-paying jobs." [NOT APPROVED]

Further to the one-time $250,000 last year to support the program's launch in September 2017, the Province will provide annual funding for a total of 30 spaces in the animation diploma program that will produce 15 graduates a year by 2020. This funding will allow Okanagan College to offer the animation program on an ongoing basis and at lower cost to students.

The next intake of animation students at Okanagan College is planned for September 2018.

"Technology will play a big role in our future economy," said Jim Hamilton, president of Okanagan College. "Funding innovative programming such as the animation diploma at the College will result in greater access to educational pathways that will lead directly to jobs in our booming Okanagan tech sector. The B.C. government's investment in this program will yield positive results for employers, industry partners and of course the students who will now be able to take this program." **APPROVED**

Of the 83,400 job openings in tech-related fields in the next decade, 5,100 will occur in the Thompson-Okanagan region. The new and expanded programs at UBCO and Okanagan College will help ensure growing industry demand in the region for highly trained graduates is met.

"B.C.'s tech sector is healthy and growing, but in need of skilled workers to sustain the momentum," said Raghwa Gopal, CEO of Accelerate Okanagan. "Industry will be thrilled to hear

that so many great programs are being added and expanded across the province. Talent developed here in the Okanagan and throughout B.C. will enable us to make our mark in tech on the world stage." APPROVED

These spaces are part of the investment in approximately 2,900 additional seats in tech programs at colleges, universities and institutes throughout the province, announced by Mark earlier today. Total start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million as programs ramp up over the next several years.

Quick Facts:
- About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. expected by 2027. Of those, 5,100 will occur in the Thompson-Okanagan region - jobs like computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers.
- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.
- Tech-sector workers earn weekly average salaries almost 85% higher than the average wage in B.C.
- Post-secondary institutions in B.C. award more than 10,000 credentials annually in programs that support the tech sector: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Learn More:
For the 2017 edition of the B.C. Labour Market Outlook, visit:
http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Jan. 16, 2018

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and
Training

Government to fund engineering programs in Prince George

PRINCE GEORGE – Students can look forward to the addition of hundreds of tech-related seats in engineering coming to Prince George, providing more opportunities in the North to obtain the education and training needed to attain 21st century jobs.

The provincial funding is a historic investment for residents of Northern British Columbia who were previously unable to complete their entire undergraduate engineering program in their region.

"Our government is opening the doors of opportunity to students in Prince George who want to pursue an exciting career in the rapidly growing tech-sector," said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. "The addition of these engineering programs in the North means local students will soon be able to study and obtain good-paying jobs close to home – strengthening individuals, families and communities throughout the North." APPROVED

The University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) will receive $400,000 of start-up funding in 2017-18 for new civil and environmental engineering degree programs. This funding will ramp up to support a total of 280 spaces by 2022-23 with 70 graduates a year expected by 2023.

"These new engineering programs will bring tremendous value to the North, while strengthening UNBC's presence in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics fields," said Daniel Weeks, President of UNBC. "We know that when we train students in the North, they stay in the North, further enhancing our capacity as knowledge leaders, while helping spur tremendous economic activity and collaboration with other post-secondary institutions. Students, industry and communities across the North have been asking for and working towards a full engineering degree program for a considerable time and we are finally able to provide it, which is reason for celebration in Northern B.C. and across the province." APPROVED

The College of New Caledonia (CNC) will receive $250,000 in 2017-18 to develop a new Civil Engineering Technologist program. The program will support a total of 50 spaces by 2021-22 and is expected to produce 25 graduates a year by 2022. This will be the first engineering technologist program in B.C. to be offered north of Kamloops.

"We are thrilled to receive this funding for the new technologist program, thanks to the B.C. Government," said Henry Reiser, president of CNC. "This program will play a crucial role in filling the talent gap for technologist jobs in the north." APPROVED

Of the 83,400 job openings in tech-related fields in the next decade, 2,200 are expected to be in Northern B.C. This provides opportunities closer to home for graduates of the new tech programs at UNBC and CNC, should they choose to stay.

"Engineering and tech-related careers are the stable, well-paying jobs of the future," said Will Cadell, board chair of Innovation Central Society and Sparkgeo.com CEO. "We need access to a talent pool which can support the growth of our tech sector. Training and educating tech talent here in the North is critical to ensuring employers can continue to grow with the support of home-grown talent. Additionally, tech professionals have the potential to work remotely, increasing work-life balance options in the North." APPROVED

These spaces are part of the investment in approximately 2,900 additional seats in tech programs at colleges, universities and institutes across the province, announced by Mark earlier today. Total start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million by 2023.

Quick Facts:
- About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. expected by 2027. Of those, 2,200 will be in Northern B.C. - jobs like computer programmers, information system analysts and civil engineers.
- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.
- Tech-sector workers earn weekly average salaries almost 85% higher than the average wage in B.C.
- Post-secondary institutions in B.C. award more than 10,000 credentials annually in programs that support the tech sector: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Learn More:
For the 2017 edition of the B.C. Labour Market Outlook, visit:
http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

Media contact:

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Jan. 16, 2018

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and
Training

Students and industry to benefit from more tech programming in Victoria

VICTORIA – Students can look forward to the addition of hundreds of tech-related seats in Victoria, which will provide students with relevant education and training to access well-paying jobs in the tech sector.

"People throughout B.C. will have increased access to good-paying jobs in the booming tech sector with this investment in tech seats throughout B.C.," said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. "Victoria is a great place to thrive in a tech career and by funding a multitude of engineering, computer science and information technology programs, we are opening the doors for people to reach their full potential." APPROVED

The University of Victoria (UVic) will receive $400,000 in start-up funding in 2017-18 to expand its undergraduate computer science and engineering programs. Prospective UVic students can look forward to an additional 500 undergraduate degree spaces in computer science and engineering – including electronic, computer, software, civil, mechanical and biomedical – by 2022-23. This is expected to result in 125 additional tech graduates a year by 2023.

"UVic's engineering and computer science programs are well known for being a destination for B.C. high school grads and college transfer students, providing a great education with lots of hands-on learning, and a pathway to personal success and good jobs upon graduation," said Jamie Cassels, president of UVic. "Adding tech seats to the undergraduate engineering and computer science programs is a huge benefit to students from Vancouver Island and throughout B.C. A big thanks to the ministry for supporting 500 additional spaces, allowing us to increase capacity in these programs." APPROVED

Camosun College will receive $200,000 in start-up funding in 2017-18 to support increased access to information technology-related diploma programs to get to a total of 40 new spaces by 2019-20. With continued government funding, Camosun will produce an additional 20 graduates per year by 2020.

"Tech-related diplomas are one of the most in-demand programs at Camosun," said Sherri Bell, president of Camosun. "Students will be thrilled to know that there will be more spaces in so they're able to get the tech jobs they desire more quickly." [NOT APPROVED]

Of the 83,400 job openings in tech-related fields in the next decade, 10,700 will occur in the Vancouver Island/Coast region. This provides opportunities closer to home for graduates of the expanded tech programs at UVic and Camosun, should they choose to stay.

"Victoria has a lively, robust and burgeoning tech sector," said Dan Gunn, executive director, VIATEC. "Access to qualified and talented people is mission critical. Expanding tech programs at

UVic and Camosun will support the rapidly growing tech sector that is helping to drive a strong 21st century economy." APPROVED

These spaces are part of the investment in approximately 2,900 additional seats in tech programs at colleges, universities and institutes across the province, announced by Minister Mark earlier today. Total start-up funding this year is $4.4 million and is expected to increase to $42 million as programs ramp up over the next several years.

Quick Facts:
- About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. expected by 2027. Of those, 10,700 will be in the Vancouver Island/Coast region - jobs like computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers.
- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy generating approximately $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.
- Tech-sector workers earn weekly average salaries almost 85% higher than the average wage in B.C.
- Post-secondary institutions in B.C. award more than 10,000 credentials annually in programs that support the tech sector: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Learn More:
For the 2017 edition of the B.C. Labour Market Outlook, visit:
http://workbc.ca/labourmarketoutlook

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Expansion of tech-related seats

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
January 2018

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1. **Why only 1,000 new grads in STEM? The opposition committed to creating 1,000 on top of the 1,000 coming for a total of 2,000?**

   - Nothing is fixed and we are in ongoing discussion with the sector, while working with information about labour market demand and the capacity available at our public post-secondary institutions.

2. **How will 1,000 additional grads fill the 84,000 job openings in the tech sector expected by 2027?**

   - The B.C. public post-secondary system awarded over 10,000 STEM program credentials in 2015-16;

   - Upon full implementation, we will be graduating an additional 1,000 tech grads each year – those graduates will then be able to access good-paying tech jobs, thanks to our strong sector.

   - Realistically, we don't expect home-grown talent to fill every job in the tech-sector. Our strong tech sector will also attract people from across Canada and the world to fill these jobs.

3. **The spaces you announced today don't add up to 2,900 spaces or 1,000 grads. Are there more announcements in the works?**

   - Yes, we will be announcing additional tech-related programming at several institutions in the coming weeks and months.

4. **When do you expect "full implementation" to happen?**

   - Full implementation depends on the program as the programs include four year degrees, two year diplomas and one year certificates.

   - We are currently planning for full implementation of these programs to occur in 2022-23, but is dependent on approval by Treasury Board in future budgets.

5. Why are there 2,900 additional spaces, but only 1,000 grads?

- The 2,900 additional tech spaces include certificates, diplomas and degrees, which take different lengths of time for a student to complete. For example, a degree program is typically four years of study and counts as 4 full-time equivalent (FTE) student spaces, which result in 1 graduate upon completion of the program.

- Therefore, there are more tech spaces than graduates.

6. You committed to a $100 million investment. Where's the money?

- A total funding lift of $42 million per year is expected by 2022-23.
  - $4.4 million in 2017-18 (in September Budget Update).
  - Subsequent years will need to be approved by Treasury Board
  - $7 million in 2018-19 (in September Budget Update).
  - $24.9 million in 2019-20 (in September Budget Update).
  - And the remaining funding in 2020-21 through 2022-23.

7. Why isn't the $42 million reflected in the September Budget Update?

- The budget is a three year plan from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

- Subsequent years will need to be approved by Treasury Board.

8. Are these seats for domestic or international students?

- All undergraduate, certificate and diploma spaces funded by this expansion are for domestic students.

- Post-graduate seats at research universities are merit-based and available for the best students and are not restricted to domestic students.
  - The new graduate-level sustainable energy engineering degrees are an example.

9. How did you determine the allocation of tech seats?

- Relevant tech programming in areas from software, electrical and biomedical engineering to cybersecurity, mechatronics and advanced manufacturing has been added at institutions throughout B.C.

- To determine the best locations and program details, we listened to students, post-secondary and industry partners as well as studied regional labour market demands and upcoming high-demand jobs.

10. Why do we need to wait to see more seats?

- It takes time to plan new programs and to ramp up capacity.

- Many of the new and expanded seats are four year degrees.

- We expect to see some of the new spaces as early as September 2018.
  s.13,s.17

11. Why are most of the tech seats in the Lower Mainland?

- More than 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. are expected by 2027. 64,200 will occur in the Mainland/Southwest region - jobs like computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers.

- To keep up with labour market demands in the Lower Mainland, we will need to ensure our programs are relevant and in the right areas to train the skilled workers needed to maintain our diversified 21st century economy.

- We are also increasing spaces in other regions of the province, to help ensure all British Columbians have an opportunity to benefit in this growth sector.

12. What happened to plans for a four-year degree program in electrical, computer and software engineering program at TRU?

- TRU is receiving funding to support the addition of a full software engineering degree program, which is a huge upgrade from the transfer program they have currently.

- This will allow more students to complete their engineering degree in Kamloops without having to move to another institution partway through.

- In addition, TRU will add seats to their program, ramping up to an additional 140 seats at full implementation.

- This is a great place to start.

13. What type of jobs are needed by tech employers?

- Tech-sector demand for talent is greatest for information technology-centric roles such as systems engineers, programmers, and software developers.

- However, as B.C.'s tech companies continue to grow and extend their market reach, roles for experienced management, business development, and sales and marketing professionals are also becoming increasingly important to fill.

14. We know women are under-represented in tech-related fields. What are you doing to make tech careers more accessible?

- We're giving girls early opportunities for STEM (Science, Tech, Engineering, Math) through curricula changes and funding to support training that gives every student an opportunity to learn coding by grade 9.

- Female students are underrepresented in tech-related areas of study.

- In 2015-16, 53% of students in the public post-secondary were female, yet we know that out of 10,200 STEM credentials awarded that year, 37% were awarded to women, while 59% of non-STEM credentials were awarded to women.

- Improving these results will play a key part in increasing the number of women in STEM fields.

- A $500,000 provincial investment will establish scholarships that encourage women to pursue education at public post-secondary institutions that align with the needs of our thriving tech sector.

UPDATED: JAN. 11 AT 11AM

SPEAKING NOTES FOR

MINISTER MELANIE MARK

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND

TRAINING

Simon Fraser University, Surrey Campus

250-13450 102 Ave, Surrey

January 16, 2018

9am

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

GCPE-HQ: Elena Banfield 604-842-0984 Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca

SFU: Marianne Meadahl 778-782-9017; 604-209-5770 Marianne_Meadahl@sfu.ca

Getting there and parking:
- Parking will be reserved in the main lot of the campus and marked with the Minister's name. The lot is behind the building, and the entrance to the building from there leads right into the Mezzanine area where the event will take place.
- Minister Mark will be met by Elena Banfield and SFU representatives at entrance to Mezzanine area off parking lot. Tour party proceeds to Environmental Engineering Building construction site.
- Tour party will be outfitted with hardhats and footwear upon arrival at site.

Audience:
- Post-secondary institutions
- Tech sector / employers
- Students / parents

Notable attendees:
- Minister Melanie Mark
- SFU president Andrew Petter
- BC Tech Association president Jill Tipping
- Elder Margaret George, SFU resident Elder
- XingLu Wang, second-year Mechatronic Systems Engineering student, graduate of Surrey's Fraser Heights Secondary and president of Team Phantom, a student team working to build an all-electric race car.

Event description:

Government is rolling out an expansion of new and expanded tech-related programming in public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia to support increased demand for talent in the growing tech sector.

Event in the morning to announce 440 new seats in sustainable energy engineering at the sustainable energy engineering building at SFU Surrey that is under construction in addition to tech-related programming throughout the Lower Mainland – UBC, KPU, BCIT. A total of 2,900 spaces that will produce 1,000 additional tech grads a year by 2023.

Itinerary:

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Indoor podium event at SFU Surrey Campus. Preceding announcement, Minister Mark will tour the construction site of the Sustainable Engineering Building then proceed to the Mezzanine area of SFU Surrey Campus to view displays of student projects. Minister Mark will then deliver remarks from the podium flanked by other speakers and students, followed by a media Q&A. Podium art: "Better Access for Students"
Key contacts	Media relations: Shruti Joshi Photographer: Provided by SFU Event Coordinator: Elena Banfield
7:00 a.m.	Elena Banfield and FMAV on site for technical setup.
8:20 a.m.	Minister Mark arrives at SFU Surrey Campus, met by Elena Banfield and SFU representatives at entrance to Mezzanine area off parking lot. Tour party proceeds to Environmental Engineering Building construction site. Note: tour party will be outfitted with hardhats and footwear upon arrival at site.
8:35 a.m.	Tour of Environmental Engineering Building construction site.
8:50 a.m.	Tour party returns to SFU Surrey Mezzanine, proceeds to briefing room.
8:52 a.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Elena Banfield Location: Meeting room 2746 • **Melanie Mark,** Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training • **Andrew Petter,** President, Simon Fraser University (EMCEE) • **Elder Margaret George,** SFU resident Elder • **Jill Tipping,** President, BC Tech Association • **XingLu Wang,** Mechatronic Systems Engineering student
8:59 a.m.	Speakers escorted to podium area.
9:00 a.m.	**Minister Mark** interacts with students and faculty who will have projects on display around podium area.
9:09 a.m.	**Minister Mark** and speakers gather at podium area.
9:10 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** welcomes guests and invites **Elder Margaret** to the podium to offer opening blessing.
9:11 a.m.	**Elder Margaret** offers opening blessing and territorial acknowledgment.
9:14 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** returns to podium, thanks Elder Margaret, and delivers introductory remarks. Following remarks, he introduces **Minister Mark**.
9:16 a.m.	**Minister Mark** delivers remarks.

9:19 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks Minister Mark, introduces **Jill Tipping.**
9:20 a.m.	**Jill Tipping** delivers remarks.
9:23 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks Jill Tipping**,** introduces **XingLu Wang.**
9:24 a.m.	**XingLu Wang** delivers remarks.
9:27 a.m.	**Andrew Petter** thanks **Student Validator**, delivers closing remarks, and invites questions from media.
9:28 a.m.	**Media availability** - Moderated by Shruti Joshi.
9:38 a.m.	Event concludes. **Minister Mark** can return to project exhibits and engage with students.
10:00 a.m.	Minister Mark departs.

Background:

- Announce a total of 2,900 additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that will produce a steady stream of 1,000 additional grads a year by 2022-23.
- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector. The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.
- A new sustainable energy engineering building is under construction at SFU Surrey. However, while capital funding was announced in 2016, there was never any announcement around the operating funding to support student spaces.
- The plan is a mixture of expanded and new seats in tech-related programs. The credentials range from graduate and undergraduate degrees through to diplomas and certificates. Over 83,400 tech-related job openings are expected by 2027.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training will fund $4.4 million in 2017-18. This is expected to ramp up to $42 million a year.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank you President Petter for the introduction.

- I'd like to acknowledge that we're on the territory of the Coast Salish people.

- People in attendance:

  - Other MLAs (TBC).
  - Elder Margaret George.
  - Mayor or other notable people (TBC).

- I would also like to thank the students and faculty that took the time to share their projects with me.

- You inspire me - keep up the great work!

Introduction:

- It's great to be here at SFU's Surrey campus.

- It's also great to see the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building under construction.

- The Sustainable Energy Engineering Building is a symbol of what's to come South of the Fraser.

- This structure is a $126 million collaborative effort between the Province, SFU, the Government of Canada and private donors.

- When the building is finished, it's going to be five stories high and packed with 15,000 square meters of excited students finding their futures in tech.

Announcement:

- For the students and researchers in the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building, tech means researching energy and hydrogen and electricity.

- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fast growing sectors of our economy.

- It generates $29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.

- Over 83,400 tech-related jobs openings are expected by 2027. Jobs like computer programmers, engineers, information system analysts and software designers.

- That's why, today, I'm announcing the addition of 2,900 technology spaces at institutions throughout B.C.

- This will produce an additional 1,000 tech graduates a year by 2023.

- At SFU Surrey, we will be adding 320 undergraduate and 120 graduate-level spaces by 2022-23.

- When the Premier appointed me as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, he mandated that we expand technology related post-secondary education programs.

- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector.

- The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.

- Premier John Horgan and our government will invest $4.4 million throughout the province this year to start planning.

- As more seats come online, this is expected to increase to $42 million.

- There's still work to do but with this announcement, we are taking a big step towards making education more accessible for people throughout B.C.

It's About People:

- Creating more home-grown tech talent is good news for businesses and employers. It helps them grow and succeed.

- For me, it's about people and giving them the opportunity to thrive.

- Education has the power to transform lives.

- It means a chance for a bright future.

- Together we are going to build a strong, sustainable and innovative community that works for everyone.

- We are going to tackle poverty and inequality and make sure that British Columbians in every corner of the province have the opportunity to succeed.

- So keep innovating, programming, engineering and building a better British Columbia for all of us.

- You are the innovators whose dedication and hard work will lead to 21st century solutions that shape, improve and transform our future.

- Keeping reaching for the stars and shining.

UPDATED: JANUARY 11 AT 1130AM

SPEAKING NOTES FOR

MINISTER MELANIE MARK

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND

TRAINING

Thompson Rivers University

805 TRU Way, Kamloops, BC

Jan. 16, 2018

2:30pm

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

GCPE-HQ: Elena Banfield 604-842-0984   elena.banfield@gov.bc.ca
TRU: Kelly de Chantal 250-852-7271;s.22   kdechantal@tru.ca

Getting there and parking:
Minister Mark arrives at TRU, met by Alan Shaver. Minister Mark proceeds to Campus Activity Centre, Alpine Room.

Audience:
*   Post-secondary institutions
*   Tech sector / employers
*   Students / parents

Notable attendees:
*   Minister Melanie Mark
*   Tom Dickinson, Dean of Science TRU (EMCEE) TBC
*   TRU president Alan Shaver
*   Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop, Tshimshian and Heiltsuk Elder
*   Dan De Palma, Vice-President Sale and Marketing, Streamline Transportation Technologies
*   TRU engineering student Lorelei Guidos

Event description:

Government is rolling out an expansion of new and expanded tech-related programming in public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia to support increased demand for talent in the growing tech sector.

Afternoon event at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops to announce tech-related seats at TRU supported by regional news releases for Kamloops, Kelowna, Victoria, and Prince George..

This event is to follow a morning event at SFU Surrey campus to announce tech-related seats in the Lower Mainland, including programming at SFU, UBC, Kwantlen and BCIT.

Background:

*   Announce a total of 2,900 additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that will produce a steady stream of 1,000 additional grads a year by 2022-23.

- B.C. under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector. The last significant investment in tech programs was more than 10 years ago.
- The plan is a mixture of expanded and new seats in tech-related programs. The credentials range from graduate and undergraduate degrees through to diplomas and certificates. Over 83,400 tech-related job openings are expected by 2027.
- TRU will receive $400,000 in start-up funding from the B.C. Government in 2017-18, which will allow the institution to increase the number of student spaces and to offer a full software engineering degree program. The university is expected to ramp up to a total of 140 spaces in undergraduate software engineering by 2022-23, which will produce 35 additional graduates a year by 2023.

Acknowledgements:
- Thank you for the introduction, Dr. Dickinson.

- I would first like to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Secwepemc peoples **[She-whep-m],** specifically the Tk'emlups **[Tay-come-loops]** Indian Band.

- Thank Elder Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop of the Tismshian **[sim-she-an]** and Heiltsuk **[helts-uk]** Nations for the blessing.

- Acknowledge those in attendance:
  - Other MLAs (TBC).
  - Mayor or other notable people (TBC).

- I'd also like to give a big shout out to all of the students that are gathering with us this afternoon.

Introduction:

- It's always great to be able to visit Kamloops.

- Just last week, I was in Kamloops meeting with tech business leaders.

- As many of you know, I visited Thompson Rivers University in August as part of a three week tour of all 25 B.C. public post-secondary institutions.

- That was a whirlwind tour, visiting all25 schools in just 21 days.

- It was a great start to kick off my job as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

- Today, I'm here to announce an investment that shows that our government is continuing to improve student access to post-secondary education and training.

- We're continuing to break down barriers to education and training that can transform lives and let students reach their full potential.

Details

- It is important that students in Kamloops have options right here at home to complete their education.

- That's why I'm excited to announce funding that will support more student spaces in engineering at TRU, including funding for a new, full software engineering degree program.

- For the first time, students in the Kamloops area are going to be able to study for some of the most in-demand engineering careers without having to leave their community.

- TRU attracts students from B.C., Canada and around the world.

- It is critical we invest in relevant and dynamic programs that will enrich both students and their communities.

- This is part of our government's addition of 2,900 technology spaces at institutions throughout the province.

- Our province desperately needs these tech graduates.

- We're going to need thousands of engineers, programmers and software developers as more than 80,000 tech related openings come available in the next decade.

- When the Premier appointed me as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, he mandated that we expand technology related post-secondary education programs.

- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector.

- The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.

- Premier John Horgan and our government will invest $4.4 million throughout the province this year to start planning.

- As more seats come online, this is expected to increase to $42 million.

- There's still work to do but with this announcement, we are taking a big step towards making education more accessible for people throughout B.C.

It's About People:

- Creating more home-grown tech talent in Kamloops is good news for businesses and employers. It helps them grow and succeed.

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- It means a chance for a bright future.

- Together we are going to build a strong, sustainable and innovative community that works for everyone.

- We are going to tackle poverty and inequality and make sure that British Columbians in every corner of the province including the Thompson region have the opportunity to succeed.

- So keep innovating, programming, engineering and building a better British Columbia for all of us.

- You are the innovators whose dedication and hard work will lead to 21st century solutions that shape, improve and transform our future.

- Keeping reaching for the stars and shining.

Technology Programming Expansion

Institution	Name / Program Type	Expansion/ New	FTEs	Add'l Grads	2017/18 Funding	2018/19 Planned FTEs	2019/20 Planned FTEs	2020/21 Planned FTEs	2021/22 Planned FTEs	2022/23 Planned FTEs
Simon Fraser University - Surrey Campus	Undergraduate Sustainable Energy Engineering (Degrees)	New	320	80	$500,000	40	120	220	320	320
Simon Fraser University - Surrey Campus	Graduate Sustainable Energy Engineering (Degrees)	New	120	60	$300,000	30	60	90	120	120
University of British Columbia - Vancouver Campus	Computer Science, Biomedical Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering (Degrees)	New / Expansion	624	156	$600,000	100	256	412	568	624
University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus	Manufacturing Engineering and Computer Science (Degrees)	New / Expansion	96	24	see above*	n/a	24	48	72	96
British Columbia Institute of Technology	Information Technology (Diplomas)	Expansion	300	150	$300,000	75	225	300	300	300
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (Diplomas)	New	40	20	$200,000	20	40	40	40	40
University of Victoria	Computer Science and Engineering (Degrees)	Expansion	500	125	$400,000	50	175	300	425	500
Camosun College	Information Technology (Diplomas)	Expansion	40	20	$200,000	20	40	40	40	40
University of Northern British Columbia	Civil and Environmental Engineering (Degrees)	New	280	70	$400,000	n/a	70	140	210	280
College of New Caledonia	Civil Engineering Technologist (Diplomas)	New	50	25	$250,000	n/a	n/a	25	50	50
Okanagan College	Animation (Diplomas)	New	30	15	n/a	30	30	30	30	30
Thompson Rivers University	Software Engineering (Degrees)	New	140	35	$400,000	35	75	105	125	140
Details to Come	Details to Come	Details to Come	400	220	$850,000	0	200	400	400	400
Total			**2,940**	**1,000**	**$4,400,000**	**400**	**1,315**	**2,150**	**2,700**	**2,940**

Date Prepared: January 10, 2018

Monday, Jan. 15

10am: Media advisory to Lower Mainland / Press Gallery. Includes dial in / listen only details.

- Ethnic
- Business
- Vancouver
- Surrey
- Press Gallery (Victoria)

1pm: Media advisory to Kamloops Media

Tuesday, Jan. 16

- 9am: SFU Surrey event starts
- 915am: Lower Mainland news release goes out
- 1pm: UNBC / CNC news release and regional event in Prince George. Letter of greetings from Minister to be read out.
- 230pm: Kamloops event starts
- 245pm: Kamloops news release goes
- 250pm: Victoria news release goes
- 255pm: Kelowna news release goes

Follow Up:

- Research Universities Council to issue a news release supporting engineering expansion.
- SFU to pitch story to Surrey Now about South of the Fraser expansion.
- Student profiles on tech success stories for social media.

Today was a great success. Set up great. Media management good. Lots of team support and technical expertise eg Nicola on site was essential. Travel time etc was adequate. Reception very positive at both SFU and TRU. Huge turnouts for both. With variety of sectors in audience.

General feedback. Might be more effective for me to use key messages one page doc for announcements, as it was challenging to flip thru 7 pages.

I was missing the table with tech seat break down and one page key messages in my package. Lesson learned.

Overall excellent team effort.

Thanks to all involved.

Melanie

Sent from my iPhone