

Draft Bullets

- Through the B.C. Loan Forgiveness Program (LFP), the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST) offers BC Student Loan debt forgiveness to graduates in selected health care and education related occupations.
- Eligible applicants may have their total B.C. student loan debt forgiven at a rate of up to a maximum of 20% per year for up to five years.
- LFP policy requires that participants work in an eligible occupation either with children or in an identified underserved community and provide a minimum number of hours of in-person service on an annual basis.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) works closely with AEST in the selection of both the health care occupations and the underserved communities eligible for the program.
- Underserved communities currently include A and B communities designated under the Rural Subsidiary Agreement (RSA) between the BC Government, the Doctors of BC and the Medical Services Commission. The eligible communities list focuses on remote communities in BC where access to physician services has been determined to be limited.
- The LFP also includes provision for inclusion of education and health care related occupations working with children, and the selection of these eligible occupations is done in consultation with the Ministry of Children and Families and the Ministry of Education.
- Currently, LFP funds are disbursed to eligible program participants on a demand driven basis. The program expends approximately \$1.5 annually, with nurses receiving over \$1 million in loan forgiveness in 2017/18, accounting for approximately 65% of all payments made under the program that year.
- If a community is no longer designated, participants who started receiving the LFP will be grandfathered and will continue to receive this benefit for the duration of the agreed upon time.
- If your constituent believes that they have been mistakenly removed, please have them contact the StudentAid BC at 1-778-698-1232.
- Please note that the Canada Student Loans has its own LFP. A former student can enter their postal code to see if the community they are working in is designated for CSLP-LFP. Students can check here <http://tools.canlearn.ca/cs|gs-scpse/cln-cln/lfnd-erpm/1-eng.do>

Meeting Note Advice to Minister

Meeting with North Island College (NIC)

Date: April 25, 2019

Cliff #: 115617

Prepared for:

- Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Date, Time of Meeting and Location:

- Tuesday, April 30, 11:30 to 12:15 pm
- Minister's Office, Victoria

Attendees:

NIC:

- John Bowman, NIC, President and CEO
- Jane Murphy, NIC, Chair of the Board

NDP MLAs:

- Hon. Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, MLA North Island
- Ronna-Rae Leonard, MLA Courtenay-Comox

Issue(s):

NIC requested this meeting and has identified three areas for discussion:

1. Input and advice from Government Ministers and MLAs on policy and program priorities relevant to NIC's mandate, mission and goals;
2. Highlights of NIC's progress in relation to its institutional mandate letter; and
3. Information on current or planned provincial initiatives that may provide new opportunities for NIC to enhance service delivery and to inform development of its next Strategic Plan 2020-25.

Background:

- NIC has a regional mandate under the *College and Institute Act* for the northern two-thirds of Vancouver Island, and serves a diverse student population of over 8,000 learners, of which 15% are Indigenous.
- NIC offers a wide range of programming from Adult Basic Education (ABE) to university transfer, including several customized programs targeted to local First Nations (e.g. aquaculture, carpentry, early childhood education).
- NIC has five campus locations: Comox Valley, Campbell River, Port Hardy, Port Alberni, and a learning centre in Ucluelet.
- In April 2019, NIC collaborated with Elders from Kwak'waka communities to adopt a new name for its Mount Waddington Regional Campus in Port Hardy. The campus name is now called Mixalakwila, meaning 'dream maker', chosen by the Elders because the College is a place where dreams for the future can come true.
- This past spring NIC completed a \$17.7M renovation/expansion project (\$8.6 M provincial funding) to construct the Campbell River Heritage Lands Education Centre campus and to consolidate all trades training programs in one facility. (See NIC Institutional Profile - Attachment 1)

Topics for Discussion/Suggested Responses:

1. Government/AEST policy and program priorities relevant to NIC's mandate, mission and goals:

- Government remains committed to making life more affordable; delivering the services people count on; building a strong and sustainable economy that supports jobs throughout the province.
- Government remains committed to implementing UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action and asks all public sector organizations to continue to build relationships with Indigenous communities.
- See AEST's 2019/20 mandate letter priorities to NIC - Attachment 2.

Key Message:

- Acknowledge NIC's important role in addressing provincial priorities by meeting the needs of its diverse student population in northern Vancouver Island.
- Commend NIC on its long-standing commitment to work with First Nations, including the recent renaming of Mt. Waddington Campus to Mixalakwila.

2. Highlights of NIC's progress in relation to its 2018/19 mandate letter:

- It is anticipated NIC will lead this portion of the meeting and present highlights.
- See AEST's 2018/19 mandate letter priorities to NIC - Attachment 3.
- As per AEST's accountability reporting cycle, NIC will submit to the ministry its Institutional Accountability Performance Report (IAPR) in July 2019.
- NIC's 2017/18 IAPR indicates the college achieved or exceeded nearly all performance measures with exception of meeting open student spaces and developmental program targets.

Key Message:

Acknowledge NIC efforts over past year to support Minister's mandate, including:

- Continued support for ABE students, particularly over period of provincial tuition policy changes;
- Piloting new forestry programs (Coastal Forest Resources certificate and Applied Forestry Resource forestry diploma supported by \$328K from AEST); and

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Attachments:

1. NIC Institutional Profile
2. NIC's 2018/19 Mandate Letter
3. NIC's 2019/20 Mandate Letter

Contact: Jeff Vasey, Assistant Deputy Minister, (250) 952-0697

Meeting Note

Advice to Minister Melanie Mark

Date: April 12, 2019

Cliff #: 115631

Prepared for: Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Date , Time of Meeting and Location:

- April 17, 2019, 1:30 to 2:15 PM
- University of the Fraser Valley (UFV), Abbotsford campus, 33844 King Rd, Abbotsford, B.C.
- President's Office, Building B, 3rd floor, s.15

Attendees:

- Dr. Joanne MacLean, President and Vice-Chancellor, UFV

Issue:

- Introductory meeting between the Minister and Dr. MacLean

Background:

- Dr. Joanne MacLean was appointed as the new President and Vice-Chancellor of UFV in May 2018. She is the first woman to hold the title of President at UFV in a non-interim role.
- Dr. MacLean has more than 30 years of experience as a professor and university administrator and held appointments at the University of Windsor and Brock University in Southern Ontario before coming to UFV in 2012. Dr. MacLean was the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at UFV until her appointment as President.
- She earned her undergraduate and master's degrees in physical education at the University of New Brunswick. She holds a PhD from Ohio State University, where she studied human resource management in sport and recreation, and administration in higher education.
- See Attachment 1 for a full biography.

Discussion:

- As reported in UFV's most recent Institutional Accountability Plan and Report, a total of 14,849 students attended UFV in 2017/18, including 12,864 domestic students, 1,708 international students, and 277 students at the Chandigarh campus in India.
- UFV substantially achieved or exceeded the majority of its accountability performance measures in 2017/18, including a 96% utilization rate for Total Student Spaces.
- UFV indicates there has been a slight decline in domestic enrolments. This continues a trend that began in 2011/12. UFV suggests this is linked to a decline in number of 15-19 year olds in the Fraser Valley, and a decline in the number of Developmental program enrolments.
- The demographic decline is expected to stabilize in 2020-21, and the restoration of tuition-free Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) in 2017 has stabilized the decline in Developmental programs.

- The decline in domestic student spaces has been offset by large increases in international enrolments (13% of the student body by headcount is international, or enrolled at the Chandigarh campus in India).
- UFV is seeing increasing numbers of students in Bachelor's degree programs, who now make up the largest portion of headcount. From 2012/13 to 2017/18, the number of students in bachelor's degree programs rose from 34% to 40%, an increase of 19%. The portion of students in diploma programs fell from 34% to 29% during that period.
- UFV also achieved its self-defined accountability measure for Indigenous students, to have the proportion of Indigenous students equal to or greater than that of the community. Currently 7.5% of UFV's domestic students identify as Aboriginal. The Indigenous proportion of population in the 15-54 years age group in Fraser Valley Regional District is 7.4%.
- See Attachment 2 – UFV Institutional Profile, for additional information.

Agriculture Centre of Excellence

- In 2013, the Ministry provided \$1 million toward the \$2.7 million total investment to establish the Agriculture Centre of Excellence at the UFV Chilliwack campus. The Centre was opened in 2014 and is comprised of a demonstration barn and greenhouse complex.
- UFV identifies Agriculture Centre of Excellence, Phase 2, in its Five-year Capital Plan. Phase 2 involves constructing a new building on the Chilliwack campus that would provide additional space to expand programs in agri-foods, agri-business and technology. The total project budget for Phase 2 is \$15 million, with a request for \$12 million in provincial funding.
- In March 2019 the Ministry provided UFV with a one-time grant of \$100,000 to support activities at the Agriculture Centre for Excellence. Ministry staff are currently in discussions with UFV on the following projects, all of which would involve students:
 - An interdisciplinary project in conjunction with the City of Chilliwack to investigate and develop alternatives to blueberry cannons (used for managing bird damage to crops but are noisy and disruptive to surrounding residential communities). This is a major concern in the Fraser Valley.
 - To establish a teaching and research apiary (i.e. collection of beehives) associated with the demonstration barn and greenhouse complex. The apiary will produce research into mite control and colony collapse disorder, and will be used to develop real time automation of beehive health during foraging season and over-wintering.
 - Research and develop operating procedures to allow for food grown and raised in the UFV Agricultural Centre of Excellence greenhouse and barn to be used as ingredients in the commercial university-owned cafeteria at the Chilliwack campus.

Suggested Response / Key Message:

- *Congratulations on your appointment as President of University of the Fraser Valley.*
- *I look forward to working together to advance the shared priorities of Government and the University of the Fraser Valley.*

Attachments: Attachment 1 - Biography of Dr. Joanne Maclean
 Attachment 2 - UFV Institutional Profile
 Attachment 3 - Mandate Letter to UFV Board Chair
 Attachment 4 - Map to UFV President's Office

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