

AEST 2018 Budget Table

AEST Mandate Table

Budget 2018 Summary

AEST Operational

AEST Capital

Employer Health Tax

TRC UNDRIP

***Official Opposition Promises /
Track Record***

Employers
Health
Tax

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MSP/Employer Health Tax

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***Official Opposition Promises /
Track Record***

AEST 2018 Budget

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	\$116M operational	Amount	Description	Us	Them
1	ABE	s.13	Funding for tuition free ABE/ELL to reverse cuts made by previous government.	s.13	
	Indigenous Skills Training		Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships Program and the Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund provide Indigenous British Columbians with the opportunity to access skills training programs in their communities.		

s.13

3 Indigenous
Law Program
at UVIC

s.13

New program believed to be the first of its kind in the world, combining intensive study of Canadian Common Law with intensive engagement with Indigenous laws. It directly answers the TRC's Call to Action #50.

4 ECE

620 new ECE Spaces to support made in BC Childcare Plan

5 Tuition waiver

Funding to provide tuition waivers for former kids in care.

s.13

6

Tech

s.13

2900 Spaces and 1000 new
graduates by 2023.

7

Student Loans

Cost to reduce interest to
student loans by 2.5%

Economic
Stability
Dividends

	Capital Investments	Amount	Description	Us	Them
1	Student Housing	s.13	Capital investment: 5000 new beds financed by govt. and 3000 beds funded through grants, non-government partnerships and institutional self-financing.	s.13	
2	Facilities Equipment		Capital investment for equipment exceeding \$120,000 Ex: -A new Energy Systems Engineering Building at SFU Surrey . -A new education and trades training facility for CNC in Vanderhoof . -New trades and health building at VIU in Nanaimo .		

ts	Description	Us	Them
Elimination of tuition tax credit	Elimination of BC tax credit on tuition starting Jan 1 st 2019.	s.13	

MANDATE

AEST Mandate

Mandate Item	Description	Status	Anticipated Opposition Response	Messaging
① ABE and ELL	Eliminate fees to adult basic education and English-language learning programs by	Announced tuition free ABE and ELL in Sept 2017. Lift in 2018 budget. We injected \$10M and will now be an available service for students to count on.	s.13	
② Completion Grant	Reduce the financial burden on students by eliminating interest on B.C. government student loans and establish a \$1,000 completion grant program	Last year the ministry provided 17,000 students who completed a year of studies with \$32 million in loan reduction grants to reduce their B.C. government loan debt based on financial need.		

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s.13

③

Graduate Scholarships	Introduction of a new graduate student scholarship fund	In 2016-2017 we paid \$101,000 to help BC graduates through the completion grant for graduate and that commitment is expected to be the same this year.
④ Co-ops	Work with the Minister of Education to support co-op, apprenticeship and work-experience programs for high school and undergraduate students.	

s.13

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<p>⑤</p> <p>Apprenticeship Ratios</p>	<p>Work with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to implement effective apprenticeship ratios on government-funded infrastructure projects, and increase participation of equity-seeking groups in the skilled workforce.</p>	<p>s.13</p>	
<p>⑥</p> <p>Tuition Waiver</p>	<p>Work with the Minister of Children and Family Development to improve the education success of former youth in care by expanding the tuition fee waiver program.</p>	<p>Tuition waiver introduced in Sept 2019. Since then there has been 229 students have benefited from the program.</p>	<p>s.13</p>

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7	Tech Co-ops	Expand B.C.'s technology-related post-secondary programs, co-op programs, and work to establish technology and innovation centres in key areas of the economy	-2900 seats/1000 grads by 2023 announced in 2018. -Includes first civil and environ engineering program at UNBC/software engineering degree in the interior (TRU)	s.13
8	Innovation in BC Forestry Sector	Develop more degree and certificate programs to increase the number of skilled workers in B.C.'s forestry sector, focusing on growing innovation and the manufactured wood products sector.		s.13

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BUDGET SUMMARY

Flesh, Cindy AEST:EX

From: Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 3:08 PM
To: Mark, Melanie AEST:EX; Papadopoulos, James AEST:EX; Avendano, Christian AEST:EX; Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX; Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX
Cc: Wolsey, Ashley AEST:EX; Fernandes, Jennifer GCPE:EX; Thorkelson, Meaghan GCPE:EX; Flesh, Cindy AEST:EX; Cox, Michael AEST:EX
Subject: FW: Budget 2018 Materials
Attachments: 2018_Backgrounder_1_Fiscal.pdf; 2018_Backgrounder_2_MSP.pdf; 2018_Budget_Speech.pdf; 2018_Child_Care_BC.pdf; 2018_Homes_For_BC.pdf; 2018_News_Release.pdf; Budget2018_Highlights.pdf; KM_MLA_Budget18_FINAL.pdf; PP_MLA_Budget18_FINAL.ppt; SN_MLA Stump_Budget 2018_FINAL.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Communications materials from Finance for Budget 2018. I've highlighted AEST sections in the NR below:

- Budget News Release
- Two backgrounders – MSP premium elimination and Fiscal Plan
- Housing Plan
- Child Care Plan
- Budget Speech
- MLA Key Messages
- Powerpoint and Stump speech for MLAs

Budget 2018 puts people first, makes life more affordable for British Columbians

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 1:40 PM

Budget 2018 carves a new path to shared prosperity for everyone in the province with a made-in-B.C. child-care plan, a comprehensive housing plan and record levels of capital investment in every corner of the province, Finance Minister Carole James announced today.

“Budgets are not only about the bottom line, they should be about people. That’s why British Columbians are at the centre of every choice we have made in Budget 2018,” said James. “These include historic investments in child care and affordable housing that will be felt for generations.”

Over three years, an investment of more than \$1 billion will set the province on the path to a universal child-care plan that will make child care affordable for parents and caregivers, create more than 22,000 child-care spaces throughout the province and ensure those spaces meet rigorous quality and safety standards.

Budget 2018 also lays out a comprehensive housing plan that introduces new taxation measures to tackle foreign and domestic speculation, to close loopholes and crack down on tax fraud, and to stabilize housing prices. It invests more than \$1.6 billion over three years to build and maintain affordable rental housing, help finance student housing, increase rental assistance for low-income seniors and working families, and provide supportive housing for at-risk British Columbians.

“Budget 2018 balances the needs and priorities of British Columbians with the fiscal prudence that marks B.C. as an economic leader in Canada,” said James. “Our province needs bold action, and Budget 2018 delivers by investing in choices that make life more affordable, improving the services we all count on, and supporting a strong, sustainable economy for all British Columbians.”

Making Life More Affordable

Building on the Province’s progress to date, Budget 2018 takes action to make life more affordable by:

- Introducing a new affordable child-care benefit that will reduce child-care costs by up to \$1,250 per month for every child and support 86,000 B.C. families per year by 2020-21.
- Providing up to \$350 per month directly to licenced child-care providers to reduce fees for an estimated 50,000 families per year by 2020-21.
- Curbing speculation in B.C.’s housing market and helping to build 114,000 affordable rental, non-profit, co-op and owner-purchase housing units through partnerships.
- Eliminating Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums by Jan. 1, 2020, saving individuals up to \$900 a year, and families up to \$1,800 a year.
- Making ferries more affordable by freezing fares on all major BC Ferries routes, reducing fares on non-major routes and fully restoring the Monday to Thursday seniors passenger fare discount.
- Improving B.C.’s Fair PharmaCare program to eliminate deductibles for families with annual net incomes below \$30,000, starting Jan. 1, 2019. Approximately 240,000 families will receive expanded coverage.
- Reinstating free bus passes with the flexibility to support other transportation needs will help over 100,000 people receiving disability assistance to better connect them with their communities and the services they rely on.

Delivering the Services People Count On

British Columbians deserve services they can depend on. That’s why Budget 2018 invests in priority services, including:

- Significant investments in health care, with funding of \$548 million over three years to improve care for seniors and \$150 million to help connect those who do not have a family doctor with team-based primary care.
- Hiring more teachers, bringing the total to over 3,700 new hires around the province to support students and meet the need for qualified teachers in B.C.
- Making a historic investment of \$50 million this fiscal year to support the revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages in B.C.
- Dedicating \$18 million to services that provide outreach and counselling support for women and children affected by violence.
- Improving access to justice through increased funding for legal aid, family law services, and the hiring of more sheriffs and court staff to help reduce court delays.

Building a Strong, Sustainable Economy

Budget 2018 invests in a strong, sustainable economy through B.C.’s greatest resource – its people, by:

- Supporting communities hit the hardest by the 2017 wildfire season and investing in wildfire preparedness to protect people, communities and wildlife.
- Increasing funding for B.C.’s agrifood sector to support enhanced Buy BC, Grow BC and Feed BC initiatives to drive consumer demand and get B.C.’s goods to overseas markets.
- Confirming the removal of fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning to give people opportunities to grow and succeed.

- Partnering with industry, the federal government and First Nations communities to support Indigenous skills training programs with \$30 million over three years.
- Increasing grants administered through the BC Arts Council and Creative BC, which support B.C.'s vibrant communities and creative economy.
- Expanding B.C.'s tuition waiver program and increasing financial support for former youth in care while they attend post-secondary school or training programs.

Budget 2018 commitments are being funded by improved revenue forecasts over the fiscal plan period, as well as new revenue sources, including:

- A speculation tax, and increases in the foreign buyers' tax, to address housing affordability in B.C. by reducing foreign demand, and curbing speculation in the residential property market.
- An employer health tax to allow for the full elimination of MSP premiums.

"For too long, British Columbians have not been able to get the services that they need or afford to live in the communities in which they work or grew up in," James said. "We are taking bold action to change that with Budget 2018 – a budget that works for everyone in B.C."

BACKGROUNDER: Fiscal Plan 2018-19 – 2020-21

A Strong B.C. Economy

British Columbia experienced stronger than previously forecast economic growth in 2017. Budget 2018 reflects an upward revision to the 2017 real GDP estimate, to 3.4% from 2.9%, estimated in the Budget 2017 Update, due to better-than-expected performance of B.C.'s main domestic indicators, including employment, retail sales, housing starts and exports.

Strong growth is expected to continue with the provincial economy projected to grow by 2.3% in 2018. Private sector forecasters expect B.C.'s economic growth to continue to rank near the top of provincial standings in the near-term.

The near-term global economic outlook has also improved since Budget 2017 Update, with upward revisions to 2018 real GDP growth for the United States, Japan, China and the euro zone.

Downside risks remain, including uncertainty regarding U.S. fiscal and trade policy and ongoing economic challenges in Asia and the euro zone. The Budget 2018 economic forecast is prudent, compared to the outlook provided by the independent Economic Forecast Council, in recognition of the downside risks to the outlook.

Budget Outlook

Budget 2018 projects surpluses of:

- \$219 million in 2018-19
- \$281 million in 2019-20
- \$284 million in 2020-21

Government has included several layers of prudence into the fiscal plan, to help account for lower-than-expected revenues, unforeseen expenses or emergencies. Budget 2018 includes a forecast allowance of \$350 million in 2018-19, \$500 million in 2019-20 and \$600 million in 2020-21. Budget 2018 also includes contingencies of \$550 million in 2018-19, \$750 million in 2019-2020 and \$750 million in 2020-21.

Revenue Outlook

Total government revenue is forecast at \$54.2 billion in 2018-19, \$57.6 billion in 2019-20 and \$58.6 billion in 2020-21.

s.13

Expense Outlook

Total expenses over the three-year fiscal plan are forecast at \$53.6 billion in 2018-19, \$56.8 billion in 2019-20 and \$57.8 billion in 2020-21.

s.13

Capital Spending

Taxpayer-supported capital spending over the fiscal plan will total a record-level \$15.8 billion, and includes urgently needed investments in critical infrastructure, such as:

- Education: \$2 billion to maintain, replace, renovate or expand K-12 facilities.
- Post-secondary education: \$2.6 billion to build capacity and help meet the province's future workforce needs in areas like science, trades and technology.
- Health: \$3.1 billion to support major construction projects and upgrading health facilities, medical and diagnostic equipment, and information management technology systems.
- Housing: \$379 million to preserve existing affordable housing and to help fund the construction of supportive housing units.
- Student housing: \$450 million for a student housing program for public post-secondary institutions that will help finance 5,000 new student housing beds.
- Transportation: \$4 billion in provincial operating and capital funding, which will leverage an additional \$1.3 billion through federal cost sharing and partnerships with private organizations, local governments and other agencies.

Debt Affordability

The operating debt is forecast to be eliminated by the end of 2018-19, one year earlier than forecast in Budget 2017 Update. Primarily, this is a result of stronger-than-predicted economic growth in 2017. This will be the first time the government has been free of operating debt in over 40 years.

The taxpayer-supported debt-to-GDP ratio, a key indicator used by credit-rating agencies, is expected to remain below 16% over the fiscal plan period, despite record-level capital spending.

THE FIRST STEPS TO ADDRESSING RECONCILIATION

- » British Columbia is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples to build true and lasting reconciliation, anchored by our commitments under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples.

Every Ministry in government has been given a responsibility for adopting and implementing the Declaration. Addressing reconciliation is a shared responsibility and Budget 2018 takes first steps on this path.

- » Our province is rich in natural beauty, and for generations B.C. parks and campsites have been a favourite destination for B.C. families and tourists to enjoy.

- To keep that tradition alive, we're expanding **BC PARKS CAMPSITES** with \$5 million over three years.



- Budget 2018 also invests in **PROTECTING B.C.'S WILDLIFE** with an investment of \$14 million over three years to revitalize B.C.'s wildlife management initiative.



- \$9 million to cover operating pressure for **CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICES**.



Reconciliation



An historic **\$50 MILLION** investment to support Indigenous communities seeking to revitalize **CONNECTIONS TO THEIR LANGUAGES**;



\$158 MILLION in partnership with **INDIGENOUS HOUSING SOCIETIES AND FIRST NATIONS** to build and support 1,750 units to address housing needs of Indigenous peoples;



\$6 MILLION over three years for **ABORIGINAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRES**, to support stable funding for continued outreach to Aboriginal people living both on and off reserve;



\$16 MILLION over two years to the First Nations Health Authority to support **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS** in Indigenous communities;



Investing in expanding the **HEAD START PROGRAM**, both on and off reserve, in partnership with the federal government;



\$30 MILLION over three years for the **INDIGENOUS SKILLS TRAINING DEVELOPMENT FUND**, supporting programs such as computer literacy and safety training; and



The creation of a new **INDIGENOUS LAW PROGRAM** at the University of Victoria.

BUILDING A STRONG, SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

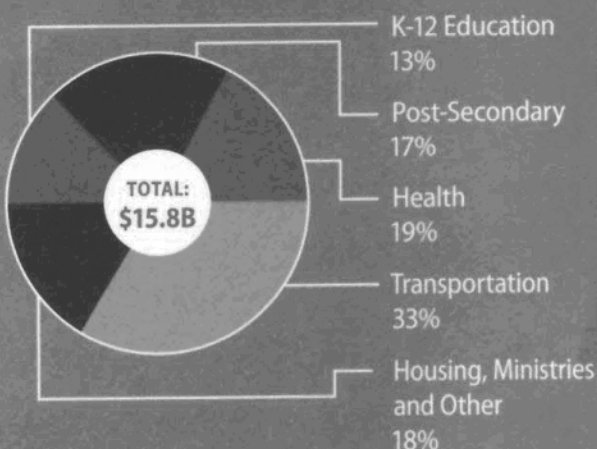
Your government is working to build a strong economy in every corner of our province, where small businesses thrive, workers have well-paying jobs, and people have the opportunity to reach their full potential. B.C. is an economic leader in Canada and is recognized for its fiscal stability and triple-A credit rating. In 2017, employment grew faster than any other part of Canada, and retail sales, housing starts and exports exceeded all expectations.

In the Budget 2017 Update, we immediately helped businesses by cutting the small business income tax rate in half, and reducing the PST on electricity for businesses.

Budget 2018 continues to support businesses by investing in the people who are helping to build B.C.'s strong economy.

- » **Capital investments** support our strong economy by providing jobs during construction, and much-needed infrastructure in our communities. The construction of these schools, roads, health facilities, post-secondary institutions and other investments will support over **50,000 direct and indirect jobs** during construction. For example:
 - Replacing the Pattullo Bridge with a new four-lane bridge.
 - Replacing Handsworth Secondary School in North Vancouver.
 - Partnering with post-secondary institutions to deliver 5,000 new student housing spaces on campuses.
- » **Investing in skills training** means investing in the people that drive economic growth:
 - Adding \$19 million annually to help give people opportunities by making Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning free.
 - Boosting computer sciences, information technology and engineering with an \$11-million investment in our colleges, universities and vocational institutes.
 - Investing almost \$9 million to help newcomers adjust to their new lives in our province.

» We are making the largest capital investment in B.C. history. Capital spending totals \$15.8 billion over three years on schools, hospitals, post-secondary facilities, roads, and bridges.



- » B.C.'s agriculture sector exports across the country and around the world creating jobs and contributing to our economy. Budget 2018 invests \$29 million over three years in the **Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC program** to expand local marketing efforts and improve brand recognition of B.C. products overseas.
- » The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented, with 65,000 people displaced from B.C. communities. To help support the businesses and communities impacted by wildfires, we're investing a further \$72 million in community resilience and recovery, and rural development.

The budget is balanced and we have a prudent fiscal plan. Our historic investments in people and services support a strong and growing economy.

Budget 2018 has a projected surplus of \$219 million and several levels of prudence through a forecast allowance of \$350 million and contingencies of \$550 million in 2018-19.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Budget 2018 Details: www.bcbudget.ca

Ministry of Finance: www.gov.bc.ca/fin

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BUDGET 2018

WORKING FOR YOU



British Columbia is thriving. Our economy is strong and we've seen record-level employment growth. But strong economic indicators don't tell the whole story. Not everyone in B.C. is getting ahead, and it's time that changed.

Budget 2018 is a budget that works for you. It makes your life more affordable and delivers the services that people count on. It starts with moving forward on a made-in-B.C. child care plan that will make child care more affordable and available for tens of thousands of families. It takes bold steps to tackle housing affordability with a new tax on foreign and domestic housing speculators, an historic investment in housing supply and plans to shut down tax loopholes and money laundering in our housing market.

Budgets are about choices and Budget 2018 puts people first. It is about investing in education and training so people have the skills they need to get good paying jobs. It is about building critical infrastructure that leads to sustainable economic growth, with the highest level of capital investment in B.C.'s history.

An economy that works for everyone starts with a budget that works for everyone. Budget 2018 helps people get ahead because we believe all British Columbians should have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

HONOURABLE CAROLE JAMES
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY PREMIER

HOMES FOR B.C.

Budget 2018 introduces B.C.'s first **comprehensive housing plan** focused on tackling speculation, curbing demand, increasing housing supply and improving security for renters. Our plan will start to ease B.C.'s housing affordability challenges with targeted tax changes, including:

- » Creating a new speculation tax on those distorting British Columbia's housing market. The tax will target foreign and domestic speculators who don't pay taxes here, including those who leave their units sitting vacant. This will include satellite families.
- » Increasing and expanding the foreign buyers tax, so foreign buyers contribute more for the high quality of life they enjoy when they move to our province.
- » Stabilizing the housing market by increasing the property transfer tax and the school tax on the wealthiest homeowners who buy or own homes valued higher than \$3 million.
- » Taking action to reduce tax fraud and close loopholes. We are strengthening tax administrators' audit and enforcement powers to help close information gaps and ensure tax compliance.
 - Moving to stop tax evasion in pre-sale condo reassignments.
 - Taking action to end hidden ownership.
 - Strengthening provincial auditing and enforcement powers.

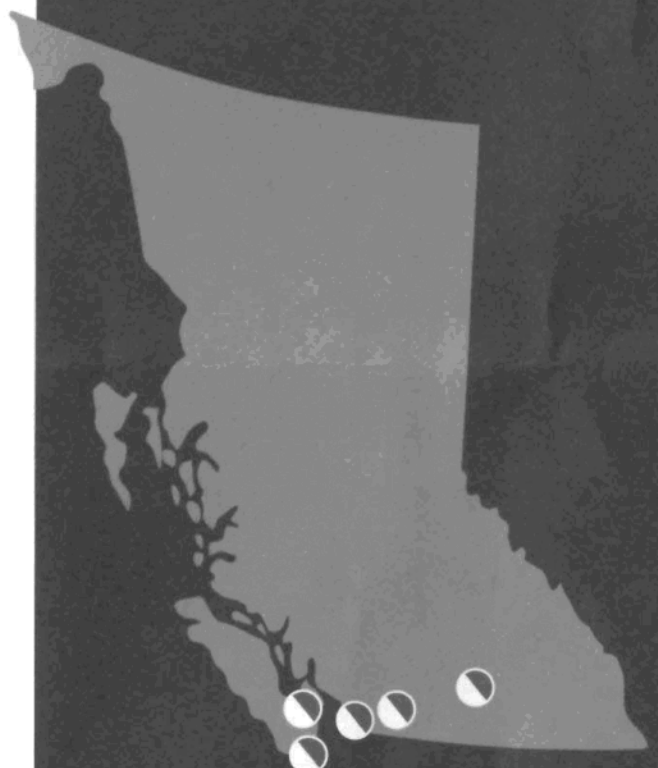
Our housing plan includes actions to build the homes people need and improve security for renters, including:

- » Investing more than \$6 billion over 10 years in affordable housing, including homes for growing families, homes for seniors, housing options for women and children fleeing violence, and student housing. This is the largest investment in housing in B.C.'s history.
- » Increasing rental assistance so that payments to low-income working families will increase by an average of \$800 per year and payments to seniors will increase by an average of \$930 per year, helping over 35,000 households make their rent more affordable.

- » Increasing supports for renters, strengthening rental laws, upgrading existing affordable housing, and enhancing protections for owners of manufactured homes.
- » Creating the new HousingHub through BC Housing to build partnerships and affordable homes where people need them most.

For more information, visit:
www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca

TAXES ON SPECULATORS AND FOREIGN BUYERS



- **SPECULATION TAX.** A new tax on foreign and domestic speculators. It will apply in Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Capital and Nanaimo Regional Districts, and the municipalities of Kelowna and West Kelowna.
- **FOREIGN BUYERS TAX.** Increase to 20% from 15% effective February 21, 2018. It will continue to apply in Metro Vancouver, and will be expanded to the Fraser Valley, Central Okanagan and Nanaimo and Capital Regional Districts.

CHILD CARE B.C.

People are struggling to find affordable, quality child care in their communities. Businesses are finding it challenging to attract and retain employees because parents can't go back to work without someone to look after their kids. Making sure child care is affordable is good for families and it is good for our economy. For more information, visit: www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca

BUDGET 2018 INVESTS MORE THAN \$1 BILLION IN CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING OVER THREE YEARS.

Your government is establishing a made-in-B.C. universal child care plan. The plan will help build a quality child care system that is affordable and accessible, starting with:

- » A new affordable child care benefit that will provide up to 86,000 families across B.C. with up to \$1,250 per month in child care cost relief by 2020.
- » A new child care fee reduction program that will benefit up to 50,000 families. Starting on April 1, 2018, parents with children in participating licensed care will be eligible for the following fee reductions:
 - Up to \$350/month for group infant/toddler care;
 - Up to \$200/month for family infant/toddler care;
 - Up to \$100/month for group care for children aged 3-5; and
 - Up to \$60/month for family care for children aged 3-5.
- » The creation of more than 22,000 new licensed child care spaces throughout the province, and incentives for licensed service providers to offer child care outside of standard business hours.
- » Boosting the supply of Early Childhood Educators to meet growing demand and rising quality standards.



SINGLE PARENT WITH AN INFANT

Earning up to \$45,000

PAYING: \$1,250/MONTH

SAVINGS UNDER CHILD CARE B.C.:

- » \$350 through Child Care Fee Reduction Program
- » \$900 through Affordable Child Care Benefit

Total benefits under Child Care B.C. **\$1,250**

Cost of licensed
child care beginning
in September 2018:

\$0 /month



TWO-PARENT FAMILY WITH AN INFANT AND A THREE YEAR OLD

Earning \$74,000

PAYING: \$2,050/MONTH

SAVINGS UNDER CHILD CARE B.C.:

- » \$450 through Child Care Fee Reduction Program
- » \$1,492.40 through Affordable Child Care Benefit

Total benefits under Child Care B.C. **\$1,942.40**

Estimated cost of
licensed child care
beginning in 2020:

\$107.60 /month

MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE

Our vision is for an economy that works for everyone.
This starts with a budget that works for people.

In September's Budget 2017 Update, we took important steps to help make life more affordable by investing in areas like affordable housing, increasing income assistance and disability rates, and introducing a plan to increase the minimum wage to \$15/hour. With Budget 2018, we are continuing to make choices that work for the people of our province.

ELIMINATION OF MEDICAL SERVICES PLAN (MSP) PREMIUMS

» Starting Jan. 1, 2018, MSP premiums were cut in half, saving individuals up to \$450 per year, and families up to \$900 per year. With Budget 2018, we are announcing the **elimination of MEDICAL SERVICES PLAN (MSP) PREMIUMS**, effective Jan. 1, 2020.

MSP premiums are regressive, unfair and difficult to administer. British Columbians are the only people in Canada that have to pay these unfair fees. Including the 50% reduction, fully eliminating MSP premiums will mean families will save up to \$1,800 per year, and individuals up to \$900 per year.

- To help fund the elimination of MSP premiums, we are introducing an employer health tax.
- Small businesses with payrolls less than \$500,000 will not pay any employer health tax.
- Businesses with payrolls between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million will benefit from a reduced rate.
- Businesses with payrolls over \$1.5 million will pay the full rate of 1.95%.

FULLY ELIMINATING MSP PREMIUMS

Effective Jan. 1, 2020



**TWO-PARENT
FAMILY WITH
TWO CHILDREN**

FULL PREMIUMS: \$1,800/PER YEAR

Cost once **MSP PREMIUMS
ARE FULLY ELIMINATED**
(as of Jan. 1, 2020):

\$0 /month



INDIVIDUALS

FULL PREMIUMS: \$900/PER YEAR

Cost once **MSP PREMIUMS
ARE FULLY ELIMINATED**
(as of Jan. 1, 2020):

\$0 /month

BC FERRIES

Budget 2018 delivers on government's commitment to make ferries more affordable. Ferry costs have skyrocketed, putting coastal communities at a disadvantage that is costly and unfair. Businesses that use ferries to transport goods are feeling the pinch too.

That's why we are:

- » Freezing ferry fares on all three major routes;
- » Rolling back fares on small routes by 15%; and
- » Restoring the Monday-Thursday 100% fare discount rate for senior passengers.

B.C.'s ferries are part of our highway system, and they should be affordable.



- » **Over 100,000 people** receiving disability assistance will benefit from the restoration of their **free bus passes or a monthly transportation supplement**. Travelling in their communities and accessing services they need will be a little easier and a lot more affordable for them with a \$214 million investment over three years.
- » We are working to improve taxpayer fairness in B.C. Starting April 1, 2018, we're **increasing PST on luxury vehicles**, and using the revenue to help pay for better services for British Columbians.

BRINGING DOWN THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

- » People shouldn't have to choose between paying for their medications and putting food on the table. For many, the cost of prescription drugs and medical supplies has put serious strains on household budgets. The \$105 million investment in the **FAIR PHARMACARE** program will expand coverage for 240,000 B.C. families.
- » All families with household net incomes under \$45,000 will benefit from this investment.
- » Deductibles will also be eliminated entirely for families with net annual incomes between \$15,000 and \$30,000.



240,000 B.C. FAMILIES BENEFIT



DEDUCTIBLES ELIMINATED

- » Families with net incomes below \$30,000.

DEDUCTIBLES REDUCED

- » Families with net incomes below \$45,000.

DELIVERING THE SERVICES PEOPLE COUNT ON

British Columbians deserve services they can depend on. Whether that's ensuring healthcare for a loved one, securing education for their kids or keeping communities safe people need access to quality services. Quality services can mean the difference between getting support for addiction or mental health challenges or suffering alone. They can mean the difference between getting help with learning English and integrating into the community, or struggling to learn alone and remaining isolated.

That's why we took immediate steps in the Budget 2017 Update to improve services and address some of people's most pressing needs. With Budget 2018, we are continuing to invest in the quality, reliable services people need.

- » Too many British Columbia families are losing loved ones because of the overdose crisis. First responders, health care professionals and community organizations are doing all they can to turn the corner on this crisis – but they need help. That's why, last year, your government created a standalone **Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions** and invested \$322 million over the next three years. This year we will help move B.C. from a focus on emergency response to a more integrated, proactive and preventive approach that helps people when and where they need it.
- » In September, we removed tuition fees for youth formerly in care, as well as for adult and English language learners. Building on our commitment to help youth in care, Budget 2018 provides \$30 million to increase financial support under the **Agreements with Young Adults** program. This program is critical for many of our young people aging out of care, helping them with rent, groceries and career advice. This support will help more than 800 former youth in care.
- » We are taking action to get you the healthcare you need. That's why we are investing \$150 million over three years to **expand coverage of primary care providers** and access to team-based care to those not currently not being well-served.

» Seniors deserve to live full lives, without having to worry about the cost of housing or the quality of care in assisted living facilities. Budget 2018 provides help for seniors:

- 22,000 low-income seniors will benefit from investments to the rental assistance program known as **SAFER - SHELTER AID FOR ELDERLY RENTERS**. This \$58 million investment over three years will increase the amount a SAFER recipient receives by an average of \$930 per year.
- A \$548 million investment over three years will mean better residential care for seniors and **MORE QUALIFIED SUPPORT STAFF** in assisted living facilities. This will help ensure our seniors, parents and grandparents are treated with dignity and respect.



» In the Budget 2017 Update, we made an historic investment in education to give kids the classrooms they need to thrive. Budget 2018 continues investing in our kids with \$72 million in funding to hire additional teachers, bringing the total new teachers added under the **CLASSROOM ENHANCEMENT FUND** to 3,700. Our schools will get a boost from an additional \$2 billion over three years that will help maintain, replace, renovate or **expand** schools across the province.

 + **3,700**
NEW TEACHERS

1. ABE & ELL
2. Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund
3. UVic Indigenous Law Program
4. Tuition Waiver Program
5. Tech spaces
6. Student loans
7. ECE
8. Economic Stability Dividend

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry: Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Date: Feb. 9, 2018

Update: Feb. 19, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Melanie Mark

Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

s.13

s.13

The Fund was previously administered by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation since inception in April 2015.

Over the past two years, more than 2,700 Indigenous people have accessed training through projects supported by the fund. Over the past three years, 57 projects have received funding.

Of the people trained in 2015-16, 52% found employment and at least 21% went on to further training or education.

Examples of training projects include environmental monitoring, construction trades, driving, early childhood educators and information technology.

s.13

Communications Contact: Rodney Porter
 Program Area Contact: Shannon Renault / Deb Hull / Catherine Poole
 File Created: Feb. 9, 2018
 File Updated: Feb. 19, 2018

Program Area	ADM / Deputy Minister	Communications Director
	Bindi Sawchuk / Jeff Vasey	

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

**Ministry: Advanced Education, Skills and
Training**

Date: Feb. 13, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Melanie Mark

UVic: Indigenous Law Program

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

s.13

UVic's existing Canadian Common Law JD degree is a three-year program.

s.13

s.13

Communications Contact: Rodney Porter
Program Area Contact: James Postans / Susan Burns
File Created:

Program Area	ADM / Deputy Minister	Communications Director

From: uvicnews <uvicnews@uvic.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 11:06 AM
Subject: UVic News: World's first Indigenous law degree to be offered at UVic

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA NEWS RELEASE

Feb. 21, 2018

World's first Indigenous law degree to be offered at UVic

A new law program at the University of Victoria is the world's first to combine the intensive study of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous law, enabling people to work fluently across the two realms.

Students will graduate with two professional degrees, one in Canadian Common Law (Juris Doctor or 'JD') and one in Indigenous Legal Orders (Juris Indigenarum Doctor or 'JID'). Their education will benefit areas such as environmental protection, Indigenous governance, economic development, housing, child protection and education—areas where currently there is an acute lack of legal expertise to create institutions that are grounded in Indigenous peoples' law and to build productive partnerships across the two legal systems.

"This program builds on UVic's longstanding commitment to, and unique relationship with, the First Peoples of Canada. The foundational work for this program has been underway for several years, building on Indigenous scholarship for which UVic is known internationally," says UVic President Jamie Cassels. "This joint-degree program is also a direct response to a call of action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to establish Indigenous law institutes for the development, use and understanding of Indigenous Law."

The provincial government included funding for the new program in BC Budget 2018, delivered Feb. 20, as one of several initiatives and another step in BC's commitment to work with Indigenous peoples to build true and lasting reconciliation, anchored by the government's commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

"We appreciate the provincial government's support for this unique and transformative program whose graduates will be leaders in numerous fields in their communities in BC and across Canada," says Cassels.

The JD/JID program was conceived by two of Canada's foremost Indigenous legal experts, both of whom are at UVic: John Borrows, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, and Val Napoleon, Law Foundation Chair in Aboriginal Justice and Governance. Borrows describes the difference between common law and Indigenous law this way: Indigenous law looks to nature and to the land to provide principles of law and order and ways of creating peace between peoples; whereas the common law looks to old cases in libraries to decide how to act in the future.

"Indigenous law is the most vital and exciting legal work being done in the world right now," says Napoleon, director of the Indigenous Law Research Unit. "UVic's Indigenous Law Degree program will equip our students to take up that work at every level – local to national, private to public, and beyond. This is the very first law degree of its kind, and it is going to be a vital part of rebuilding Indigenous law to meet today's challenges."

The four-year JD/JID program includes mandatory field studies in Indigenous communities across Canada, introducing students to a diversity of Indigenous legal traditions. The first intake of students is being planned for September 2018, subject to approval under BC's Degree Authorization Act.

The program will be supported and complemented by a new Indigenous Legal Lodge, to be built to house the JD/JID program and the Indigenous Law Research Unit. It will act as a national forum for critical engagement, debate, learning, public education and partnership on Indigenous legal traditions and their use, refinement, and reconstruction. The design will reflect and honour the long-standing relationships between the law school and local First Nations communities.

Senator Murray Sinclair, former judge and Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, said of the joint JD/JID program and Indigenous Legal Lodge: "They are precisely what we had hoped would follow from the report of

the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and they promise to form the very best of legacies: a set of initiatives that reject and reverse the pattern of denigration and neglect identified in our report, and that establish the conditions for effective action long into the future."

-- 30 --

For more info, please refer to the [backgrounder](#).

[View this release in your browser.](#)

Media contacts:

Val Napoleon, (Law, Foundation Chair in Aboriginal Justice and Governance) at 250-721-8172 or napoleon@uvic.ca

John Borrows (Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law). Limited availability at jborrows@uvic.ca

Jeremy Webber (Dean, UVic Law) at 250-721-8147 or lawdean@uvic.ca

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Suzanne Ahearne (University Communications + Marketing) at 250-721-6139 or sahearne@uvic.ca

-- 30 --

About the University of Victoria

UVic is one of Canada's leading research-intensive universities, offering life-changing, hands-on learning experiences to more than 21,000 students on the edge of the spectacular BC coast. As a hub of transformational research, UVic faculty, staff and students make a critical difference on issues that matter to people, places and the planet. We have more research based on international collaboration than any other Canadian university and our community and organizational partnerships play a key role in generating vital impact, from scientific and business breakthroughs to achievements in culture and creativity. Find out more at uvic.ca. [Territory acknowledgement](#)

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UVic media relations & services: www.uvic.ca/communicationsmarketing/media

1. Student Housing
2. \$1.3B Capital Investment Projects

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry: Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Date: Aug. 14, 2017

Updated: Feb. 18, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Melanie Mark

Student Housing

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

s.13

Out of 10,400 beds built between 2001 and 2017, the **Advanced Education Ministry provided funding towards a total of 130 beds** at NVIT (\$2.4 million) and NWCC (\$365,000). A different Ministry (FLNRO) gave \$1.6 million towards the cost of innovation using mass timber at UBC's Brock Common, which has 400 beds.

ADVICE TO MINISTER

s.13

Student housing demand is highest in the Lower Mainland and on Vancouver Island, followed closely by Kamloops. The Ministry estimates that provincial demand for student housing is nearly double today's supply of roughly 21,000 beds.

On Sept. 5, 2016, the Alliance of BC Students called for a provincial government investment of \$18 million per year over 10 years for a total of \$180 million. This would leverage an additional \$1.62 billion by allowing post-secondary institutions to take on debt.

The Alliance of BC Students' proposal did not recognize that borrowing by PSIs also becomes a debt of the province because PSI accounts are consolidated into the Government Reporting Entity. Their proposal would add \$1.8 billion in taxpayer supported debt to the province.

Communications Contact: Stephen Binder
Program Area Contact: Jeanne Sedun / Nancy Singh
File Created: Aug. 14, 2017.
File Updated: Feb. 18, 2018

Program Area	ADM / Deputy Minister	Communications Director
Financial and Management Services Division	Kevin Brewster / Shannon Baskerville	Rodney Porter

AEST

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BC Student Housing

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CORE MESSAGING

Updated: February 2018

Capital Budget

s.13

Facts about current capital investment

Central Interior:

The \$35-million investment in the new Teaching and Learning Centre and a number of sustainability and infrastructure upgrades at the UBC Okanagan campus (B.C. is providing \$10.6 million). Completion is expected in summer 2018.

The \$30.6 million Nursing and Population Health Building at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops (B.C. is providing \$8.0 million). Completion is expected in late 2019.

The \$33.1-million Industrial Training and Technology Centre at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops (B.C. is providing \$7 million). Completion is expected in summer 2018.

The \$9.7-million Centre of Excellence in Sustainability at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt (B.C. is providing \$2.5 million). Completion is expected in summer 2018.

The \$6.2-million trades training centre at Okanagan College in Vernon (B.C. is providing \$2.88 million). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

Kootenays:

The \$22.2-million Silver King Trades Campus Renewal project at Selkirk College in Nelson (B.C. is providing \$13.6 million). Completion is expected in fall 2018.

The \$11.6-million trades-training facility at College of the Rockies in Cranbrook (B.C. is providing \$4.8 million). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

Lower Mainland:

The five-storey, 15,000-square-metre, \$126-million Energy Systems Engineering Building at SFU Surrey (B.C. is providing \$45 million). Completion is expected in late 2018.

The \$80 million upgrade and expansion to the undergraduate teaching laboratories at UBC will provide 2,000 students and professors with modern classroom and laboratory space (B.C. is providing \$11.8 million). Completion is expected in late 2018.

The \$78.3-million BCIT Health Sciences Centre for Advanced Simulation in Burnaby (B.C. is providing \$66.6 million). Completion is expected in 2020.

The \$22-million investment in renovations to the Spruce Building at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey (B.C. is providing \$14.7 million). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

The \$1.9-million investment in two new capital projects at the Justice Institute of British Columbia, including a modular learning facility at the Driver Education Centre in Pitt Meadows and roof replacement on three buildings at the New Westminster campus (B.C. is providing a total of \$1.5 million). Completion is expected by early 2018.

The \$2.2-million fan replacement project at Langara College (B.C. is providing \$584,000). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

North:

The \$34.4-million trades training centre at Northern Lights College in Dawson Creek (B.C. is providing \$16.4 million). Construction is expected in summer 2018.

The \$18.4-million renewal and refurbishment of trades training facilities at Northwest Community College in Terrace (B.C. is providing \$11.87 million). Completion is expected in summer 2018.

The \$18.5-million heavy-mechanical trades-training facility at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George (B.C. is providing \$10.1 million). Construction is underway with completion in fall 2018.

The \$5.3-million Wood Innovation Research Lab at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George (B.C. is providing \$2.6 million). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

Vancouver Island:

The \$48.5-million Health Science Centre at Camosun College in Victoria (B.C. is providing \$31 million). Completion of the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) phase is expected in fall 2018 and the remaining project components by summer 2019.

The \$40.9-million Health and Science Centre at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo (B.C. is providing \$17.5 million). Completion is expected in fall 2018.

The \$24.8-million Centre for Environmental Science and International Partnership at Royal Roads University in Victoria (B.C. is providing \$5.7 million). Completion is expected in spring 2018.

The \$20-million expansion of the Marine, Automotive and Trades Complex at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo (B.C. is providing \$9.5 million). Completion is expected in summer 2018.

The \$17.7-million trades facility at North Island College in Campbell River (B.C. is providing \$8.6 million). Completion is expected in fall 2018.

Page 36 to/à Page 41

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EHT – MSP Task Force

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Page 43

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry: Advanced Education, Skills and
Training

Date: Feb. 27, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Melanie Mark

MSP / Employers' Health Tax

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

BACKGROUND REGARDING THE ISSUE:

s.13

The B.C. government committed to eliminating MSP premiums within four years. The government took the first step in *Budget 2017 Update* by cutting MSP premiums by 50% starting Jan. 1, 2018.

s.13

At 1.95%, it is the lowest rate among provinces with a payroll tax in Canada.

s.13

s.13

Budget 2018 includes a new student housing loan program to provide \$450 million in new funding over six years to our public post-secondary institutions to build approximately 5,000 new student housing beds.

Budget 2018 includes a direct investment of \$1.216 billion over the next three years in provincial capital funding. Projects include:

- A five-storey Energy Systems Engineering Building at SFU Surrey.
- A new education and trades training facility for CNC in Vanderhoof.
- A new Marine, Automotive and Trades Complex along with a new Health and Science Centre at VIU in Nanaimo.

Communications Contact: Rodney Porter
 Program Area Contact: Tony Loughran
 File Created:

Program Area	ADM / Deputy Minister	Communications Director

Page 46 to/à Page 48

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

IMPACT OF EMPLOYER HEALTH TAX ON POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

M. Lee: Mr. Speaker, the employer health tax on the University of British Columbia will be an estimated \$23 million next year, plus MSP. This is just one of the more than three dozen post-secondary institutions throughout our province that face a significantly larger tax bill as a result of replacing the MSP with the new, higher NDP tax.

My question to the Minister of Finance is: what is the total estimated additional cost of the employer health tax for all of the post-secondary institutions in British Columbia?

Hon. C. James: As I've said to the previous questioner, we are implementing the employers health tax January 1, 2019. We have given a year's transition, so we can make sure that the implementation is done well. We'll be having discussions — as we are with school boards, as we are with health authorities, we will with post-secondary institutions.

I can tell you that the students and others who attend those post-secondary institutions are thrilled at seeing MSP eliminated, thrilled at getting rid of a regressive tax. I can also assure the member that when you look at the investments we are putting into post-secondary education to ensure that students, former children in care, can get to school — expanding opportunities for engineering in our universities and colleges — those are exactly the investments British Columbians have been asking for, and those are the ones that we're going to deliver on.

Mr. Speaker: Member for Vancouver-Langara on a supplemental.

M. Lee: Well, Mr. Speaker, I continue to get the impression that there has been no assessment as to what the total impact on post-secondary institutions will be for the employer health tax. Students don't pay the MSP. Students pay tuition. There are questions, serious questions, that need to be asked about what the impact will be of this new tax for post-secondary institutions and our students. The Premier has committed that organizations will be kept whole. Is the minister planning an exemption or a refund to keep the post-secondary sector whole?

Hon. C. James: Well, coming from that side of the House that doubled tuition during the 16 years that they were in — and now you care? Now you say that you care?

I'm sorry, hon. Speaker, but now it's too late. It's too late. You proved by doubling tuition that you didn't care about students, and students know that.

I want to read a quote from John from Maple Ridge. With the hundreds of dollars he's saving thanks to the elimination of MSP premiums, he is going to help his daughter pay for school. That's exactly what we want to support.

BUDGET REVENUE PROJECTIONS AND EMPLOYER HEALTH TAX

T. Redies: Three-year revenue projections for both the employer health tax and the so-called speculation tax mean nothing when the Minister of Finance will only give details as we go along. The minister either has no idea or is refusing to come clean on what it will cost to keep non-profits and public agencies whole as the Premier promised. How can the minister possibly stand in this House and state that her revenue projections are still accurate?

Hon. C. James: Again, let's remind everyone in this House. The province knows this. Families know this, because they have already starting seeing the benefit, as of January 1, when they see their savings — that eliminating the MSP will save hard-working British Columbians \$2.6 billion a year.

Hon. Speaker, as other provinces have done, we are bringing in an employers health tax. This is the lowest employers health tax rate in the country. We will ensure that we provide support for health care and other programs and services that families rely on, and families will have money in their pocket that they haven't seen in this province.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Surrey—White Rock on a supplemental.

T. Redies: School boards, health authorities, charities and universities all face a significant ongoing gap between the previous MSP and the new NDP employer health tax. That's a fact. The minister promises that details will be discussed at a later date, and the Premier claims everyone will be kept whole.

This bogus budget doesn't add up. How can British Columbians trust the minister's numbers?

Hon. C. James: Well, we are the last province in the country that still has MSP premiums — the last province in the country. And yes, in our budget we've decided we are taking a bold step. We are getting rid of MSP premiums and supporting families with savings. And yes, we are bringing in, as other provinces have done, an employers health tax. We have the lowest rate in this country. It will bring in the resources needed.

I would ask the member across the way — I would ask all the members on the other side — are you suggesting that we leave MSP premiums in place? I know that's what your government did. I know that's what the other side did — double them. Perhaps that's the solution that the other side would like to propose, that we leave MSP premiums in place or cut child care or support programs?

We're investing in people, we're investing in affordability, and we're going to continue to do that.

Table A2 Interprovincial Comparisons of Tax Rates – 2018
(Rates known and in effect as of February 1, 2018)

Tax	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador
Corporate income tax										
(per cent of taxable income)										
General rate	12	12	12	12	11.5	11.7	14	16	16	15
Manufacturing rate ¹	12	12	10	12	10	11.7	14	16	16	15
Small business rate ²	2	2	2	0	3.5	8	3	3	4.5	3
Small business threshold (\$000s)	500	500	600	450	500	500	500	500	500	500
Corporation capital tax (per cent)										
Financial ³	Nil	Nil	0.7/4	Nil/6	Nil	1.25	4/5	4	5	6
Health care premiums/month (\$)										
Individual/family ⁴	37.50/75	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Payroll tax (per cent) ⁵	Nil	Nil	Nil	2.15	1.95	4.26	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Insurance premium tax										
(per cent) ⁶	2-7	3/4	3/4	2/4.25	2-3.5	3.48	2/3	3/4	3.75/4	5
Fuel tax (cents per litre) ⁷										
Gasoline	21.17	19.73	15.0	14.0	23.2	29.4	25.2	25.2	22.8	30.7
Diesel	22.67	21.03	15.0	14.0	22.8	30.9	32.4	25.6	31.0	33.1
Sales tax (per cent) ⁸										
General rate	7	Nil	6	8	8	9.975	10	10	10	10
Tobacco tax (\$ per carton of 200 cigarettes) ⁹										
	49.40	50.00	60.66	68.28	40.15	29.80	61.85	66.25	60.71	59.61

¹ In British Columbia (and some other provinces), the general rate applies to income from manufacturing and processing. In Quebec, the rate for manufacturing corporations eligible for the small business rate is 4 per cent; the rate for other manufacturing corporations is the general rate.

² New Brunswick's small business rate will be 2.5 per cent effective April 1, 2018.

³ In Saskatchewan, small financial corporations pay the rate of 0.7 per cent on their capital. A small financial corporation has less than \$1.5 billion in taxable capital. Large financial corporations are subject to the 4 per cent rate. In Manitoba, only large financial corporations with taxable paid-up capital of at least \$4 billion are subject to the 6 per cent rate. Quebec's tax only applies to life insurance companies. In New Brunswick, trust and loan companies are subject to the rate of 4 per cent, while banks are subject to the rate of 5 per cent.

⁴ British Columbia intends to eliminate Medical Services Plan premiums effective January 1, 2020. Ontario levies a health premium, as part of its provincial personal income tax system, of up to \$900 per year.

⁵ British Columbia intends to introduce a payroll tax effective January 1, 2019. Provinces with payroll taxes provide payroll tax relief for small businesses. Quebec also levies a compensation tax of up to 4.48 per cent on salaries and wages paid by financial institutions.

⁶ Lower rates apply to premiums for life, sickness and accident insurance; higher rates apply to premiums for property insurance including automobile insurance. In British Columbia, the highest rate applies to unlicensed insurance. In Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador, sales taxes also apply to certain insurance premiums except, generally, those related to individual life and health.

⁷ Tax rates are for regular fuel used on highways and include all provincial taxes payable by consumers at the pump. The British Columbia rates include 6.75 cents per litre dedicated to the BC Transportation Financing Authority and the carbon tax rates of 6.67 cents per litre for gasoline and 7.67 cents per litre for diesel (carbon tax rates will increase to 7.78 cents per litre on gasoline and to 8.95 cents per litre on diesel effective April 1, 2018). The British Columbia rates do not include regional taxes that increase the gasoline and diesel tax rates by 11 cents per litre in the South Coast British Columbia transportation service region and by 3.5 cents per litre in the Capital Regional District (British Columbia intends to increase the tax to 5.5 cents per litre in the Capital Regional District effective April 1, 2018). The Alberta rates include carbon levy rates of 6.73 cents per litre for gasoline and 8.03 cents per litre for diesel. The tax rates for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador include provincial sales tax based on average pump prices as of January 2018. Quebec's tax rates do not include increased or reduced regional tax rates, such as an additional tax of 3 cents per litre on gasoline in the Montreal area.

⁸ Tax rates shown are statutory rates. Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador have harmonized their sales taxes with the federal GST. Alberta imposes a 4 per cent tax on short-term rental accommodation.

⁹ Includes estimated provincial sales tax in all provinces except British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec. British Columbia intends to increase its tobacco tax rate to \$55.00 per carton effective April 1, 2018.

Payroll taxes in Canada

Manitoba 2.15%

Ontario 1.95%

Quebec 4.26%

Nfld 2%

BC 1.95%

lowest rate

FACTSHEET

For Immediate Release
NEWS-16437
Feb. 21, 2018

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Cross-government commitments to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples

The Province's focus on building a true and lasting vision of reconciliation is anchored by a cross-government commitment to adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls-to-action, and the Supreme Court of Canada Tsilhqot'in decision.

The Province is working to close the socio-economic gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, as well as taking steps toward long-term transformation of B.C.'s relationship with Indigenous peoples.

Reconciliation is a cross-government priority, and government is making significant new investments in affordable housing, Indigenous language and culture, child care, mental health and addiction, poverty reduction, economic development, and building the capacity that is critical for self-determination. More than \$200 million is dedicated to Indigenous priorities in Budget 2018.

New investments in reconciliation:

- \$550 million over 10 years to support the construction of 1,750 affordable housing units to help to address complex social challenges facing urban Indigenous people. That is a \$158 million investment within the first three years.
- \$50 million to support the revitalization of Indigenous languages. The teaching of language strengthens the cultural and social health of Indigenous communities, connects children to their heritage and the lands they come from, and supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- \$30 million over three years through B.C.'s Bilateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreement with the Government of Canada to support Indigenous child care, early learning and family supports. This includes expanding the current Aboriginal Head Start programs, and creating new programs throughout the province. Additional funding will also go toward increasing access to Aboriginal-supported child development services and reducing waitlists for these services, both on and off reserves.
- \$30 million over three years to continue the Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund. The Province is ensuring more Indigenous people have access to education and skills training programs designed in consultation with Indigenous communities and delivered in their communities.
- \$20 million over three years to support Indigenous communities and people to address the overdose crisis. Indigenous people are disproportionately affected by this public health emergency, and this investment will help build a co-ordinated system of mental-health and addictions services that support culturally safe treatment and recovery options for First Nations and Indigenous people.

- \$6 million over three years to support Aboriginal Friendship Centres. Aboriginal Friendship Centres are key partners in providing services to urban Indigenous populations, such as programs to support children, youth, Elders and families, and health, well-being and culture.
- \$5 million over three years to continue work on treaties and other agreements, environmental stewardship initiatives, and socio-economic development. This funding supports the Province's responsibility to consult and accommodate First Nations communities, and the government's commitment to meaningful reconciliation and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- \$2 million to support the Moose Hide Campaign and emphasize B.C.'s ongoing commitment to end violence against women and children. Moose Hide is a B.C.-born, grassroots campaign to support men standing up to and addressing violence against women and children.
- Improved supports for youth aging out of care, the majority of who are Indigenous. The budget includes \$7.7 million to raise the age of eligibility for youth accessing agreements with young adults to their 27th birthday, to align with the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program; increase the maximum monthly support rate from \$1,000 to \$1,250; and make supports available for the full calendar year for students enrolled in multi-year educational or vocational programs.
- The Province is working with the Aboriginal Justice Council to increase access to justice for Indigenous peoples in B.C., focused on priority areas of reconciliation, over-representation, violence against Indigenous women and girls, engagement, access to services, and cultural relevance. The Province is also providing \$2 million to assist the University of Victoria in developing an Indigenous law program.
- Revitalizing the environmental assessment process in collaboration with Indigenous groups to ensure Indigenous interests and legal rights are respected; to ensure collaboration with Indigenous groups before, during and after environmental assessments; and to recognize and include traditional ecological knowledge throughout the process.
- \$45.4 million, in partnership with the Government of Canada, to connect 154 rural and remote communities on B.C.'s coast (56 of which are Indigenous communities) to reliable, high-speed internet. Increasing connectivity strengthens economies, enhances access to education and healthcare, and provides additional opportunities for Indigenous communities to share their knowledge and culture with the world.
- Continuing to roll out the dedicated engagement process for urban and off-reserve Indigenous communities, as part of the development of B.C.'s first poverty reduction strategy. Funding has also been provided to Métis Nation BC and Aboriginal Friendship Centres to host discussions, and government is meeting with Indigenous leaders and organizations, including the First Nations Health Council and First Nations Leadership Council, on poverty reduction.

Contact:

Government Communications and Public
Engagement
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and
Reconciliation
250 356-5831

Williams, Doris AEST:EX

From: Mark, Melanie AEST:EX
Sent: Monday, March 5, 2018 8:30 AM
To: Williams, Doris AEST:EX
Subject: FW: [TRA] B.C. BUDGET 2018 Summary: IMPACTS TO B.C. FIRST NATIONS
Attachments: FNLC BC Budget Summary - Feb 20 2018.pdf

Please print the body of the email plus the attachment.

From: Melanie Mark [mailto:s.22]
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2018 8:47 PM
To: Mark, Melanie AEST:EX <Melanie.Mark@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: [TRA] B.C. BUDGET 2018 Summary: IMPACTS TO B.C. FIRST NATIONS

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rachel Singleton-Polster (via titleandrightsalliance list)
<titleandrightsalliance+rachel=ubcic.bc.ca@npogroups.org>
Date: Tue, Feb 20, 2018 at 5:12 PM
Subject: [TRA] B.C. BUDGET 2018 Summary: IMPACTS TO B.C. FIRST NATIONS
To: "titleandrightsalliance@npogroups.org" <titleandrightsalliance@npogroups.org>

**B.C. BUDGET 2018 Summary:
IMPACTS TO B.C. FIRST NATIONS
Tuesday, February 20, 2018- FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

BACKGROUND

The B.C. budget was tabled February 20, 2018. The budget, titled 'Working for You,' is driven by the government's election campaign pledge to 'make life more affordable,' 'improve the services people count on,' and to 'build a strong, sustainable economy'. These themes are apparent throughout the budget documents and the Minister of Finance has stated that the 2018 budget is about the 'people'.

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FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

B.C. BUDGET 2018 Summary: IMPACTS TO B.C. FIRST NATIONS Tuesday, February 20, 2018



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Page 72 to/à Page 73

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CKYE (RED FM Surrey)

CKYE Harjinder Thind

14-Feb-2018 08:46

Quoted: Andrew Wilkinson, Harjinder Thind

Harjinder Thind: Mr Wilkinson, good morning.

Andrew Wilkinson: How are you doing?

Thind: Very good. Did you like that throne speech?

Wilkinson: Well, it's a big disappointment, and I think the newspapers are saying so this morning. The NDP made huge promises during the election, and now the reality is starting to set

in, so they cannot deliver on things like \$10-a-day child care and the 114,000 housing units they said they would build. There is a string of broken promises, and it's getting longer and longer every day.

Thind: But they are saying that \$10 a day is a brand name; otherwise, they're going to do the same thing, create more spaces.

Wilkinson: Yeah, and it's unfortunate they start to make a hard promise like \$10-a-day day care, and then later on they say, oh, just kidding; that was just a label we put on it; we didn't really mean that. I mean, that's just dishonest. Let's be straight. It's not the sort of thing where you go and buy a car, and they say it's going to be \$1,400, and then they come back and say, no, no, sorry, just kidding; it's \$3,000. We've got the same problem with the NDP now. They have made huge promises, like a \$400 annual renters rebate, which they have just forgotten about completely.

Thind: I just asked Mr Bains, and he said.. Probably you haven't understood. It was in the Punjabi language. He said it'll be coming in the budget. And I asked him again: is it clear cut? There's no details on this one. Are you going to give or not? He said, yes, it's coming in the next budget.

Wilkinson: Well, we'll see, won't we, next Tuesday, but so far they're just kidding and not really serious about it. A pattern is starting to show. **They offered completion grants for college and university graduates in the election.** There's no sign of any of that. They offered new schools in Surrey, and we haven't seen anything solid about that. They said they would get rid of portables in Surrey. We haven't seen anything about that. We have to remember that they have used up a lot of their money already for things like the bridge tolls, and so they don't have much money left, and they've got these grand promises they now can't keep.

Thind: He said we will replace the Pattullo Bridge. The throne speech says in it. Your government failed to replace that.

Wilkinson: That's a project that obviously needs to get done at some point, because the bridge is from the 1930s, but at the same time, they have forgotten about things like the Massey Tunnel replacement. They've forgotten about mass transit. There's no suggestion of extending the Canada line or the SkyTrain system into Surrey any further.

Once again, they've made huge promises and failed to deliver on them, and this is becoming a pattern. They're a bit afraid to govern. They're scared to make decisions. We've seen that. They have 17 topics out for review now where they're reluctant to talk about them because they're not sure what to do -- everything from hydraulic fracturing through wildfire review and housing and labour relations, poverty reduction. These things are all being sent out for study again and again and again.

Thind: What do you think about this consulting and reviewing? Is it taking a cautious approach or this is a weakness?

Wilkinson: Well, in many of them it's just a lack of ability to make a decision. We saw that on Site C. They spent six months studying and fretting about something, and then they just carried on with the BC Liberal policy. It's also interesting. **In this throne speech they're reannouncing things that were done by the Liberals. When we were in office, we cut the MSP premiums in half. They've reannounced that. When we were in office, we reduced student loan interest by 2.5%. They've reannounced that as theirs. They have done any number of**

things that were actually done by the BC Liberals. They talk about team-based health care. We announced that. They talk about new engineering programs at UNBC and Thompson Rivers University. We announced that. So what they have done is reannounce a whole bunch of things that we did. They continued our plans on Site C after a lot of wasted time and money, and now they're busy saying they're going to break any number of promises.

Thind: Mr Bains just said that there was a mention of [great tensions] with Alberta. What do you think about that?

Wilkinson: This is a big problem that they have created. It didn't exist before John Horgan decided that he had to keep his environmental faction happy. He disappointed them about Site C, and so in response they said, well, we want more studies on oil in the marine environment. Now, let's remember that's federal jurisdiction. That's the job of the federal government. And so in response, Alberta got very annoyed and is doing more and more things to cause job loss in British Columbia.

This is not in the interests of BC. John Horgan should get on a plane to Edmonton and mend fences with Alberta and get things back on track so that BC can look forward to prosperity. Right now all he's doing is picking a big fight with Alberta, which is already resulting in lost jobs in the wine industry. Some \$70m will disappear from the wine industry this year because of John Horgan's decision.

And now the federal government is being very upset by his plans to try and block federal jurisdiction. You have to remember that interprovincial pipelines are federal jurisdiction, just like aviation or radio, for that matter, telecommunications. They're all federal. And so it's not up to John Horgan to say, well, he's decided to change the constitution by himself and make things impossible for Alberta. That's not his job. He's not allowed to do that. And so if it goes to court, BC will probably lose and British Columbia will have lost close friends in Ottawa and Alberta in the process, and that hurts British Columbia.

Thind: Mr Wilkinson, do you hope that missing items in the throne speech will show up in the budget next week?

Wilkinson: That's a possibility. You know, our job as the opposition is to look out for the interests of British Columbians, to make sure that the NDP are held accountable and to make sure that they keep their promises. They're breaking their promises on a daily basis. We'll see how many more of them get broken in the budget.

Thind: Thank you very much for your time. We'll speak to you again.

Wilkinson: Always a pleasure. Thank you. [xrz]

Page 77 to/à Page 83

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s.13

AEST Top 10 Accomplishments

1. Toured all 25 public post-secondary institutions over 21 days in August 2017 to engage and listen to students, staff and faculty. s.13
2. Cut the provincial student loan interest rate by 2.5% effective August 1st, 2017 benefiting 200,000 people and making post-secondary education more affordable.
3. Eliminated tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs from September 1, 2017, opening doors previously closed to education for thousands of people. s.13
4. Launched the first provincial wide tuition-waiver program to support former youth in care at all 25 public post-secondary institutions. As a result, 20% more students in public post-secondary institutions are benefiting from the tuition waiver program.
5. Provided \$1.67 million for 562 additional trades training seats in response to industry demand in areas such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing, heavy duty mechanical and sheet metal.
6. Kicked off the Study North BC campaign in September 2017 to strengthen the public post-secondary education system by encouraging more students to study and live in the region. s.13
7. Invested \$2.4 million in 93 community-based adult literacy programs throughout the province to connect people with the education and training they need to succeed. s.13
8. Met with tech co-op students and participated in roundtable discussions in Vancouver and Kamloops with tech employers and post-secondary partners about education and training more tech talent. s.13
9. Announced the first major investment in tech programing at post-secondary institutions in over 10 years with 2,900 tech-related spaces that will produce 1,000 additional tech grads a year by 2023. This includes the first full software engineering program in the Interior and the first full engineering degree in Northern B.C.
10. Launched a public engagement campaign to raise awareness about sexualized violence prevention and response policies at post-secondary institutions, and to invite feedback to find out what more can be done to prevent sexual violence on campus.

Page 85

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Thirteen public post-secondary institutions received funding for additional trades training seats:

1. **British Columbia Institute of Technology:** \$238,000 for 112 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Electrical
 - 16 seats Heavy Duty Mechanic
 - 16 seats Metal Fabricator
 - 16 seats Commercial Transport
 - 16 seats Marine Fitter
 - 16 seats Marine Fitter
 - 16 seats Heavy Mechanical Trades foundation
2. **Camosun College:** \$219,000 for 112 additional trades seats.
 - 32 seats foundation Carpentry
 - 48 seats Construction Craft Worker
 - 16 seats Plumbing level 4
 - 16 seats Plumbing level 3
3. **College of New Caledonia:** \$173,000 for 48 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Electrical apprenticeship
 - 16 seats Millwright apprenticeship
 - 16 seats Power Engineering Class 4
4. **College of the Rockies:** \$109,000 for 16 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats heavy duty mechanical foundation
5. **Kwantlen Polytechnic University:** \$51,000 for 32 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Millwright
 - 16 seats Electrical
6. **Nicola Valley Institute of Technology:** \$57,000 for 16 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Plumbing foundation
7. **North Island College:** \$30,000 for 16 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Electrical apprenticeship
8. **Northwest Community College:** \$65,000 for 16 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Carpentry foundation
9. **Okanagan College:** \$196,000 for 48 additional trades seats.
 - 16 seats Sheet Metal
 - 16 Seats Plumbing/Piping trades
 - 16 seats Heavy Mechanical Trades foundation

10. **Thompson Rivers University:** \$111,000 for 48 additional trades seats.

- 16 seats Sawfiler 1
- 16 seats Sawfiler 2
- 16 seats Carpentry Residential

11. **University of the Fraser Valley:** \$133,000 for 34 additional trades seats.

- 18 seats Automotive Service Technician foundation
- 16 seats Electrical apprenticeship

12. **Vancouver Community College:** \$109,000 for 16 additional trades seats.

- 16 seats Heavy Mechanical Trades foundation

13. **Vancouver Island University:** \$182,000 for 48 additional trades seats.

- 16 seats Power Engineering Class 4
- 16 seats Electrical level 3
- 16 seats Electrical level 2

Page 88

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Summary: The Cost of Public Post-Secondary in British Columbia**Background**

- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training collect tuition and mandatory fee data from the 25 public post-secondary institutions, as well as data on the student society fees.
 - September 1st, 2001: tuition fees reduced by 5%.
 - March 31st, 2002 through the 2004/05 Academic Year: Tuition deregulated.
 - September 1st, 2005 (ongoing): Tuition Limit Policy introduced.
 - In 2007 (ongoing): Tuition Limit Policy extended to include Mandatory Fees.
 - Student Society Fees are exempt from the Tuition Limit Policy.

Mandatory fees paid to the institution include ancillary fees, athletics and recreation fees, building fees, technology, laboratory, library, material and learning resource fees.

- In 2016/17, the Ministry introduced a new Mandatory Fee Reporting Requirement which requires the institutions to report on student consultation and the benefits to students for all new mandatory fees introduced each academic year.

Mandatory Student Society fees include student union building fees, student association fees, and the Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass) fees. Optional Student Society fees include health and dental fees.

Key Points

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Page 90 to/à Page 91

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE Ministry: Advanced Education, Skills and Training Date: Nov. 20, 2017 Update: Jan. 9, 2018 Minister Responsible: Hon. Melanie Mark	Tuition rate increases
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

s.13

Background Regarding the Issue:

Questions may be asked about how much tuition has increased following a question in estimates for examples to support claims that tuition fees tripled over the last 16 years.

For most of the 1990s, tuition at public post-secondary institutions was frozen.

Legislation was passed in March 2001 that reduced tuition rates by 5% for the 2001-02 school year.

Beginning in 2002, the freeze was lifted and tuition was not regulated allowing institutions to increase tuition rates without any restrictions. The big spike in tuition increases came during the unregulated period.

Annual tuition increases were capped to 2% per year beginning in September 2005.

The Ministry collects tuition data on select programs from public post-secondary institutions. For undergraduate academic arts programs between 2001-02 and 2017-18, the overall system increased by 158% or more than 2.5 times for these programs.

s.13,s.17

Communications Contact: Rodney Porter

Program Area Contact: Kate Cotie

File Created:

Program Area	ADM / Deputy Minister	Communications Director
	Tony Loughran / SB	

AEST Commitments – POST BUDGET

②

Highlights:

- Budget 2018 was delivered on Feb. 20 and contained many commitments from the platform.

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Page 95

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Background:

- Budget 2018 was delivered on Feb. 20 and contained many commitments from the platform.
- Unlike the broader affordable housing commitment, the student housing commitment does not contain a lot of direct-build housing by government.
- We are removing a rule put in place by the previous government so post-secondary institutions can take on debt to finance housing projects.
- Two commitments not funded in Budget 2018 are completion grants and eliminating the interest on student loans.