



Meeting Note Advice to Minister

Date: December 28, 2017

Cliff #: 111796

Prepared for: Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister

Meeting: with CUPE BC on January 15, 2018 at 10:30-11:30am at Minister's constituency office.

Attendees:

- Paul Faoro, President, CUPE BC Division
- Ross Idler, CUPE Colleges Coordinator
- Meena Brisard, CUPE National Assistant Regional Director
- Please see attachment 1 for CUPE BC attendee bios.

Issues:

CUPE BC would like to discuss:

1. Funding for post-secondary institutions;
2. Governance issues; and
3. Over-reliance on international students.

Background:

- CUPE BC represents about 85,000 workers (all sectors, public and private) across BC.
- Issues of importance to CUPE BC include: accessible quality healthcare; increasing funding to schools; housing affordability; child poverty; and protecting the environment.
- CUPE support staff representation in post-secondary institutions:
 - 38 percent - colleges, institutes and teaching universities; and
 - 54 percent - research universities, Thompson Rivers, and Royal Roads University.

Discussion:

Funding for post-secondary institutions:

- CUPE BC made a statement in April 2017 that tuition fee revenue is one of the fastest growing sources of revenue for the post-secondary institutions; and
- Proportion of tuition revenue is growing faster than core funding for programs and staff.

Governance issues:

- In February 2012 CUPE BC issued a joint news release (with the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators and the BC Government and Service Employees' Union) to oppose changes proposed by the *Advanced Education Statutes Amendment Act* (Bill 18, 2011), which, among other changes, prevented members of faculty or staff associations involved in negotiating terms and conditions of service from being elected to serve on the board of governors.
- The unions felt the legislation "bans union activists from serving as elected employee representatives on college and university boards of governance".

Over-reliance on international students:

- CUPE BC may hold the position that: post-secondary operating funding is eroding; while domestic tuition remains relatively stable; and institutions enrol increasing numbers of international students to make up the revenue shortfall.

Suggested Response / Key Messages:

Funding for post-secondary institutions:

- In 2017/18 the Province increased funding to institutions by \$100.814 million consisting of:
 - \$49.9 million for negotiated salary increases under the Economic Stability Mandate (ESM) funding that was announced in 2014/15.
 - \$8.8 million for the second Economic Stability Dividend.
 - Approximately \$5.2 million to support state-of-the-art learning facilities at the new Great Northern Way campus of Emily Carr University of Art and Design.
 - \$2.5 million to increase network/internet capacity, security and reliability of BCNet service
 - \$14.4 million for a Tech Strategy to increase educational opportunities in areas related to science, technology and engineering as well as for research bursaries in the technology fields.
 - \$1.5 million for mental health initiatives for students.
 - \$18.5 million for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs.
- Government has committed to keeping a cap on tuition and mandatory fees for domestic students at BC public post-secondary institutions.
- International student enrolment and revenue is increasing without displacing domestic student enrolment.

Governance issues:

- I am interested to hear any recommendations CUPE BC may have for legislative changes.
- The Ministry will be considering past amendments to post-secondary governance provisions and whether any changes may be advisable when developing a plan for future legislative amendments.

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- Any recommendations from CUPE BC will be considered alongside other Ministry priorities when developing the Ministry's legislative plan.

Over-reliance on international students:

- International students are not just a revenue source for post-secondary institutions. They provide opportunities for BC students to have more global education experiences and bring social and cultural benefits to communities, schools and institutions.
- Many international students intend to remain in British Columbia after graduation, fostering innovation through research and contributing to a diverse labour market.
- In 2015 international students spent over \$3.5 billion on tuition, accommodation and living expenses, arts, culture and recreation. This supported an estimated 29,300 jobs and created a positive economic effect on communities throughout BC.
- Going forward, my Ministry will be engaging with the post-secondary sector, students and other stakeholders to develop a strategic and comprehensive approach to international education.

- The approach will seek to balance attracting international students, developing new partnerships and promoting international experience opportunities for BC students, so every student receives the best education and training.

Attachment: Attachment 1 – CUPE BC attendee Bios

Contact: Tony Loughran, A/Assistant Deputy Minister (250) 387-8871

Attachment 1

Meeting attendees – CUPE BC Bios



Paul Faoro
President

Paul Faoro was elected President of CUPE BC on December 10, 2015. He served as Secretary-Treasurer for three years, was elected Secretary-Treasurer of CUPE BC at the union's 50th Annual Convention in April 2013 and was re-elected in 2015.

Mr. Faoro was first elected to CUPE BC's Executive Board as a Regional Vice President in 2007, and General Vice President in 2009. Prior to his election as Secretary-Treasurer, Faoro was President of CUPE Local 15 in Vancouver, representing 6500 front-line workers employed in a variety of diverse sectors including K-12, Municipal, Healthcare and Post-secondary.



Ross Idler
CUPE Colleges Coordinator

Ross Idler was previously the CUPE university coordinator in BC. Currently he is the CUPE colleges coordinator with responsibility to work closely with all college CUPE locals in the province, local executive and bargaining committees to provide support to bargaining and related processes to achieve improved collective agreements for CUPE members.



Meena Brisard
Assistant Regional Director

Meena Brisard is the Assistant Regional Director for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in British Columbia. She is one of two Directors for CUPE's B.C. region, and manages the day-to-day operations of 10 offices as well as the 100 National staff who provide resources for CUPE's 85,000 members in British Columbia.

Oaten, Jeremy AEST:EX

From: Chauvin, Lindsay AEST:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2018 2:48 PM
To: Papadopoulos, James AEST:EX; Avendano, Christian AEST:EX
Cc: Rzepa, Christina AEST:EX; Flesh, Cindy AEST:EX; Cox, Michael GCPE:EX; Smollett, Debbie JTT:EX
Subject: Materials for tomorrow's prebriefs
Attachments: 111796 - MMM meeting with CUPE Jan 15, 2018.pdf; 111832 - MMM mtg w MoveUp Capilano.pdf

Hi,

Apologies for the delays. Please see attached for two of tomorrow's items: CUPE and MoveUp. We will have Shannon, Tony Loughran, Bindi Sawchuk, Deb Hull, and Jamie Edwardson on the phone to support.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Chauvin
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Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
Province of British Columbia
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