



12 June 2017

Hon. Linda Reid  
Minister of Advanced Education  
MLA, Richmond South Centre  
East Annex Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

LINDA

On behalf of the University of British Columbia, congratulations on your re-election to the Legislative Assembly of BC, and thank you for your continued public service. It is incredibly rewarding to see UBC alumni succeeding in their chosen field; you have made your Alma Mater truly proud.

It is an added pleasure to congratulate you as the new Minister of Advanced Education. Our relationship with the Ministry and the Minister is critical to UBC's success.

Thanks to the support of successive provincial governments, UBC has grown into a remarkable institution in its relatively short 101-year history. Today, we are ranked in the top 20 public universities in the world, owing in part to stellar researchers and the significant impact of their findings, excellence in teaching and learning, and commitment to sustainability and inclusivity. The true hallmarks of our success are our students; as a global centre for research and teaching, UBC attracts students from across Canada and around the world and yet almost 70 per cent of our students are BC-based and nearly two-thirds of our 330,000 alumni live and work in BC.

With a student body over 62,000, we grant more than 12,000 degrees annually. Our researchers garner almost \$600 million of research funding each year for more than 8,700 research projects. Among those projects are more than 1,300 partnerships with industry—350 with BC companies alone—and 1,100 research contracts and agreements with government and non-profits.

UBC is thoroughly engrained in BC's economy and society. And we continue to evolve, ensuring our research and teaching programming is aligned with the needs of industry and society. We work hard to attract more federal funding to the province, leveraging it to bolster the BC innovation ecosystem. For example, we are actively engaged with BC-based partners pursuing a portion of the recently launched \$950-million federal Innovation Superclusters Initiative.

I hope you see UBC as a partner and a resource for you, the provincial government and for all British Columbians. Until we are able to meet in person, please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION  
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JUN 28 2017

Our Ref: 103943

Dr. Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
University of British Columbia  
7th floor, Walter C. Koerner Library  
1958 Main Mall  
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2

Dear Dr. Ono:

The Master of Science in Health and Exercise Sciences degree proposal has now completed the Stage 1 Review required of public post-secondary institutions proposing to offer new degree programs.

The Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) reviewed the Stage 1 application against the established criteria and recommended that I approve the Stage 1 Review. I agree with this recommendation and therefore grant approval under section 48(2) of the *University Act* for the University of British Columbia to offer the Master of Science in Health and Exercise Sciences degree at its Okanagan campus.

As the University of British Columbia has exempt status to the doctoral degree level and because ministry staff have no concerns with the proposal, I am approving the degree without a Stage 2 review of program quality.

I wish you success in implementing this new degree program.

Sincerely,

Linda Reid  
Minister

pc: Dr. Deborah Buszard  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal  
University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus

Degree Quality Assessment Board



5 October 2017

Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
MLA, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant  
PO BOX 9080 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister:

I want to thank the provincial government for highlighting the importance of innovation and the talent needed for a thriving innovation-based economy. My UBC colleagues and I look forward to working with you, your Deputy Minister, and the Ministry team on your government's commitment to expand technology related programs. Without question, the possible expansion of programs like engineering, computer science, and other innovation areas is a key priority for UBC and important sectors for the provincial economy, like tech and life sciences.

I am also writing to clarify UBC's position in light of recent discussions about a possible expansion to Squamish. The local proponents for such an expanded UBC presence are clearly enthusiastic about that possibility and have been engaging members of the provincial government, at various levels.

UBC is currently developing a strategic plan that will include a framework for UBC's presence and engagement with communities throughout the province. We look forward to working with the UBC community and partners in Squamish, including partner post-secondary institutions, as we define and implement that framework.

I feel it important to note, however, that at this time it is premature to commit to a new campus or new programmatic presence beyond UBC's two campuses, the distributed medical program sites and our existing teaching, learning and research sites across the province.

Important considerations include the overall sector implications, such as the role of our sector partners Capilano University, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, and Quest University who have an established presence in the Squamish community, the development of certainty around the financial stability of the program, including an assessment of student demand, and the need to secure university approvals, including the University Senate and the Board of Governors.

I would be happy to discuss this with you further or ask the university provost to speak with the Deputy Minister about this matter.

Minister, it was a pleasure to welcome you to campus last month and I look forward to welcoming you to campus on Tuesday to visit with Dr. Nemy Banthia and see, first hand, the innovative methods his lab is exploring to make buildings seismically safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Santa J. Ono', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Ms. Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, Skills & Training  
Prof. Andrew Szeri, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC  
Prof. James Olson, Dean *interim*, Faculty of Applied Science



October 20, 2017

Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
MLA, Vancouver Mount Pleasant  
PO Box 9080 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W9E2

Dear Minister:

Thank you for your letter to the board chairs representing the four partner institutions involved in the Great Northern Way Trust with regard to the disposition of Lots 6 and 7. By way of this letter, and on behalf of Stuart Belkin, I can confirm that the University of British Columbia supports the proposed sale of the lots and is willing to proceed under the terms of the proposal set out in the purchase and sale agreement with PCI Developments.

I also want to thank you for highlighting the importance of access to education and affordable student housing. My leadership team and I share your concern with regard to these areas, and I want to assure you that UBC is fully committed to addressing them to the fullest extent possible.

The demand for affordable student housing is enormous, which is why UBC is investing almost half a billion dollars in new student housing developments. Since 2011, we have added more than 3,000 student beds on our Vancouver campus alone, bringing our total on-campus housing stock to almost 12,000 beds—more than any other university in Canada. By 2019, we will add 500 more beds, and plans are in motion for a further 1,600 beds by 2023. We will continue to provide safe and affordable housing for UBC students who want to live on our campuses, and we will work with our partners at Great Northern Way to ensure student housing needs are addressed as part of any new academic initiatives there. Our current program, the Master of Digital Media, offered by the four partner institutions at the GNW campus, provides single- and double-occupancy apartments for students on the upper levels of the Centre for Digital Media, just steps away from their classrooms and learning spaces.

UBC is equally committed to enhancing the accessibility of a university education, in particular for historically under-represented groups, including Indigenous students, students from rural communities, immigrant and refugee students, students from families without financial means, first generation learners, and youth aging out of foster care. A wide range of factors contribute to this underrepresentation, but, for many, affordability is a significant obstacle to overcome. To that end, UBC offers financial supports to augment those offered by the provincial and federal governments. The University has long been guided by UBC Policy #72, which states that no qualified domestic student will be prevented from commencing or continuing their studies at UBC for financial reasons alone. In 2016/17, UBC provided more than \$74 million in financial aid and awards to more than 14,000 students.

UBC recently conducted an extensive review to identify gaps in the system of financial supports available to our students. This review resulted in new, targeted awards programs now available to under-represented student populations. With regard to Indigenous students, the Aboriginal Graduate



Fellowship program, UBC-Langara Aboriginal Transfer program, Musqueam First Nation Scholarship, the donor-funded Aboriginal Awards program, and Aboriginal Undergraduate Research Mentorship program are all examples.

Last year we also launched the UBC Access Promise Program, which automatically funds eligible undergraduate students from low-income and middle-income families who have assessed unmet financial needs, and the UBC Centennial Scholars Entrance Award Program, which offers 100 one-time and renewable awards of up to \$40,000 over four years for students who are academically qualified to attend UBC but who require significant financial assistance. I am also excited to soon launch a fundraising campaign specifically targeted to student financial support.

The University's commitment to access and student housing for UBC students is equally applicable at the Great Northern Way campus as it is at our Vancouver and Okanagan campuses. I can assure you that UBC will strongly support the inclusion of student housing as part of any new academic initiatives undertaken by GNW Trust, and we will update you as we launch any new initiatives and projects there.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Santa J. Ono'.

Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor

c: Stuart Belkin, Chair, Board of Governors  
The University of British Columbia

Jack Davidson, Chair, Board of Governors  
British Columbia Institute of Technology

Kimberly D. Peacock, Chair, Board of Governors  
Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Julia H. Kim, Chair, Board of Governors  
Simon Fraser University

Morgan Sturdy, Chair  
Great Northern Way Trust

Kathy Kinloch, President  
British Columbia Institute of Technology

Ron Burnett, President and Vice-Chancellor  
Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Andrew Petter, President and Vice-Chancellor  
Simon Fraser University



Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
Kevin Brewster, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Peter Smailes, Treasurer  
The University of British Columbia



6 April 2018

Hon. John Horgan  
Premier of British Columbia  
MLA Langford-Juan de Fuca  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W9E1

Dear Premier:

On behalf of the University of British Columbia, I would like to thank you and the Government of BC for the commitments to post-secondary education contained in Budget 2018. Addressing key areas of student and institutional need, such as student housing and technology-related seats, will undoubtedly have a positive impact on our students and our ability to deliver the post-secondary experience that they are seeking.

In particular, I want to thank you and your cabinet colleagues for recognizing and seeking to address the student housing supply challenge facing BC post-secondary institutions. Although we have more on-campus housing than any university in Canada, the demand for student housing well exceeds the supply—more than 6,200 students were waitlisted last summer. Since 2012, UBC has been working diligently to address this supply gap. We have expanded the number of beds available to students by 3,500 since 2012, and we are planning more projects that will deliver a further 6,300 beds by 2028.

We know that students who live on campus are more engaged in campus life and academia, and a larger number of students living on campus supports a more complete and sustainable campus community.

UBC is in the unique position of being able to provide housing to students while, in turn, helping to alleviate some of the supply and demand pressures faced by the broader communities in the Lower Mainland and Kelowna. We look forward to continuing to work with the province to enable UBC to build even more new student housing.

I also want to extend my thanks for the investment in additional student spaces in technology-related programs at UBC and across the sector. The 720 additional seats allocated to our two campuses in biomedical engineering, computer science and manufacturing engineering will help address growing industry needs for professionals in life sciences, biotechnology, digital health technology, aerospace and advanced manufacturing.

These new seats will help address rising student demand for these programs. Our engineering program, for example, currently turns away four highly qualified applicants for every one student they admit, and the direct entry GPA has climbed to 93 per cent in recent years—the highest of any program at UBC.

As a global centre of research, learning, and innovation, UBC is well positioned to work with sector partners to address the talent supply gap and support BC's rapidly growing technology sector, and we are grateful for the increased investment from the province to further enable us to do so.

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The investment in new technology-related seats is truly historic and I look forward to reporting back to you and Minister Mark on our progress and the impact this talent will have in BC.

I also want to thank you for identifying the opportunity presented by the UBC Food Innovation Centre as an initiative to help expand the BC agrifood sector. With BC companies currently turning to other provinces or the US to undertake pilot processing research, the development of the Food Innovation Centre will be an important step toward closing BC's agrifood innovation gap. I look forward to understanding the details of the government's plan to support the development of this facility.

Finally, I want to note the important investment that your government made to support the revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages in BC. Given BC's position as the most linguistically diverse province in Canada, and with most of these languages at risk of extinction, this is a critical and timely investment. UBC is extremely proud to have many researchers working on the topic of Indigenous languages, to be home to a First Nations and Endangered Languages Program and to support knowledge preservation initiatives such as the Indigitization program ([www.indigitization.ca](http://www.indigitization.ca)), which is a collaborative initiative between Indigenous communities, UNBC and multiple institutes at UBC.

Once again, thank you for your commitment to supporting students and post-secondary institutions. I hope to have the opportunity to welcome you to our campus in the near future to show you some of the amazing research that is being conducted at UBC in the areas highlighted above.

Sincerely yours,



Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor



9 April 2018

Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
MLA, Vancouver Mount Pleasant  
PO Box 9080 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W9E2

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING			
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Dear Minister:

On behalf of the University of British Columbia, I would like thank you and the Government of BC for the commitments to post-secondary education contained in Budget 2018.

I also want to thank you for your continued interest in the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre and for providing a statement that was included in the opening event. I understand the legislative calendar did not allow you to attend the event; we would, of course, welcome you to tour the facility and learn more about its programming at a more convenient time in the near future.

With Budget 2018, I want to thank you and your cabinet colleagues for recognizing and seeking to address the student housing supply challenge facing BC post-secondary institutions. Although we have more on-campus housing than any university in Canada, the demand for student housing well exceeds the supply—more than 6,200 students were waitlisted last summer. Since 2012, UBC has been working diligently to address this supply gap. We have expanded the number of beds available to students by 3,500 since 2012, and we are planning more projects that will deliver a further 6,300 beds by 2028.

We know that students who live on campus are more engaged in campus life and academia, and a larger number of students living on campus supports a more complete and sustainable campus community.

UBC is in the unique position of being able to provide housing to students while, in turn, helping to alleviate some of the supply and demand pressures faced by the broader communities in the Lower Mainland and Kelowna. The university looks forward to continuing to work with the province to enable UBC to build even more new student housing.

I also want to extend my thanks for the investment in additional student spaces in technology-related programs at UBC and across the sector. The 720 additional seats allocated to our two campuses in biomedical engineering, computer science and manufacturing engineering will help address growing industry needs for professionals in life sciences, biotechnology, digital health technology, aerospace and advanced manufacturing. These seats will also assist UBC in its efforts to address the gender parity gap in the BC technology sector.

These new seats will help address rising student demand for these programs. Our engineering program, for example, currently turns away four highly qualified applicants for every one student they admit, and the direct entry GPA has climbed to 93 per cent in recent years—the highest of any program at UBC.

As a global centre of research, learning, and innovation, UBC is well positioned to work with sector partners to address the talent supply gap and support BC's rapidly growing technology sector, and we are grateful for the increased investment from the province to further enable us to do so. The investment in new technology-related seats is truly historic and I look forward to reporting back to you on our progress and the impact this talent will have in BC.

Finally, I want to note the important investment that your government made to support the revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages in BC. Given BC's position as the most linguistically diverse province in Canada, and with most of these languages at risk of extinction, this is a critical and timely investment. UBC is extremely proud to have many researchers working on the topic of Indigenous languages, to be home to a First Nations and Endangered Languages Program, and to support knowledge preservation initiatives such as the Indigitization program ([www.indigitization.ca](http://www.indigitization.ca)), which is a collaborative initiative between Indigenous communities, UNBC and multiple institutes at UBC.

Dr. Lisa Matthewson and her graduate student Marianne Huijsmans, for example, are committed to endangered language preservation through linguistics research that aims to understand the vocabulary and syntax of different languages, which contributes to their documentation and preservation. Between them, they work on a wide variety of BC languages including St'át'imcets (Lillooet Salish), Gitksan (Tsimshianic), ɬayʔaʃuθəm and SENĆOŦEN (Coast Salish). Anthropology professor Dr. Daisy Rosenblum works with speakers of Kʷak̓wala, a Wakashan language of BC, to record narrative, conversation, and other types of spontaneous speech. She is also working with community members to determine how the documentation created by the project can be maximally accessible to community members while also respecting cultural protocol. I would welcome you to visit UBC to meet some of these researchers and learn more about how the university's efforts are supporting Indigenous language preservation in the province.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting students and post-secondary institutions. I look forward to welcoming you back to campus in the near future.

Sincerely yours,



Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor



Our Ref: 112471

May 8, 2018

Dr. Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
University of British Columbia  
7th Floor, Walter C. Koerner Library  
1958 Main Mall  
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2

Dear Dr. Ono:

The Master of Health Leadership and Policy in Clinical Education degree proposal has now completed the Stage 1 Review required of public post-secondary institutions proposing to offer new degree programs in British Columbia.

The Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) reviewed the Stage 1 application against the established criteria and recommended that I approve the Stage 1 Review. I agree with this recommendation.

This approval is granted under section 48(2) of the *University Act* for the University of British Columbia to offer the Master of Health Leadership and Policy in Clinical Education degree.

As the University of British Columbia has exempt status to the doctoral degree level and because ministry staff have no concerns with the proposal, I am approving the degree without a Stage 2 review of program quality.

I wish you success in implementing this new degree program.

Sincerely,

Melanie Mark  
Hli Haykwhl Wii Xsgaak  
Minister

pc: Dr. Hugh Brock  
Associate-Provost Academic Innovation  
University of British Columbia

Degree Quality Assessment Board

**From:** [Minister, AEST AEST:EX](#)  
**To:** [AEST MCRU Incoming Corresp Working Box AEST:EX](#)  
**Subject:** 113710 - INFO/FILE: UBC at #BCTECH Summit  
**Date:** Monday, June 11, 2018 4:07:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Branch: PSSPL Br

Issue: UBC

Jeremy Oaten, MA, CIAPP-C

Manager, Business Services & Ministerial Correspondence and Research Unit

Office of the Deputy Minister

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

T: 250 356-7966

C: 250 217-6951

F: 250 356-5468

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**From:** UBC President's Office [<mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca>]

**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2018 3:58 PM

**To:** UBC President's Office

**Subject:** UBC at #BCTECH Summit

Good afternoon,

Later this evening, I look forward to taking part in the launch of the third annual #BCTECH Summit.

I'm proud to say that, once again, UBC is sponsoring this exciting convergence of BC's burgeoning technology sector. I see UBC as a key partner in BC's economy, and that's particularly true in the tech sector. UBC is producing highly skilled graduates demanded by industry – and now more so, thanks to the recent expansion of tech seats by the provincial government. We are also working alongside industry, community and government partners to develop innovative new technologies and to translate those discoveries to real-world applications.

The summit is an important opportunity to make new connections with industry representatives, other institutions and government departments and to highlight an exciting contingent of speakers and exhibitors. More than 30 faculty and students will present their research projects, including:

- Prof. Karon MacLean's anxiety treatment robots,
- Prof. David Perrin's new cancer imaging technology,
- Prof. Alla Sheffer's garment design software, and
- Prof. Mohammad Zarifi's portable microwave sensor technology.

In addition to pre-commercialization research projects, 12 new ventures at various stages in UBC entrepreneurship programs will be presenting their products and services. Ventures like:

- Cambridge Energy Partners, making solar energy more accessible and affordable to commercial and industrial operations in remote locations through lower-cost solar photovoltaic energy,
- Embrace Orthopaedics, a natural feeling and functioning alternative to the traditional knee brace that is integrated into athletic wear, and

UmbraCity, a fully automated umbrella rental kiosk.

UBC's Vice President of Research and Innovation (VPRI), Gail Murphy, will be hosting the "Breakthrough in the Digital Age" stream of talks and panels. And staff and faculty from our computer science, applied science, biomedical engineering and business programs as well as representatives from our co-op offices will be on hand to talk about select programs at UBC that are helping to form BC's next technology sector leaders.

Dr. Murphy, and staff from the VPRI portfolio, will also highlight – *Innovation UBC*— UBC's new set of pathways developed to transform research, partnerships and entrepreneurial activities into impactful products, practices, treatments and policies. As part of this focus, we will feature the HoloBrain demonstration, an augmented reality teaching and research tool, led by Prof. Claudia Krebs and developed in partnership with Microsoft Vancouver. HoloBrain is a perfect example of innovation and partnership at work at UBC. Full details of UBC's presence at the #BCTECH Summit can be found [here](#).

Innovation is a key theme woven throughout UBC's new strategic plan. Along with collaboration and inclusion, it's one of three cross-cutting priorities that will enhance our impact in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

If you are able to attend the summit, I look forward to connecting. If not, I will look for an opportunity this summer to show you how UBC is playing a key role in the technology sector and other industries important to BC.

Sincerely,

**Prof. Santa J. Ono**

President and Vice Chancellor

Office of the President

The University of British Columbia | Vancouver Campus | Musqueam Traditional Territory

7th Floor, Walter C. Koerner Library 1958 Main Mall | Vancouver BC | V6T 1Z2 Canada

Phone 604 822 8300

[presidents.office@ubc.ca](mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca) | [@ubcpres](https://www.instagram.com/ubcpres)

<http://www.ubc.ca>

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14 June 2018

Hon. Melanie Mark  
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
MLA, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant  
PO BOX 9080 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister:

Thank you for attending the hooding ceremony at the end of May where we celebrated the tenth class of students graduating from UBC's distributed medical program. With the support and investment of the Government of BC, UBC's distribution of medical education across BC at more than 80 training sites has provided a unique and important perspective to thousands of medical graduates, and positively impacted communities across the province.

I am writing to you now to share the news that Dr. Dermot Kelleher has been appointed Vice-President, Health for UBC. Beginning July 1, Dr. Kelleher will take on the new role of Vice-President, Health in addition to his responsibilities as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. As VP Health, Dr. Kelleher will advance the work of the UBC Health initiative by strengthening our links with the Government of BC, BC health authorities and collaborative frameworks such as the Academic Health Sciences Network. He will also help facilitate greater collaboration and integration in research and learning across the university.

UBC Health is critical to the commitment towards a more integrated health care system. This institutional consortium was created in recognition of the fact that individual faculties and schools must coordinate in order to support the provincial and national transition to a system that is more patient-centred, community-based, team-oriented and evidence-informed. The synergies that exist between UBC Health and the provincial government's policy directions in health are clear. I am confident that Dr. Kelleher's appointment as VP Health will ensure that UBC continues to be a partner in supporting this vision. Dr. Kelleher will be a strong ally in creating a health care system that supports the needs of all British Columbians.

I look forward to welcoming you back to our campuses this summer to discuss the future of health professional education and to show you some of the other exciting initiatives underway at UBC.

Until we meet again, please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice Chancellor

**From:** [Minister, AEST AEST:EX](#)  
**To:** ["presidents.office@ubc.ca"](mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca)  
**Cc:** [AEST Deputy Minister AEST:EX](#); [AEST ADM Post-Secondary Policy and Programs AEST:EX](#)  
**Bcc:** [Minister, AEST AEST:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Our Ref. 113573 - Re: RUCBC Mtg follow up re PTWP and TRC Call to Action 16  
**Date:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 3:30:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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August 9, 2018

Our Ref. 113573

Dr. Santa Ono

President and Vice-Chancellor

University of British Columbia

E-mail Address: [presidents.office@ubc.ca](mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca)

Dear Dr. Ono:

Thank you for your correspondence and attached memorandum of July 5, 2018, following the recent Research Universities' Council of British Columbia Presidents Committee Meeting.

I appreciate reading the update you provided regarding tuition waivers for students with lived experience in government care and the University of British Columbia (UBC) response to the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Call to Action 16. Thank you for your leadership and for taking the time to bring forward these items that are integral to my mandate.

The tuition waiver program for students with lived experience in government care, which you note has been up and running at UBC since 2013/14, underscores the University's willingness to be part of the first wave of universities responding to the challenge from British Columbia's former Children's Representative to create pathways to post-secondary education. Progress with implementing the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program complements the work that UBC began by supporting former youth in care in 2013/14.

UBC's significant advancements in Call 16 of the TRC's Calls to Action that you outline, such as offering a Major or Minor in First Nations and Endangered Languages, active partnering to develop an Indigenous Language Proficiency degree with other institutions, and leading in the study and documentation of endangered languages, illustrates UBC's leadership in implementing this important Call to Action.

Thank you for updating Ministry staff and me on your progress with these key initiatives. I look forward to continuing to work together on important initiatives to increase access, affordability and supports for British Columbia learners, and that also ensure learners can thrive at UBC.

Sincerely,

Melanie Mark

Hli Haykwhl Wii Xsgaak

Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

pc: Ms. Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister

Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Mr. Jeff Vasey, Assistant Deputy Minister

Post-Secondary Policy and Programs Division

Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

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**From:** UBC President's Office [<mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca>]

**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 3:39 PM

**To:** Minister, AEST AEST:EX

**Cc:** Szeri, Andrew; Steenkamp, Philip; de Jager, Adriaan; Baskerville, Shannon AEST:EX; Vasey, Jeff AEST:EX

**Subject:** Follow up from RUCBC discussion

Dear Minister,



I very much enjoyed our conversation at the recent RUCBC Presidents Committee Meeting last month. Following our discussion, I am writing to follow up with some further information on UBC's tuition waiver and admission requirements for students with lived experience in government care, as well as our progress against TRC Call 16 on Indigenous language education.

You will see from the attached memo that UBC is making good progress with implementing the government's new tuition waiver for students with lived experience in government care, which complements UBC's own waiver (which has been in place since 2013). In 2017/18, 38 UBC students with lived experience in care were provided with a total of \$174,000 in funding to cover their tuition costs.

UBC has also made substantial progress in response to Call 16 of the TRC's Calls to Action. Students will soon be able to pursue a Major or Minor in First Nations and Endangered Languages at UBC Vancouver (the proposal for which was submitted to your Ministry on June 21, 2018), and is an active partner in plans to develop an Indigenous Language Proficiency degree with a number of institutions across the province. UBC is also a leader in the study and documentation of endangered languages, and is home to a number of researchers on Indigenous languages in particular, who guide the university's approach to teaching and curriculum development.

More broadly, UBC's relationship with Indigenous people and communities is central to the university, which is deeply committed to reciprocity, knowledge curation and development. Reconciliation and UBC's relationship with Indigenous people and communities are central pillars of UBC's new Strategic Plan and the updated Indigenous Strategic Plan.

Once again it was a pleasure to speak with you at the RUCBC meeting, and I hope the enclosed information is of use to you and your staff. I would of course be happy to follow up with further information if of interest, or to meet again to discuss these important topics further.

Kind regards,

Santa

**Prof. Santa J. Ono**

President and Vice-Chancellor

Office of the President

The University of British Columbia | Vancouver Campus | Musqueam Traditional Territory

7th Floor, Walter C. Koerner Library 1958 Main Mall | Vancouver BC | V6T 1Z2 Canada

Phone 604 822 8300

[presidents.office@ubc.ca](mailto:presidents.office@ubc.ca) | [ubcpres](mailto:ubcpres)

<http://www.ubc.ca>

UBC E-mail Signature

