

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: April 10, 2012, at 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES: Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education
Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education
Mr. Alan Shaver, President, Thompson Rivers University
Ms. Fiona Chan, Board Chair, Thompson Rivers University
Ms. Deborah Rasnick, Acting Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer,
Ministry of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Thompson Rivers University funding issues

KEY FACTS:

- Since 2001/02, annual operating funding to Thompson Rivers University (TRU) has increased by \$26.5 million, or 69.4 percent.
- Since 2003/04, TRU has received enrolment growth of 2,965 full-time equivalent (FTE) student spaces, an increase of 58.7 percent.
- In 2012/13, TRU's interim base operating grant funding is \$64.6 million, which is the same as their base allocation in 2011/12.
- In late March 2012, TRU received \$925,337 in Skills Development Employment Benefits funding to support programming that is aligned with the BC Jobs Plan. This is in addition to the \$64.6 million referenced above.
- TRU's overall financial health is good, with the institution running surpluses each fiscal year since 2006/07, and projecting surpluses each year from 2012/13 to 2014/15.
- TRU's student FTE utilization was 97.2 percent in 2010/11, and is projected to be 100.4 percent in 2011/12.
- TRU currently has one active capital project, a British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund project called "Proteomics and Protein Purification: Isoelectric Focusing and Chromatography Systems for Biocatalyst Development", with a total project budget of \$593,349. The total Provincial contribution is \$237,340 and the Ministry will send the final \$23,000 of funding in May after receiving the final close-out documentation from TRU.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION POINTS:

- TRU will receive stable funding in 2012/13 and they are financially healthy and projecting surpluses into 2014/15. The only issue they may want to raise is the uncertainty around 2013/14 and 2014/15 operating grants.

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Prepared by:	Colin Fowler, Director Post-Secondary Finance Post-Secondary Funding and Corporate Finance Branch	Reviewed by:	Director Executive Director Assistant Deputy Minister Deputy Minister	CF CF for DR <i>SR</i>
Phone #:	(250) 387-6142			

Pages 3 through 16 redacted for the following reasons:

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MAR 30 2012

Our Ref. 89730

Mr. Cliff Neufeld
 Vice-President, Administration and Finance
 Thompson Rivers University
 900 McGill Rd
 Kamloops BC V2C 0C8

Dear Mr. Neufeld:

I am pleased to advise that the Ministry of Advanced Education (the Ministry) has received Skills Development Employment Benefit funding under the Labour Market Development Agreement in 2012, which will be provided to those public post-secondary institutions delivering programming that is closely aligned with the BC Jobs Plan. Specifically, a one-time grant of \$925,337 will be provided to Thompson Rivers University.

This funding is to be applied to educational activities which support the featured economic sectors found in the BC Jobs Plan and should be focussed on training that is short-term in nature to ensure it is targeted to programs which prepare workers for the current job market in your region. Examples include: Introduction to Trades (e.g. Bridging to Trades); student practical training in Professional Truck Driver, Heavy Equipment Operator, or Road Builder programs; and foundation level training for Commercial Transport Vehicle Mechanic, Diesel Engine Mechanic, and Industrial Electricians. More information on the BC Jobs Plan can be found at:

<http://www.bcjobsplan.ca/sectors/?WT.svl=TopNav>

These funds will be forwarded to your institution with the next available electronic funds transfer. Please work with Industry and local businesses in your region, as well as the Ministry, to ensure this funding is addressing regional labour market needs.

A summary of the use of this funding should be provided to the Ministry on or before March 31, 2013, and can be sent to Mr. Colin Fowler, Director, Post-Secondary Finance. This summary should include an itemized list of the programs offered, and the number of students served, as a result of receiving this funding.

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Ministry of
Advanced Education

Office of the
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Labour market conditions and student demand can be volatile. If your institution anticipates not being able to utilize funding for these priority areas, please contact the Ministry to discuss reallocation to alternate priorities.

I trust that this funding will further your institution's efforts to meet provincial labour market needs and support our growing economy.

The Ministry feels cooperative efforts around public communications will benefit our respective organizations. I respectfully request that you defer any media releases until our joint efforts can be formalized.

Yours truly,



Cheryl Wehezenk-Yolland, CMA, FCMA
Deputy Minister

pc: Ms. Dawn Minty, Assistant Deputy Minister
Student, Institutions and Programs Division
Ministry of Advanced Education

Mr. Joe Thompson, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
Decision Support and Accountability Division
Ministry of Advanced Education

Ms. Deborah Rasnick, Acting Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Advanced Education

Mr. Colin Fowler, Director, Post-Secondary Finance
Post-Secondary Funding and Corporate Finance Branch
Ministry of Advanced Education

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING NOTE**

Date:	April 25, 2012
Cliff#	90533
File#	280-20/BN
Version #	2

PREPARED FOR: Minister Naomi Yamamoto

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: May 8, 2012

ATTENDEES: Norm Letnick, MLA - Kelowna-Lake Country

ISSUE: Meetings with University Student Societies

BACKGROUND:

In late March 2012, Minister Yamamoto met with a delegation of the Student Societies of the University of Victoria, the University of British Columbia, the University of Northern British Columbia, and Capilano University. The meeting focused around three priority issues for the students – interest rates, needs-based grants and core funding for institutions. In their discussion, the Minister indicated that MLA Norm Letnick has offered to work with students to explore these issues further with a goal to work to agreed upon principles for potential future funding within available budgets. The meeting concluded with a commitment on the Minister's part to have a follow up discussion.

MLA Norm Letnick and Minister Yamamoto will be meeting in the near term to prepare for the discussion with University Student Societies.

DISCUSSION:

Student concerns related to student financial assistance and core funding to institutions:

- An examination of tuition fee levels between 1994 and 2010 indicate that British Columbia post-secondary students are now paying more than double what they would be if tuition was increased by the rate of inflation.
- The percentage of repayable vs. non-repayable assistance has decreased between 2001 and 2012 for British Columbia students on aid. The elimination of the BC Grant program in 2004 has meant that the funding which used to go out in the form of a grant is now being sent out in the form of a loan.
- No significant upfront needs-based grant program has been offered by British Columbia since the BC Grant program was eliminated in 2004 is a barrier to post-secondary access and has resulted in significantly higher overall student debt.
- British Columbia, along with Canada and New Brunswick, charge the highest lending rate on student loans at prime plus 2.5 percent for the floating interest rate. Students argue that high interest rates in repayment are a barrier to accessible and affordable post-secondary education.

- According to a 2009 Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation survey of students who graduated with an undergraduate degree, British Columbia has the fourth highest loan debt across provincial jurisdictions with \$26,738. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan are higher.

The following outlines the Ministry's perspective on the priority issues identified by British Columbia post-secondary students:

- Statistics Canada's most recent report notes that British Columbia's undergraduate tuition fee is the fourth lowest in the country for the 2011/12 year (see attached table).
- For those students requiring assistance, a student can borrow a maximum of \$10,880 with approximately 40 percent of those funds required to meet tuition.
- Students pay less than one-third of the total cost of their post-secondary education at public institutions.
- In 2001/02, British Columbia students accessed approximately \$104 million in upfront British Columbia grant assistance. \$37.1 million of those funds was provided by the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF).
- In 2010/11, funding from CMSF ended and in 2012/13, British Columbia has committed \$39.3 million to the BC Loan Reduction Program (replaced the British Columbia grant program in 2005/06).
- Preliminary results of an evaluation on the Loan Reduction Program indicate that loan reduction recipients have lower British Columbia student loan default rates than the rate of non-recipients.
- The Province supports students in a number of ways through loans, grants, bursaries, as well as providing financial supports to borrowers as they enter repayment. In addition, for 2012/13, the Ministry of Finance is carrying \$22.4 million in bad debt provisions for grant overawards. Grant overawards occur as a result of students who received grant funding and withdrew from their programs early. The grant then becomes a debt owing to the Province.
- In July 2012, British Columbia is implementing the Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP). While the program has yet to be publicly announced, RAP is targeted to those borrowers requiring assistance in repayment. Since Stage 1 of RAP is a replacement of an existing program, Interest Relief, the additional cost of implementing RAP is \$700,000 annually for RAP Stage 2 (the loan forgiveness portion of the program).
- The median loan is less than \$21,000 for undergraduate degrees from British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

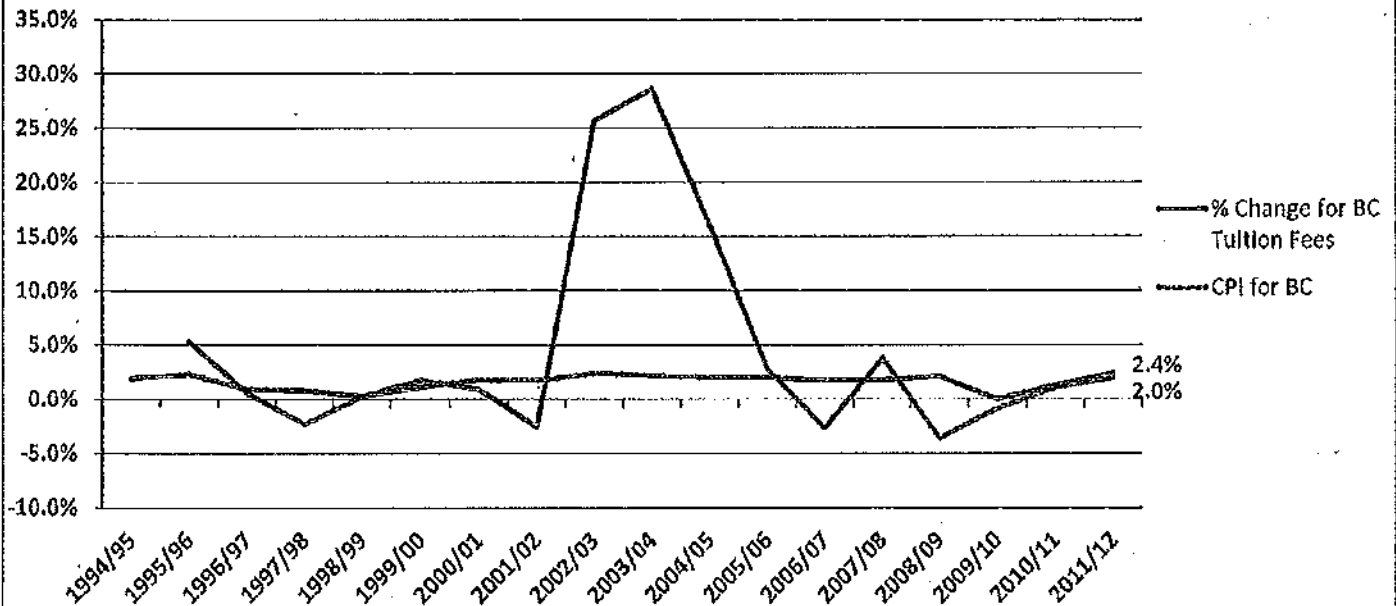
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- Attachments:**
1. Undergraduate Tuition Fees for British Columbia
 2. Briefing Note 89657 re: Canadian Federation of Students National Day of Action

Prepared by:	Carol Prest, Director Program Delivery Student Support Branch	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250-387-7443		
		Executive Director	VT
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

Percent Change for BC Tuition Fees Compared to Consumer Price Index (CPI) for BC

Selected Public and Private¹ institutions, 1994/95



Source: Statistics Canada

1. From 1994/95 to 2007/08, Trinity Western University and Seminary Christ the King were included in the calculations.

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: Jan 12, 2011
Cliff# 89657
File#
Version #3

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Canadian Federation of Students National Day of Action to reduce tuition fees and reduce student debt

BACKGROUND:

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is undertaking a National Day of Action on February 1, 2012, as part of their Education is a Right campaign. The British Columbia division of the CFS is also linking its Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence campaign to the National Day of Action. A direct quote from the British Columbia CFS website states:

“The **Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence** campaign is a provincial advocacy campaign of the Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia. The **Education is a Right** campaign is a national campaign of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Both campaigns are fundamentally about making public education more affordable and of the best possible quality. Both campaigns are leading up to the February 1, 2012 Day of Action.”

National Issues:

Nationally, the CFS has broken down its requests into four categories: Tuition Fees, Student Debt, Education Funding and Aboriginal Education. A summary of what the CFS is asking for nationally through the Education is a Right campaign follows:

1. Tuition Fees
 - a. progressive **reduction of tuition and ancillary fees** at public post-secondary institutions across the country, including reduced post-residency fees for graduate students;
 - b. **elimination of differential fees** for all students (professional, out of province, and international students); and
 - c. development of a dedicated cash-transfer payment guided by principles set out in a federal Post-Secondary Education Act for the purpose of **reducing tuition fees** and improving quality of teaching, learning, and research infrastructure at colleges and universities.
2. Student Debt
 - a. **conversion of all loans** made by the Canada Student Loans Program into non-repayable grants;
 - b. **reallocation of federal funds** currently spent on education-related tax credits and savings schemes to up-front grants distributed through the Canada Student Grants Program; and
 - c. **elimination of interest charges** on student loans.
3. Education Funding
 - a. creation of a **Post-Secondary Education Act** that establishes guidelines for quality and accessibility in post-secondary education and research; and
 - b. creation of a **federal Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Research**.

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4. Aboriginal Education

- a. **removal of the funding cap** on the Post-Secondary Student Support Program;
- b. **increase of funding** to meet the needs of Aboriginal learners, including allocating funding to clear the existing backlog to the Post-Secondary Student Support Program; and
- c. development of a plan to **extend eligibility** for the Post-Secondary Student Support Program to Métis and non-status First Nations.

Provincial Issues:

Provincially, the CFS-British Columbia's 'Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence' campaign is calling on the British Columbia government to commit to a four-point plan to reduce student debt. Each of the four issues is attached as an appendix as outlined below, including background, current position/status, gaps between what CFS is asking for and current status, and estimated costs (when available) associated with bridging that gap.

Appendix 1: Reduce tuition fees;

Appendix 2: Create a student grant program;

Appendix 3: Increase per-student funding to 2001 levels; and

Appendix 4: Eliminate interest on student loans.

Although it is not included as part of their four-point plan, student debt is also raised as a concern in much of the CFS-British Columbia's website material. The issue of student debt is addressed in Appendix 5.

Attachments

Prepared by: Kate Cotie, Director
Policy, Planning and
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Phone #: (250) 387-6197

Approved by:
Executive Director, PPIGR
Executive Director, SABC
Executive Director, PSFCF
Assistant Deputy Minister
Assistant Deputy Minister
Deputy Minister

APPENDIX 1

CFS-BC 4-point Plan - Reduce Tuition Fees

Background

In the 2002/03 Service Plan, Government identified the need to ensure the costs of the public post-secondary education system are aligned with the benefits provided. These costs and benefits are shared between students, institutions, government and the private sector.

When tuition in British Columbia became comparable to other provinces in 2005, British Columbia implemented the tuition limit policy. Since the introduction of the tuition limit policy, tuition fees in British Columbia have been limited to a 2 percent increase for the last seven years, and they will continue to be limited to 2 percent for 2012/13. Mandatory fees have been included in the tuition limit policy since 2007. Mandatory fees include building fees; consumable fees such as material fees for labs; and ancillary fees such as application, registration, student card, transcript and learning resources fees.

Statistics Canada's most recent report notes that British Columbia's undergraduate tuition fee is the fourth lowest in the country for the 2011/12 year.

Current Position/Status

Tuition fees for 2012/13 are limited to an increase of 2 percent. The tuition limit policy ensures the Province has an accessible, high quality post-secondary system that is affordable to both students and taxpayers and sustainable over the long term.

Post-secondary education is both an individual and a public investment. British Columbians with a post-secondary degree earn an additional \$650,000 over the course of their working life. As individuals benefit from post-secondary education, they should bear some of the cost. Students in British Columbia pay less than one third of the actual cost of a post-secondary education, and government is committed to ensuring post-secondary education is affordable to both students and taxpayers.

Gaps

Institutions were instructed in December 2011 that tuition fees for 2012/13 were limited to increases of 2 percent.

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The CFS website shows tuition fees in British Columbia from 1990 to 2010 and indicates that students are now paying more than double what they would if tuition was increased by the rate of inflation. Based on Stats Can tuition fees, increasing tuition fees from 1990/91 to 2011/12 by two percent per year (the average British Columbia CPI rate) would provide a tuition fee of \$2586 in 2011/12. As the CFS indicates the actual 2011/12 British Columbia tuition fees are approximately double this amount.

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APPENDIX 2

CFS-BC 4-point Plan - Create a Student Grant Program

Background

In 2003/04, the Ministry's student financial assistance budget was \$165.4 million, of which \$94.4 million was set aside for British Columbia Grants. The British Columbia grant program was eliminated as of August 1, 2004.

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In 2004/05, \$34 million was added to the student financial assistance budget to fund the British Columbia Loan Reduction program.

In 2011/12, the British Columbia student support budget is \$84.54 million, of which \$39.33 million is set aside for the British Columbia Loan Reduction Program.

The British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS-BC) has listed the creation of a new upfront grant program as one of its top two priorities. CFS-BC is proposing that this be funded by eliminating the British Columbia Loan Reduction Program and reallocating that programs budget to support this initiative.

Current Position/Status

To keep overall post-secondary education affordable, British Columbia works in partnership with the federal government to deliver student financial assistance. Together we provide a mix of up-front federal grants (for students from low and middle income families, students with disabilities, and students with dependants), British Columbia grants for students with disabilities, and annual British Columbia loan reduction. These encourage students to access a post-secondary education, reward students who successfully complete their post-secondary studies, and keep overall debt manageable.

The Minister of Advanced Education continues to have discussions with student groups to hear their priorities. These discussions have included potential improvements to Student Aid. Any change to policies respecting student financial assistance has financial implications to taxpayers - we must ensure that we have a good balance between affordability for both students and taxpayers.

Gaps

British Columbia cancelled the upfront British Columbia grant program in August 2004. The CFS is advocating the re-creation of a provincially funded, upfront, needs-based student grant program. S. 13, S. 17

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APPENDIX 3
CFS-BC 4-point Plan - Increase per-student funding to 2001 levels

Background

At a system level, real operating grants per Full-time Equivalent (FTE) are slightly greater in 2011/12 as they were in 2001/02.

Operating grants increased by over 46 percent from 2001/02 to 2011/12. However, FTEs also increased by almost 23 percent and inflation over the period was 17.5 percent.

The net result is that system level real operating grants per FTE are about the same (slightly greater) in 2011/12 as in 2001/02 when deflated using the British Columbia Consumer Price Index by Fiscal Year.

Current Position/Status

Government recognizes the vital role that post-secondary institutions play in delivering quality post-secondary education and in ensuring a healthy and prosperous economy. Government is also committed to a prudent, fiscally responsible approach to spending and returning to a balanced budget by 2013/14.

Post-secondary institution operating grants have increased to \$1.835 billion from \$1.256 billion in 2001/02.

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We have also committed \$2.1 billion for more than 1,000 capital projects at public post-secondary institutions since 2001.

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APPENDIX 4

CFS-BC 4-point Plan - Eliminate interest on student loans

Background

New Brunswick and British Columbia charge the highest lending rate on student loans – prime plus 2.5 percent (current bank prime lending rate is 3 percent+2.5 percent). The Canada Student Loan program also charges prime plus 2.5 percent for its floating interest rate. The government's average cost of borrowing is 5.1 per cent, which is very close to what the British Columbia government charges students during repayment.

Government is responsible for the interest while students are in interest-free status while they attend classes and during the six-month grace period after a student graduates, and pays for interest relief programs to support low-income students once they are finished their studies and in their repayment phase.

The British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian Federation of Students has identified the reduction or elimination of interest charged on British Columbia student loans listed as one of its two top priorities.

Current Position/Status

We have consulted with student groups and other ministry stakeholders on student financial assistance programs and policies, and continue to have discussions with student groups to hear their priorities.

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APPENDIX 5

CFS-BC other issues - Student Debt

Background

The CFS website material also indicates that the average British Columbia university student debt is \$27,000 upon graduation and that about half of all students in British Columbia depend on student financial assistance in order to pursue post-secondary education.

According to a Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation 2009 survey of students who graduated with an undergraduate degree, British Columbia graduates have the fourth highest loan debt across provincial jurisdictions with \$26,738. This survey is often referenced by students and critics.

Recent British Columbia provincial data for 2009/10 (student outcomes surveys) indicates that British Columbia borrowers from public post-secondary degree programs report an average debt load of \$20,894. Taking into account short certificate programs, the total combined student debt load in British Columbia is \$18,842. Student outcomes surveys of graduates from public post-secondary show that 70 percent graduate without using British Columbia and Canada student loan programs.

The Canadian Federation of Students argues that British Columbia has:

- the least amount of student grant funding available of any province;
- one of the highest student debt levels; and
- the highest student interest rate on student loans.

These factors, coupled with British Columbia's higher cost of living, have led to the CFS deeming those students who access student financial assistance as entering a 'debt sentence'.

Current Position/Status

Government is committed to making public post-secondary education accessible, affordable and closer to home for British Columbia students.

This is why British Columbia has developed programs that provide the most benefits to students who finish their studies - either reducing or forgiving their loans. This makes it easier and faster for them to get out of debt.

In the 2010/11 fiscal year, more than 21,000 students had their British Columbia student loan debt reduced through the British Columbia Loan Reduction Program.

British Columbia public post-secondary tuition is the fourth lowest in Canada. Annual increases in tuition are capped at 2 percent.

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING NOTE**

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: May 31, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES: Michelle Mungall, MLA, Nelson Creston
Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland, Deputy Minister
Victoria Thibeau, Executive Director, Student Services Branch
Derrick Harder, Research Officer, Legislative Assembly

ISSUE: Student Financial Aid Administrative Review Documents

BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) and the Ministry of Finance (FIN) undertook an administrative review of the British Columbia Student Financial Assistance program. The review examined the process, administration and outcomes associated with student financial assistance in British Columbia.

In early 2012, a Freedom of Information request was received from the official opposition. Since there would be a significant cost associated with compilation of the relevant documents due to the scope and duration of the review, the FOI request lapsed. During the Budget 2012/13 Estimates debates, inquiries were made by Michelle Mungall, the Official Opposition Critic to the Ministry of Advanced Education, on the status of the review.

The Minister of Advanced Education committed to have her staff meet with Ms. Mungall at her convenience. Ms. Mungall has now confirmed the time to meet with staff. It is scheduled for May 31, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION:

The documents available for review include the following:

1. **Joint Vision of the Future of Student Financial Assistance** – provides the shared vision, mission and guiding principles of the Ministry of Advanced Education and the Ministry of Finance associated with the delivery of student financial assistance in British Columbia.
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3. **Federal and Provincial Program Descriptions, Budget 2011/12** – provides a comprehensive summary of all Student Financial Aid programs (federal and provincial) including program descriptions, goals, objectives and output indicators (participants and financials).

As the documents were completed in 2011, updated 2012 documentation is available and attached to this meeting note. The 2012 documentation includes:

1. **Federally Funded Student Financial Assistance Programs Administered by StudentAid BC, January 10, 2012** – provides a summary of the eight federally funded programs including program descriptions, number of clients and expenditures.
2. **BC Funded Student Financial Assistance Programs, March 8, 2012** - provides a summary of the 27 provincially funded programs including program descriptions, number of clients and expenditures.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Attachments:

1. Joint Vision of the Future of Student Financial Assistance
2. Student Financial Assistance Program Administrative Review
3. Federal and Provincial Program Descriptions, Budget 2011/12
4. Federally Funded Student Financial Assistance Programs Administered by StudentAid BC
5. BC Funded Student Financial Assistance

Prepared by:	Miles Stratholt	Reviewed by:	
	Student Services Branch		
Phone #:	(250) 387-0245		
		Executive Director	VT
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

Joint Vision of the Future of Student Financial Assistance

Shared Vision

Student assistance supports successful outcomes for students who access post-secondary education. These supports are provided in a fiscally responsible manner, to the benefit of all British Columbians.

Shared Mission:

Student assistance provides a comprehensive set of programs and information to enable post-secondary students to:

- Understand the supports available to them and their obligations;
- Access a range of programs to meet their needs;
- Complete their program of study in a timely manner;
- Repay their loans in a timely manner and without undue hardship; and
- Contribute to British Columbia's prosperity.

Shared Guiding Principles:

Accessibility – There should be equality of access for students who pursue post-secondary education in British Columbia, regardless of financial means. Where barriers exist, assistance will help to remove those barriers.

Fiscal Responsibility – Accessibility to student financial assistance should be balanced with ensuring timely repayment, maximized collections, and sound financial management.

Accountability and Transparency – Policy and program decisions are supported by strong policy, program and operational analysis and are based on the best available evidence. Accountability and transparency are advanced through the timely sharing of information, communication and public reporting.

Shared Responsibility – Students, their families, the Province and the country all contribute to and benefit from citizens who achieve post-secondary education and subsequently contribute to BC's economy.

Comprehensive – Student financial assistance is need-based and merit based. Programs aim to foster access to post-secondary education, encourage persistence and completion, minimize student debt load, optimize repayment and maximize the long term benefits to the Province through labour market attachment.

Publicly Administered – Student financial assistance provides a set of public policy tools that are administered to enhance the socio-economic benefits of the Province.

Responsive – Student financial assistance should be responsive to changing student financial needs and abilities. It should also be responsive to changing labour market needs.

Partnership and Collaboration – Given shared jurisdiction, governance and delivery of the Student Financial Assistance program, Ministries build on respective strengths and expertise to maximize benefits of student financial assistance for British Columbians.

Pages 33 through 43 redacted for the following reasons:

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StudentAid BC

Federal and Provincial Program Descriptions Budget 2011/12

Prepared: May 9, 2011

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Canada Student Grant for Persons from Middle Income Families	\$8.5M	Federal	9
Canada Student Loans (Full-time)	\$365M	Federal	10
Repayment Assistance Programs			
BC Interest Relief	n/a	Provincial	11
BCSL Principal Deferment	n/a	Provincial	12
Extended Amortization for BC Student Loans	n/a	Provincial	13
Loan Reduction/Forgiveness Programs			
BC Loan Reduction Program	39,338,000	Provincial	14
BC Loan Forgiveness Program	1,500,000	Provincial	15
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BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities	1,900,000	Provincial	19
BC Access Grant for Deaf Students	200,000	Provincial	20
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Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities	n/a	Federal	22
Canada Student Grant for Persons with Permanent Disabilities	n/a	Federal	23
College and Institute Library Services	\$516,000	Provincial	24
Disability Services	\$7,800,000	Provincial	25
Interpreting Services	\$2,200,000	Provincial	26
Learning Disability Assessment Bursary	0	Provincial	27
Post-Secondary Communication Access Services	\$184,000	Provincial	28
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BRITISH COLUMBIA STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2011/12

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

StudentAid BC is a comprehensive program of financial aid available to students at the post-secondary level. These are awarded based on calculated financial need. In addition, a variety of other programs complement the main program by providing alternate sources of funding which must be applied for individually and which have their own separate criteria for eligibility.

The main components in StudentAid BC include the Canada Student Loans (CSL), BC Student Loans (BCSL), Canada Student Grants, and the BC Loan Reduction Program. This comprehensive package of financial assistance ensures all British Columbians have access to post-secondary education. Financial barriers to post-secondary education are reduced by providing students with equitable and consistent access to funding.

The CSLP is administered by the Province under criteria agreed upon between the two levels of government. The provincially funded components of student financial assistance complement the CSLP. Students are automatically considered for the full range of loans and grants available through the main program at the time they submit their single StudentAid BC application.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- StudentAid BC's mission is "to reduce financial barriers to post-secondary education by providing students with equitable and consistent access to funding."
- The six principles that support the mission statement are as follows:
 1. There should be equality of access to post-secondary education; limited financial resources should not be a barrier. Where barriers exist, assistance should be directed to help remove these in order to permit access to post-secondary education.
 2. All newly created programs should be evidence based and where applicable, aligned with labour market demands while improving services to students, at a minimal cost to taxpayers.
 3. Student financial assistance is a shared responsibility as both students and society benefit from a post-secondary education. As such, StudentAid BC programs should seek to provide assistance to those most in need while ensuring program integrity and accountability.
 4. A comprehensive student financial assistance package provides need-based and merit based programs when accessing post-secondary education but also seeks to minimize student debt load and maximize the long term benefits to the province through labour market linkages.
 5. A student assistance program should encourage successful and timely completion of a program of study.
 6. Student financial assistance should also encourage a post-secondary education for traditionally underrepresented segments of society through initiatives to eliminate barriers (both financial and societal).

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

BC- Canada Student Loan Integration

THE APPEAL PROCESS

APPEAL UNIT AND APPEAL COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

Statistics:

4,500 appeals reviewed annually

1,500 files monitor annually for scholastic progression and withdrawal activity

200 appeals prepared and submitted to Independent Appeals Committee annually

StudentAid BC provides post-secondary students with financial assistance to supplement money available from work, savings, investments, assets, parents, spouse and other awards. Students may request a review of their application when they believe exceptional circumstances exist that would warrant additional funding. The Appeal Unit consists of one Administrator and four Appeal Adjudicators. The prime responsibility of the Unit is to review applications and decide whether to approve in whole or in-part, further funding through loans, grants, debt management programs and all directed programs under StudentAid BC. The Unit also reviews and monitors over 1,500 files each year for scholastic progression and withdrawal activity. The Appeal Unit reviews approximately 4,500 appeals annually. The decisions of the Appeal Unit only apply to the case on hand and are not precedent setting. All students must provide their information in writing and explain why an exception should be made in their case. If students are dissatisfied with decisions of the Appeal Unit, they may appeal to an independent Appeal Committee.

The Canada Student Loan Financial Assistance Act designates an Appropriate Provincial Authority to appoint members to the Appeal Committee to review student financial assistance appeals. In British Columbia, the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education makes the appointments. The Appeal Committee consists of five voting members; two students, two Financial Aid Officers and a Chair. Branch staff, who are non-voting members of the Committee, provide clerical support and policy clarification, as required. The Appeal Committee members review approximately 200 appeals annually.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Appeal Unit and the Appeal Committee exist to provide an avenue for students who feel they have exceptional circumstances, to have their requests for financial assistance reviewed in a fair and equitable manner.

ELIGIBILITY/SELECTION CRITERIA FOR APPEAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The person selected as Chair is someone who is knowledgeable about and sympathetic to the needs of the students. Two Financial Aid Officers from public institutions are appointed: one member is nominated by the Association of Student Awards Personnel and one member is nominated by the Ministry of Advanced Education. Two student representatives are appointed from colleges and/or institutes and/or universities and one alternate student is also selected. The Committee meets one day each month.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No changes or issues currently identified.

BRITISH COLUMBIA STUDENT LOANS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

StudentAid BC provides provincially funded BC Student Loans (BCSL) to students in need of assistance to meet post-secondary educational costs.

WEEKLY ALLOWANCES

	Provincial Loan Maximums
Students without Dependents	\$110 per week
Student with Dependents	\$260 per week

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the BCSL is to provide assistance in the form of a repayable loan towards meeting the costs of full-time post-secondary study for students.

Full-time study for the purposes of eligibility under StudentAid BC is defined as 60 percent or more of a full course load, and 40 percent or more for students with permanent disabilities.

The BCSL is a supplement to other resources available to students from their families, their own efforts and other scholarship or bursary awards. Students are automatically considered for BC loan funding at the time they apply for aid through StudentAid BC.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

In 2000/01, the Province replaced risk-sharing financial institutions with a direct lending program where provincial funds are forwarded to students through a service provider operating as the BC Student Loan Service Bureau.

In 2011/12, the Province will integrate the administration and policies of the BC and Canada student loans. In addition to a significant cost saving for the province, integration will simplify the experience for student borrowers by having just one service provider to interact with on loan disbursements, repayments and assistance on repayment.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Awards*	\$222,740,924	\$229,298,571
Recipients	61,493	65,208

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by the Ministry of Finance.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- BC-Canada Student Loan Integration

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS WITH DEPENDENTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for Persons with dependents assists students in full-time programs with dependents under the age of 12 years with a grant of \$200 per month of study per child.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This grant is intended to provide incentive to students with each dependent under the age of 12 to participate in post-secondary education.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government and administered by the Province.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

First time applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Apply and qualify for a Canada Student Loan;
- Are from a low-income family as defined by the Canada Student Loans Program;
- Are enrolled full-time in a multi-year program at least two years in duration (minimum 60 weeks) at a designated post-secondary institution; and,
- Have a dependent who will be under 12 years of age at the beginning of the study period.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Program replaces the Canada Study Grant for Students with Dependents.
- Dependents must be under age of 12 in order to be eligible for the grant. Previously students with dependents under the age of 18 were eligible for the grant.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Awards*	\$10,305,482	\$11,529,850
Recipients	4,761	4,589

S. 17

* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for Students from Low-Income Families assists students in full-time programs with a grant of \$250 per month of study.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This grant is intended to provide incentive to students from low income families to participate in post-secondary education.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government and administered by the Province.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

First time applicants must submit meet the following criteria:

- Qualify for federal student loan assistance;
- Are from a low-income family as defined by the Canada Student Loans Program; and
- Enrolled in a two year or longer, university, college or trade school program.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- New program offered to students enrolled in post-secondary studies as of August 1, 2009.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Awards*	\$50,885,030	\$60,937,600
Recipients	28,193	32,372

S. 17

* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS FROM MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for Students from Middle-Income Families assists students in full-time programs with a grant of \$100 per month of study.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This grant is intended to provide incentive to students from middle income families to participate in post-secondary education.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government and administered by the Province.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

First time applicants must submit meet the following criteria:

- Qualify for federal student loan assistance
- Are from a middle-income family as defined by the Canada Student Loans Program; and
- Enrolled in a university undergraduate, college or trade school program, of a minimum two years duration.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- New program offered to students enrolled in post-secondary studies as of August 1, 2009.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Awards*	\$ 7,093,000	\$8,128,250
Recipients	10,159	11,471

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

CANADA STUDENT LOANS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

StudentAid BC provides federally funded Canada Student Loans (CSL) to students in need of assistance to meet post-secondary educational costs.

WEEKLY ALLOWANCES

	Federal Loan Maximums
Students without Dependants	\$210 per week
Student with Dependants	\$210 per week

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the CSL is to provide assistance in the form of a repayable loan towards meeting the costs of full-time post-secondary study for students.

Full-time study for the purposes of eligibility under the Canada Student Loan Program is defined as 60 percent or more of a full course load, and 40 percent or more for students with permanent disabilities.

The CSL is a supplement to other resources available to students from their families, their own efforts and other scholarship or bursary awards. Students are automatically considered for BC loan funding at the time they apply for aid through StudentAid BC.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Awards*	\$337,530,149	\$356,976,299
Recipients	61,523	65,208

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No changes to CSL weekly loan maximums.
- BC-Canada Student Loan Integration

BC INTEREST RELIEF

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

BC Interest Relief (BCIR) is designed to help student borrowers who are experiencing financial hardship in meeting their BC student loan repayment obligations because of limited income. If borrowers are approved for BCIR, the BC Government pays the interest on their outstanding BC Student Loans. No principal payments are required. BCIR is usually approved for six-month periods up to a maximum of 30 months, and is available anytime during the repayment period.

BCSL Extended Interest Relief

The BCIR period may be extended up to 54 months if the following three conditions are met (When interest relief is extended beyond 30 months, it is known as BCSL Extended Interest Relief):

- (1) the borrower has exhausted 30 months of BCIR;
- (2) the borrower has been out of school for less than 5 years; and
- (3) the borrower continues to meet the eligibility criteria (see below for details) for BCIR even if the loan repayment period was extended from 10 to 15 years.

BCIR protects the borrower's credit rating and ensures the debt does not grow while the borrower is in BCIR. The BCIR Program is designed to help former students who are experiencing financial hardship in meeting their BC student loan repayment obligations.

Effective July 2007, the online application for Interest Relief was implemented. Borrowers can now apply online and receive an answer in approximately 48 hours.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The program was implemented to assist those borrowers most in need. The program allows student borrowers time to re-establish themselves financially and resume payment of their BC Student Loans. The program is instrumental in the reduction of BC Student Loan defaults.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- As of September 2008, program administration and budget is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance. StudentAid BC remains responsible for program policy.
- Eligibility tables for the Interest Relief program were updated on November 1, 2008.

BCSL PRINCIPAL DEFERMENT PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

If a student is having difficulty repaying BC student loans, they can ask to have the principal payment deferred for a period of time.

If approved for principal deferment, they only need to make the monthly interest payments on the loan. The principal portion of the payment is deferred. This deferment will give them time to stabilize their financial position and avoid defaulting on the loan.

Approval is usually given for six-month periods, but there is no limit to the number of months the student can be on principal deferment. However, the repayment amortization period cannot be extended past 234 months (19.5 years) from the original date when they began repaying the loan.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program allows student borrowers the time to re-establish themselves financially and resume payment of the BC Student Loan principal.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

All BC student loan portfolios – direct lend, guaranteed and risk-sharing – are eligible for principal deferment.

To apply for principal deferment, the student must submit a written request to each lender holding their BC student loans. The students' BCSL loans must be in good standing i.e. any outstanding interest and fees must be paid.

- For direct lend student loans, the contact is the BC Student Loan Services Bureau.
- For risk sharing and/or guaranteed student loans, the contact would be the lender (bank, credit union or other financial institution).

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- As of September 2008, program administration and budget is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance. StudentAid BC remains responsible for program policy.

EXTENDED AMORTIZATION for BC STUDENT LOANS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

If a student needs help making their monthly loan payments, they may be able to revise the terms of their loan. They can ask the lender to lower the monthly BC student loan principal payment and extend the repayment amortization period up to a maximum of 234 months (19.5 years).

Extending the amortization reduces the amount of each monthly payment, making it easier to meet repayment obligations.

There is no formal process to apply for extended amortization. A student must submit a written request directly to their lender:

- For direct lend student loans, contact the BC Student Loan Services Bureau. The minimum monthly payment is \$25 (principal and interest).
- For risk-sharing and/or guaranteed student loans, contact the lender (bank, credit union or other financial institution). The minimum monthly payment on these types of loans is \$25 (principal only).

A student can apply for extended amortization on one or more of their BC student loan portfolios.

The students' Direct Lend BCSL must be in good standing – any outstanding interest must be paid prior to having extended amortization request processed

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- As of September 2008, program administration and budget is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance. StudentAid BC remains responsible for program policy.

BC LOAN REDUCTION PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The program is available to students enrolled in post-secondary education programs from designated Canadian institutions (public and private) of two academic years in duration or more. It is not available to students of professional programs - law, medicine and dentistry - or graduate students. For students without dependent children, the program is available in their first four years of borrowing. For those with dependent children, it is available for the first five years of borrowing.

The program works by establishing a level of government borrowing beyond which BC Student Loan is remitted on annual completion of a full-time course of study. The level established is a function of:

- The total amount of funding available, and
- The number of students who are eligible.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The BC Loan Reduction program is intended to lower the financial barrier to post-secondary education faced by students whose personal circumstances force them to acquire substantial amounts of debt to pursue their education. By targeting funds towards students who are most in need - such as students with dependents and students from low-income families - this program improves access to post-secondary education.

Fiscal Year	For Students Completing Program Year	Students Assisted	Avg Reduction Amount	Actual Expenditure
2007/08	2006/07	22,140	\$3,264	\$72,264,800
2008/09	2007/08	21,508	\$3,519	\$75,678,570
2009/10	2008/09	21,175	\$3,351	\$70,961,734
2010/11	2009/10	20,900	\$1,788	\$37,362,200
2011/12	2010/11	21,000	\$1,873	\$39,338,000

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Since 2004/05, the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation contributed approximately \$37.1M annually to the BC Loan Reduction Program. The mandate of the CMSF expires December 2009 and the funding provided previously by CMSF will not be replaced. The federal funding for this initiative has been redirected to the Canada Student Grants Program.

BC LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

In recognition of the increasing need for skilled professionals in underserved (mainly rural) communities, the Province of British Columbia has implemented the BC Loan Forgiveness Program (LFP).

Graduates in certain professions must agree to practice full-time, part-time or casual in a designated BC community for three years at a publicly funded facility. Qualified applicants' BC Student Loans are placed in interest-free status annually. If at the end of each of the 3 years, the student can demonstrate that he/she has worked in a designated community, the Province will forgive all of the interest accrued on his/her loan in that year plus 33 percent of the principal balance.

Eligible occupations include: nurses, doctors, midwives, pharmacists, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, audiologists, physiotherapists, school psychology, teaching for the visually impaired, deaf and hard of hearing or technology education.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The program encourages graduates from eligible programs to work in designated BC communities. In recognition of a graduate's decision to work in one of those communities, the Province will forgive accrued interest and reduce the student's BC Student Loan debt by 33 percent per year for a maximum of three years.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Applications Approved	324	288
Total Remissions	\$1,617,648	\$2,027,936

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

PACIFIC LEADERS BC LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Pacific Leaders BC Loan Forgiveness program promotes the BC Public Service as a potential employer to new post-secondary graduates, and a progressive employer to current employees, by forgiving their outstanding BC student loan debt at a rate of one third per year. If they continue to work for the BC Public Service for three years, their BC student loan will be paid off in full. All costs including administrative are covered by the Public Service Agency.

- The Pacific Leaders BC loan forgiveness program is open to all new recruits and any full-time or part-time regular employee of the provincial government who has a BC student loan in good standing.
- Employees' loans will be interest-free once they are enrolled in the program, and a third of their outstanding principal will be paid at the end of each year of service.
- The Pacific Leaders Loan Forgiveness program is a taxable benefit and any payment that is made to reduce your outstanding BC student loan by the BC Government will be added to your income for tax purposes.
- Current employees whose BC student loan payments are up-to-date are automatically registered in the Pacific Leaders BC loan forgiveness program.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10FY Budget	2010/11FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$3M	\$3M	\$1.9M

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Applications Approved	174	TBO
Total Remissions	\$2,521,277	\$3,151,099

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

Note: This program (APSD) is for students with permanent disabilities at B.C. public post-secondary institutions.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities (APSD) is a provincially-funded, needs-based program that provides financial assistance to students with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that pose a barrier to post-secondary education.

Grants of up to \$10,000 (\$12,000 for students requiring attendant care while at school) are available to eligible applicants. APSD Grants do not cover living expenses, tuition or books. This program is generally used to assist permanently disabled students facing exceptional costs for education-related services and adaptive equipment and for students in upgrading programs who would not be eligible for the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities (CSGP-SEPD) or for students who are eligible for the CSGP-SEPD but have exhausted the funding in that program.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that may be a barrier to post-secondary education.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	501	510
Budget	\$636,130	\$775,910

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No changes to the program have been announced.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS (APSD-PR)

Note: This program (APSD-PR) is for students with permanent disabilities at B.C. private post-secondary institutions.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities for Private Schools (APSD-PR) is a provincially-funded, needs-based program that provides financial assistance to students with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that pose a barrier to post-secondary education at B.C. private post-secondary institutions.

Grants of up to \$10,000 (\$12,000 for students requiring attendant care while at school) are available to eligible applicants. APSD Grants do not cover living expenses, tuition or books. This program is generally used to assist students with permanent disabilities facing exceptional costs for education-related services and adaptive equipment and for students in upgrading programs who would not be eligible for the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities (CSGP-SEPD) or for students who are eligible for the CSGP-SEPD but have exhausted the funding in that program.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that may be a barrier to post-secondary education.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$400,000	\$60,000	\$0

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	0	1
Budget	\$0	\$8,000

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- The program is funded through the Canada-BC Labour Market Agreement.

BC ACCESS GRANT FOR STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The BC Access Grant is a provincially funded, needs-based program that provides financial assistance to full-time students with permanent disabilities. This program will replace up to \$1,000 in BC student loan funding with a non-repayable grant.

Full-time students with permanent disabilities are automatically eligible to receive this grant if they are eligible for full-time StudentAid BC (SABC) funding and have previously verified their permanent disability with SABC. First time applicants must have a medical professional in their area of disability complete a Verification of Permanent Disability form and submit this documentation to SABC.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that may be a barrier to post-secondary education.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$1,691,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,900,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17
Recipients	1,161	1,641	
Awards	\$1,022,375	\$1,615,761	

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- This program is available to students beginning classes on or after August 1, 2009.

BC ACCESS GRANT FOR DEAF STUDENTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Gallaudet University and Rochester Technical Institute in the USA provide a unique learning environment for deaf and hard of hearing post-secondary students. These institutions deliver their curriculum entirely in American Sign Language, and strongly emphasize deaf education and deaf culture. The BC Access Grant for Deaf Students is designed to facilitate access to these institutions for deaf and hard of hearing students in BC. There is no parallel opportunity available in Canada.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to deaf and hard of hearing students in the form of "top up" funding that meets the additional financial need experienced after student loans, grants and personal financial assets are considered.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$200,000	\$200,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2010/11 FY Actual
Recipients	2
Awards	\$17,000

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- This is the first year (2010/11) of this pilot program that is currently undergoing evaluation. Initial indications are that it is a successful program and will be continued.

PROVISION FOR BORROWERS WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Students who become severely disabled due to accidents or deteriorating conditions during the course of their post secondary education such that there is no expectation that they will be able to seek employment or continue their education face financial obstacles. Student loan debt can be a significant contributor to their financial problems. The provision for borrowers with severe disabilities provides a loan forgiveness opportunity for students who meet the eligibility criteria.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance in the form of loan forgiveness to those students who for reasons of severe disability are not expected to be able to seek employment or continue with their education. The program relies on the adjudication of severe disability through the Canada Student Loans process.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$150,000	\$150,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2010/11 FY Actual
Recipients	\$202,835
Awards	27

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- This program is available to students beginning classes on or after August 1, 2009.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT FOR PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for the Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities is designed to assist students to overcome educational barriers that they may have due to a permanent disability. Students are eligible to receive a non-repayable grant of up to \$8,000 per program year.

In addition to the basic eligibility requirements for a full-time student loan or a part-time student loan, the applicant must require education-related services or adaptive equipment to overcome barriers to post-secondary education as a result of their permanent disability.

Services or equipment, which *may* be covered under this program, include:

- note taker
- tutor
- interpreter
- reader
- attendant for studies
- specialized transportation (to/from the institution only)
- technical aids such as a computer or braille

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program provides exceptional education-related support services and adaptive equipment for students with documented permanent disabilities.

INPUTS

- This program is fully funded by the Federal Government.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 PY Actual	2010/11 PY Actual
Participants	550	632
Budget	\$1,800,000	\$1,981,323

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- This program replaces the Canada Study Grant for the Accommodation of Students with Permanent Disabilities. Other than the name change, no substantive changes to the program have been announced.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for Persons with Permanent Disabilities assists students in both full-time and part-time programs with a grant of \$2,000 per program year. The \$2,000 will be applied before any other funding to reduce the assessed need for full-time students. For part-time students, the grant will be awarded before part-time loans.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This grant is intended to provide incentive to students with permanent disabilities to participate in post-secondary education.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

First time applicants must submit:

- A medical certificate from licensed medical practitioner in the field relevant to their disability;
- A Permanent Disability Programs application.

Note: Students with approved permanent disability status are not required to submit proof of disability in subsequent years. They automatically receive the funding for this grant as long as they meet all other eligibility criteria.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Program replaces the Canada Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities
- A student that has an assessed need of \$1 is eligible for the entire \$2,000 grant. Previous grant was based on \$1 of need for every \$1 dollar of grant.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2010/11 PY Actual
Participants	1,744
Budget	\$3,771,000

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

COLLEGE AND INSTITUTE LIBRARY SERVICES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

College and Institute Library Services (CILS) provides information services to post-secondary students in a format that they can use, in order to encourage increased rates of participation and completion in postsecondary education for students with print impairments.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program fosters increased rates of participation in and completion of post-secondary education for students with print impairments.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$516,000	\$516,000	\$516,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Participants	799	775
Budget	\$516,000	\$516,000

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

No program changes have been announced. Funding remains status quo.

DISABILITY SERVICES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Disability Services are provided in 21 public post-secondary institutions. Institutions provide direct support and services for students with disabilities, including transition services (orientation, instructor-student liaison, exit planning), support services (tutors, interpreters, accommodation planning) and special equipment and resources.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of Disability Services is to provide reasonable access to post-secondary students with disabilities to increase their participation and success. These would be public post-secondary students with cognitive, developmental, mental, learning and/or physical disabilities.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget*	\$6,700,000	\$7,300,000	\$7,800,000

*Reported Expenditures.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Participants	9,900	10,000

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

INTERPRETING SERVICES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Interpreting Services are provided each year in 20 colleges, institutions and university colleges to cover part of the cost of interpreters and captioners for deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing students.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Interpreting Services delivers interpreting and captioning services to public postsecondary students with hearing impairments. These would be post-secondary students who are deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget*	\$1,900,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,200,000

*Reported Expenditures

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Participants	267	264

S. 17

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

LEARNING DISABILITY ASSESSMENT BURSARY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Learning Disability Assessment Bursary was established in 2008/09 to assist students with the up-front costs of the learning disabilities assessment. Students with a learning disability require a recent learning disability assessment to determine eligibility for equipment and/or services through the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities program.

This grant program is available to part-time or full time students attending British Columbia public post-secondary institutions taking post-secondary level courses. A bursary of up to \$1,800 will be made available to eligible applicants.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons with a learning disability to have access to funding for an assessment to establish a permanent disability so that he/she may have access to disability support programs offer through SABC.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is a provincial program that was funded through the Canada-BC Labour Market Agreement with the federal government in 2008/09 and 2009/10 and is now funded by provincial budget in 2010/11. SABC allocate a budget and block fund B.C. public post-secondary institutions who will administer this program on behalf of the ministry.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	10	79
Budget	140,000	\$62,330

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Program was funded through the Canada-BC Labour Market Agreement for 2008/09 and 2009/10.
- From 2010/11, the program will be funded from provincial budget.

POST-SECONDARY COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Post-Secondary Communication Access Services ensures consistency and quality in interpreting and captioning services in the public post-secondary college and institute system for students with hearing loss. To accomplish this, Post-Secondary Communication Access Services provides centralized advising expertise to colleges, university colleges and institutes to assist in hiring interpreters and captioners and in the provision of support to students with hearing disabilities.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Post-Secondary Communication Access Services coordinates and improves access to interpreting and captioning services in the public post-secondary education system for students with hearing disabilities.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$185,000	\$213,000	\$185,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Participants	267	264

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

PROGRAM FOR INSTITUTIONAL LOANS OF ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Program for Institutional Loans of Adaptive Technology (PILAT) provides adaptive equipment for students with disabilities to use on-site within an institution and formalizes the parameters for the loan of adaptive hardware and software.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

PILAT is designed to improve access to required adaptive technology within public post-secondary institutions for students in need of such adaptations. PILAT is available to public post-secondary students with disabilities.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2007/08 FY Budget	2008/09 FY Budget	2009/10 FY Budget
Budget	\$239,900	\$125,880	\$80,000

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

SUPPLEMENTAL BURSARY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Supplemental Bursary for students with disabilities is a provincial bursary program designed to assist students with disabilities with exceptional educational costs (e.g., additional transportation costs, specialized clothing, etc). This bursary program is available to part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities attending designated post-secondary institutions, and taking post-secondary course(s).

Students must have a medically documented permanent disability that identifies barriers to education and demonstrate financial need, through either a full-time StudentAid BC loan or part-time program application. Students with disabilities enrolled in a course load of 40 per cent or greater are eligible to receive \$800 per program year. Students with disabilities enrolled in 20-39% course load are eligible to receive \$400 per program year.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs that may be a barrier to post-secondary education.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget
Budget	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	1400	1,678
Budget	\$1,100,000	\$1,680,000

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Approximately 45% of the funding is provided through the Canada-BC Labour Market Agreement (LMA) in 2008/09, 2009/10 and 1/3 of 2010/11.
- LMA funding ended on August 1, 2010. The Province is fully funding this program going forward.

PART-TIME CANADA STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Part-time Canada Student Loan Program assists students who are studying part-time between 20 to 59 per cent of a full-time course load, whose income falls below a prescribed threshold.

This income-tested program is to assist students studying part-time. Maximum funding for this program is \$10,000 outstanding loan balance at anytime. This outstanding amount does not include interest that has been added to the principal amount on disbursements issued after August 1, 2009

The types of costs covered by the Part-time Canada Student Loan Program include:

- tuition and compulsory school fees;
- textbooks and instruments;
- miscellaneous allowance;
- a small allowance for local transportation to and from classes; and
- an allowance for unsubsidized childcare expenses.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program is intended to assist students in part-time studies who are unable to attend full time studies and whose income falls below a prescribed threshold.

INPUTS

The program is federally funded, demand driven and has no fixed budget.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY* Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	798	1,319
Budget	\$1,536,369	\$2,675,140

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*The 2009/10 Fiscal Year is incomplete. SAIL (PT loan system) went on line in July 2009.

** The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards.
Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- For 2009/10, the federal government made a change to the part-time program by removing the requirement of having a reason for studying part-time to qualify for funding. It is anticipated that this move will increase the uptake of part-time CSL loans significantly.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Canada Student Grant for Students with dependents assists students in part-time programs with dependents under the age of 12 years (or dependents 12 years or older with a disability) with a grant that will not exceed the lesser of the assessed need, \$40 per week of study if the student has one or two dependents, \$60 per week if the student has three or more dependents, or \$1,920.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This grant is intended to provide incentive to part-time students from dependents under the age of 12 to participate in post-secondary education.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

First time applicants must:

- apply and qualify for a Canada Student Loan;
- be enrolled part-time in an approved program in 6 weeks continuous study at a designated post-secondary institution;
- have a dependent who will be less than 12 years old at the beginning of the study period or a dependent who is 12 years or older with a disability;
- have an assessed need that exceeds the Grant for Part-Time Studies (which provides a maximum of \$1,200) if the applicant is eligible for this grant; and
- have an outstanding balance of at least \$4,000 in Canada Student Loans from previous and/or current application.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- The amount of \$4,000 of demonstrated assessed need is the current loan maximum for part-time loans and it is being used here, rather than using the new proposed maximum loan amount of \$10,000 in order to ensure that the eligibility requirements for this grant remain the same.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Recipients	45	59
Awards*	\$49,185	\$61,494

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PART-TIME STUDIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This non-repayable grant assists part-time students whose income falls below a prescribed threshold. The program is funded by the federal government and is limited to students who are enrolled in 20-50 percent of a full-time course load. The grant covers tuition, books, supplies, transportation and unsubsidized daycare expenses up to a maximum amount of \$1,200.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To assist part-time students with access to post-secondary and assist in reducing the need to borrow.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

This program is fully funded by the Federal government.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Have an assessed need of at least \$1
- Attend a post-secondary institution on a part-time basis
- Have a family income below established thresholds

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Program replaces the Canada Study Grant for High-Need Part-Time Students.
- Previous program required an approved rationale for studying part-time. Students no longer required to provide rationale for why they are unable to study full-time
- Previous grant was block funded to BC post-secondary institutions to administer to students. New grant will now be administered through the National Student Loan Service Centre.

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY* Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	1,529	2,546
Dollars Awarded	\$1,738,771	\$3,008,455

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

IRVING K. BARBER BC SCHOLARSHIP

Note: Administered by Ike Barber BC Scholarship Society from BC government endowment funding.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A \$15 million Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Program was announced on October 22, 2004. The program will provide scholarships of up to \$5,000 each year to approximately 150 BC undergraduate students who begin their studies at a community college and then transfer to a BC university.

The Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship program is open to students who, after completing two years of study at a BC public college, university college or institute, must transfer their credits into full-time studies at another public post-secondary institution in BC to complete their degree. Successful applicants must clearly demonstrate academic merit as well as significant involvement in their community and/or school.

During 2006 and 2007, StudentAid BC administered on behalf of the Irving K. Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society the organization's transfer scholarships called the Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship. Effective May 7, 2007, a contract has been signed with the Victoria Foundation to administer this award.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To provide up to 150 scholarships to BC students who, after completing two years of study at a BC public college, university college or institute, must transfer their credits into full-time studies at another public post-secondary institution in BC to complete their degree.

OUTPUTS

No cost to Ministry

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- The value of the endowments decreased substantially resulting in only 17 of a possible 252 scholarships being awarded in 2009/10.
- Number of scholarships to be awarded in 2010/11 has yet to be determined.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S SILVER MEDAL PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal is offered by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. The Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal honours students who are registered in a vocational or career program of less than two years duration and have not only excelled in their studies but have also contributed in a positive way to the life of the college or institute or their community.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program honours students who have been registered in a vocational or career program of less than two years duration and have not only excelled in their studies but have contributed in a positive way to the life of the college or institute or their community.

MAJOR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Nominees are selected by the institution they attend. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development forwards the medals to the institution for presentation.

INPUTS

No cost to Ministry

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

No program changes have been announced.

NURSES EDUCATION BURSARY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Nurses Education Bursary Program has been established to assist:

- currently trained registered nurses (RN), registered psychiatric nurses (RPNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) who are upgrading or who need further education to work in BC's health-care system;
- former nurses and foreign-trained nurses needing refresher or educational upgrading;
- students in LPN, LPN Access, RN or RPN programs.

Up to \$1 million in bursary funding is awarded annually to qualified applicants with the greatest financial need. These bursaries range from \$500 to \$2,000. Applicants are only eligible to receive one award from the Nurses Education Bursary in a 12-month period. One quarter of the applications received are funded under the current budget.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program provides bursaries up to \$2,000 to nurses requiring refresher or education upgrading or students in LPN, RN or RPN programs.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	285	500
Expenditures	\$1,000,000	\$991,210

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- Budget reduced from \$2.66M to \$1M in 2009/10
- Maximum grant amount was reduced from \$3,500 to \$2,000
- NEB was automated in September 2010. Students are no longer required to submit a separate application.

PACIFIC LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF PUBLIC SERVANTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Pacific Leader Scholarship for Children of Public Servants is being offered in response to research that demonstrates children who are exposed to public service at home consider it for their future. Every year up to 60 scholarships of \$2,500 each will be offered to children of public servants who are full-time students taking a bachelor's degree program, trade, technical or vocational training. All costs including administrative are covered by the Public Service Agency.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To attract and recruit potential employees to the BC Public Service.

INPUTS

The Pacific Leaders Scholarship for Children of Public Servants program was announced as part of the February 15, 2007, Throne Speech. StudentAid BC administers the Pacific Leaders Scholarship for Children of Public Servants on behalf of the BC Public Service Agency.

OUTPUTS

	2009/10 FY Projection	2010/11 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	59	52	60
Awards Expenditures	\$147,500	\$130,000	\$150,000
Admin Expenditures	\$29,094	\$29,562	\$37,000
Total	\$176,594	\$159,562	\$187,000

Note: The budget (include awards and administration costs) for this award is funded through the BC Public Service Agency.

KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

STUDENT SOCIETY EMERGENCY AID FUND

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Student Society Emergency Aid Fund (SSEAF) assists student societies at BC public post-secondary institutions to generate bursary funds to help students in financial need who may otherwise have to postpone their studies. The fund was established to assist students with short-term, emergency financial situations.

Student societies at public post-secondary institutions submit proposals to StudentAid BC, specifying how they intend to contribute to the Student Society Emergency Aid Funds at their school, and how the money will be used. Provincial funding matches funds raised by the participating student society up to an institution's allocation which is established at the beginning of each program year.

The Student Society Emergency Aid Fund is administered through the financial aid office at the educational institution with input from the student society.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This program assists student societies at participating BC public post-secondary institutions to generate bursary funds to help students in financial need who may otherwise have to postpone studies.

INPUTS

Input Indicators	2009/10 FY Budget	2010/11 FY Budget	2011/12 FY Budget
Budget	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

OUTPUTS

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Budget	\$78,900	\$76,900

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FUND

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

StudentAid BC administers this program on behalf of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

The Youth Educational Assistance Fund (YEAF) provides grants for former BC youth in care between 19 and 23 years of age. For the 2009-10 program year (August 1- July 31), the grant is \$5,500.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To assist former BC youth in care between 19 and 23 years of age to attend post-secondary studies.

INPUTS

The Premier gifted an additional \$3.0 million in 2003/04 and \$1.0 million in 2007/08 to bring the total to \$6.0 million to the Victoria Foundation in trust for this program. The Foundation acts as a Trustee and disburses the funds. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development receives the applications, reviews for completeness based on the criteria established by MCFD, and makes recommendations for awards to the Victoria Foundation.

OUTPUTS

Recommendations to the Trustee for awards are made twice a month, and the Trustee subsequently makes the awards.

	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
# of Awards	225	261
Budget	\$1,223,375	\$1,428,625

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KEY CHANGES OR ISSUES

- No program changes have been announced.

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1. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

The Canada Student Grant for Students with dependents assists students in part-time programs with dependents under the age of 12 years (or dependents 12 years or older with a disability) with a grant that will not exceed the lesser of the assessed need, \$40 per week of study if the student has one or two dependents, \$60 per week if the student has three or more dependents, or \$1,920.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	2011/12 FY
Students	45	59	65
Expenditures*	\$49,185	\$61,494	\$63,000

* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

2. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PART-TIME STUDIES

This non-repayable grant assists part-time students whose income falls below a prescribed threshold. The program is funded by the federal government and is limited to students who are enrolled in 20-50 percent of a full-time course load. The grant covers tuition, books, supplies, transportation and unsubsidized daycare expenses up to a maximum amount of \$1,200.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY* Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	2011/12 FY
Students	1,529	2,546	2,700
Expenditures	\$1,738,771	\$3,008,455	\$3,200,000

* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans

3. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

The Canada Student Grant for Students from Low-Income Families assists students in full-time programs with a grant of \$250 per month of study.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	28,193	32,372
Expenditures	\$50,885,030	\$60,937,600

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

4. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS FROM MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES

The Canada Student Grant for Students from Middle-Income Families assists students in full-time programs with a grant of \$100 per month of study.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	10,159	11,471
Expenditures*	\$ 7,093,000	\$8,128,250

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

5. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS WITH DEPENDENTS

The Canada Student Grant for Persons with dependents assists students in full-time programs with dependents under the age of 12 years with a grant of \$200 per month of study per child.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual
Students	4,761	4,589
Expenditures	\$10,305,482	\$11,529,850

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

6. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

The Canada Student Grant for Persons with Permanent Disabilities assists students in both full-time and part-time programs with a grant of \$2,000 per program year. The \$2,000 will be applied before any other funding to reduce the assessed need for full-time students. For part-time students, the grant will be awarded before part-time loans.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2010/11 PY Actual
Students	1,744
Expenditures	\$3,771,000

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* The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.

7. CANADA STUDENT GRANT FOR SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT FOR PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

The Canada Student Grant for the Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities is designed to assist students to overcome educational barriers that they may have due to a permanent disability. Students are eligible to receive a non-repayable grant of up to \$8,000 per program year.

In addition to the basic eligibility requirements for a full-time student loan or a part-time student loan, the applicant must require education-related services or adaptive equipment to overcome barriers to post-secondary education as a result of their permanent disability.

Services or equipment, which *may* be covered under this program, include:

- note taker
- tutor
- interpreter
- reader
- attendant for studies
- specialized transportation (to/from the institution only)
- technical aids such as a computer or braille

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 PY Actual	2010/11 PY Actual
Students	550	632
Expenditures	\$1,800,000	\$1,981,323

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8. CANADA STUDENT LOANS

StudentAid BC provides federally funded Canada Student Loans (CSL) to students in need of assistance to meet post-secondary educational costs.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 Projections
Students	61,523	65,208
Expenditures	\$337,530,149	\$356,976,299

- * The amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards. Not for AVED Ministerial use. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by Canada Student Loans.
- Eligibility tables for the Interest Relief program were updated on November 1, 2008.

9. PART-TIME CANADA STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

The Part-time Canada Student Loan Program assists students who are studying part-time between 20 to 59 per cent of a full-time course load, whose income falls below a prescribed threshold. This income-tested program is to assist students studying part-time. Maximum funding for this program is \$10,000 outstanding loan balance at anytime.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Output Indicators	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	2011/12 FY
Students	798	1,319	1,400
Expenditures	\$1,536,369	\$2,675,140	\$2,800,000

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1. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

The Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities (APSD) is a provincially-funded, needs-based program that provides financial assistance to students with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary disability-related costs for services and/or adaptive equipment to remove barriers to postsecondary education. APSD Grants do not cover living expenses, tuition or books.

Grants of up to \$10,000 (\$12,000 for students requiring attendant care while at school) are available to eligible applicants: in development programs (ABE, ESL, ASE) who are not be eligible for the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities (CSGP-SEPD); or for students who are eligible for the CSGP-SEPD but have exhausted the funding in that program and are still in need of support to complete their study.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 Budget
Students	510	S. 17	520
Expenditures	\$784,000		\$800,000

2. ACCESS GRANT FOR STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

The BC Access Grant is a provincially funded, needs-based program that provides financial assistance to full-time students with permanent disabilities. This program will replace up to \$1,000 in BC student loan funding with a non-repayable grant.

Full-time students with permanent disabilities are automatically eligible to receive this grant if they are eligible for full-time StudentAid BC (SABC) funding and have previously verified their permanent disability with SABC. First time applicants must have a medical professional in their area of disability complete a Verification of Permanent Disability form and submit this documentation to SABC.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 Budget
Students	1,641	S. 17	1,700
Expenditures	\$1,616,000		\$1,900,000

3. ACCESS GRANT FOR DEAF STUDENTS

Gallaudet University and Rochester Technical Institute in the USA provide a unique learning environment for deaf and hard of hearing post-secondary students. These institutions deliver their curriculum entirely in American Sign Language, and strongly emphasize deaf education and deaf culture. The BC Access Grant for Deaf Students is designed to facilitate access to these institutions for deaf and hard of hearing students in BC. There is no parallel opportunity available in Canada.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 Budget
Students	2	S. 17	5
Expenditures	\$17,000		\$50,000

4. BRITISH COLUMBIA STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

StudentAid BC provides provincially funded BC Student Loans (BCSL) to students in need of assistance to meet post-secondary educational costs.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Projections
Students	62,000	S. 17	65,000
Expenditures	\$229,299,000		\$235 million

*Tide amount which the recipients are entitled to receive. A few recipients will not use their awards.. Actual fiscal year expenditures are kept by the Ministry of Finance.

5. COLLEGE AND INSTITUTE LIBRARY SERVICES

College and Institute Library Services (CILS) provides information services to post-secondary students in a format that they can use, in order to encourage increased rates of participation and completion in post-secondary education for students with print impairments.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Budget
Students	775		800
Expenditures	\$516,000		\$516,000

6. EXTENDED AMORTIZATION

Extended amortization helps borrowers who need help making their monthly loan payments by allowing them to extend their amortization period up to 234 months.

- Administered by the BC Ministry of Finance

7. INTEREST RELIEF PROGRAM

The Interest Relief Program assists student borrowers with low income with the benefit of the BC government paying the interest on their BC student loans for six-month periods up to a maximum of 30 months. During this period, a borrower does not have to make any BC student loan payment.

- Administered by the BC Ministry of Finance

8. IRVING K. BARBER BC SCHOLARSHIP

Note: Administered by Ike Barber BC Scholarship Society from BC government endowment funding.

A \$15 million Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Program was announced on October 22, 2004. The program will provide scholarships of up to \$5,000 each year to approximately 150 BC undergraduate students who begin their studies at a community college and then transfer to a BC university.

9. LEARNING DISABILITY ASSESSMENT BURSARY

The Learning Disability Assessment Bursary was established in 2008/09 to assist students with the upfront costs of the learning disabilities assessment. Students with a learning disability require a recent learning disability assessment to determine eligibility for equipment and/or services through the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities program.

This grant program is available to part-time or full time students attending British Columbia public post-secondary institutions taking post-secondary level courses. A bursary of up to \$1,800 will be made available to eligible applicants.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Budget
Students	79	S. 17	200
Expenditures	\$62,000		\$300,000

10. LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S SILVER MEDAL PROGRAM

The Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal is offered by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. The Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal honours students who are registered in a vocational or career program of less than two years duration and have not only excelled in their studies but have also contributed in a positive way to the life of the college or institute or their community.

11. LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

The BC Loan Forgiveness Program was established in 2001 as an employment incentive to entice graduates in specific professions to work in underserved communities in BC.

Graduates in certain professions must agree to practice full-time, part-time or casual in a designated BC community for three years at a publicly funded facility. Qualified applicants' BC Student Loans are placed in interest-free status annually. If at the end of each of the three years, the student can demonstrate that he/she has worked in a designated community, the Province will forgive all of the interest accrued on his/her loan in that year plus 33 percent of the principal balance.

Eligible occupations include: nurses, doctors, midwives, pharmacists, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, audiologists, physiotherapists, school psychology, teaching for the visually impaired, deaf and hard of hearing or technology education.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY		2012/13 FY
		S. 17	

	Actual		Projections
Students	288	S. 17	250
Expenditures	\$2,028,000		\$1,500,000

12. LOAN REDUCTION PROGRAM

The program is available to students enrolled in post-secondary education programs from designated Canadian institutions (public and private) of two academic years in duration or more. It is not available to students of professional programs - law, medicine and dentistry - or graduate students. For students without dependent children, the program is available in their first four years of borrowing. For those with dependent children, it is available for the first five years of borrowing.

The program works by establishing a level of government borrowing beyond which a BC Student Loan is remitted on annual completion of a full-time course of study. The level established is a function of the total amount of funding available, and the number of students who are eligible.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

Fiscal Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number Recipients	23,794	22,140	21,508	21,175	20,900
Average Reduction	\$3,000	\$3,260	\$3,520	\$3,350	\$1,790
Total Reduction	\$71,407,000	\$72,265,000	\$75,679,000	\$70,962,000	\$37,362,000*

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*Reduction in program budget is a result of the expiration of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation and their annual contribution of approximately \$37.1M

13. NURSES EDUCATION BURSARY

This provincial program awards up to \$1 million in bursary funding a year to qualified applicants in eligible nursing program. Qualified applicants with the greatest financial need are eligible for bursaries ranging from \$500 to \$2,000.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Budget
Students	500	S. 17	500
Expenditures	\$991,000		\$1,000,000

14. PACIFIC LEADERS BC LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

The Pacific Leaders BC Loan Forgiveness program promotes the BC Public Service as a potential employer to new post-secondary graduates, and a progressive employer to current employees, by

forgiving their outstanding BC student loan debt at a rate of one third per year. If they continue to work for the BC Public Service for three years, their BC student loan will be paid off in full. All costs including administrative are covered by the Public Service Agency.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17	2012/13 FY Budget
Students	145		180
Expenditures	\$3,229,000		\$2,000,000

15. PACIFIC LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF PUBLIC SERVANTS

The Pacific Leader Scholarship for Children of Public Servants is being offered in response to research that demonstrates children who are exposed to public service at home consider it for their future. Every year up to 60 scholarships of \$2,500 each will be offered to children of public servants who are full-time students taking a bachelor's degree program, trade, technical or vocational training. All costs including administrative are covered by the Public Service Agency.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	2011/12 FY Actual	2012/13 FY Budget
Students	52	61	60
Expenditures	\$160,000	\$187,000	\$187,000

Note: The budget (include awards and administration costs) for this award is funded through the BC Public Service Agency.

16. PASSPORT TO EDUCATION

High school students who exhibit academic excellence are awarded stamps that are redeemable for tuition at public BC post-secondary institutions.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17	2012/13 FY Budget
Total*	\$7,141,420		\$9,521,000

*Approx 9,000 passport stamps are issued to grades 10, 11 and 12 annually.

Note: The Passport to Education program is administered by the Ministry of Education.

17. POST-SECONDARY COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES

Post-Secondary Communication Access Services ensures consistency and quality in interpreting and captioning services in the public post-secondary college and institute system for students with hearing loss. To accomplish this, Post-Secondary Communication Access Services provides centralized advising expertise to colleges, university colleges and institutes to assist in hiring interpreters and captioners and in the provision of support to students with hearing disabilities.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17	2012/13 FY Budget
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Students	288	S. 17	250
Expenditures	\$2,028,000		\$1,500,000

18. PRINCIPAL DEFERMENT

Principal deferment allows student borrowers to have their principal payment deferred for a period of time. Student borrowers would only be required to make the interest payments on their BC student loans.

- Administered by the BC Ministry of Finance

19. PROGRAM FOR INSTITUTIONAL LOANS OF ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Program for Institutional Loans of Adaptive Technology (PILAT) provides adaptive equipment for students with disabilities to use on-site within an institution and formalizes the parameters for the loan of adaptive hardware and software.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17	2012/13 FY Budget
Students	98		100
Expenditures	\$80,000		\$80,000

*Activities include equipment loans, referrals, consultations, purchases and donations.

20. PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIPS

Provincial Scholarships

Provincial scholarships are awarded to students who achieve a standard Ministry score on their three best provincial examinations.

Dogwood/District Authority Awards

The Province allocates annually 3,000 awards pro-rated to schools districts based on each district's September 30th Grade 12 enrolment. The first half of the award consists of a \$500 cheque, and the second half is a \$500 voucher that can be redeemed when a student enters a designated post-secondary institution.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	S. 17	2012/13 FY Budget
Total*	\$5,586,000		\$5,630,000

*Approx 2,600 provincial exam scholarships and 3,000 dogwood/district authority scholarships are awarded annually.

Note: Provincial Scholarships and Dogwood/District Authority Awards are administered by the Ministry of Education.

21. PROVISION FOR BORROWERS WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES

Students who become severely disabled due to accidents or deteriorating conditions during the course of their post-secondary education such that there is no expectation that they will be able to seek employment or continue their education face financial obstacles. Student loan debt can be a significant contributor to their financial problems. The provision for borrowers with severe disabilities provides a loan forgiveness opportunity for students who meet the eligibility criteria.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual	2011/12 FY Budget	2012/13 FY Budget
Students	27	30	30
Expenditures	\$203,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

22. STUDENT SOCIETY EMERGENCY AID FUND

The Student Society Emergency Aid Fund (SSEAF) assists student societies at BC public post-secondary institutions to generate bursary funds to help students in financial need who may otherwise have to postpone their studies. The fund was established to assist students with short-term, emergency financial situations.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	2012/13 FY Budget
Expenditures	\$79,000	\$77,000	\$100,000

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*As the program is administered by Student Societies, no data on the number of students assisted is available.

23. SUPPLEMENTAL BURSARY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Supplemental Bursary for Students with Disabilities is a provincial bursary program designed to assist students with disabilities with exceptional educational costs (e.g., additional transportation costs, specialized clothing, etc). This bursary program is available to part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities attending designated post-secondary institutions, and taking post-secondary course(s).

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

		2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual	2012/13 FY Budget
Students		1,931	2,154	
Expenditures*	AVED	618,000	1,681,000	
	LMA	871,000	108,000	
	Total	\$1,489,000	\$1,789,000	\$1,800,000

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*2009/10 and 2010/11 expenditures were partially funded by Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Agreement. 2011/12 is 100% AVED budget.

24. UNITED WORLD COLLEGES SCHOLARSHIP FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

B.C. Aboriginal students will receive a \$35,000 scholarship annually for two years (\$70,000 in total) to attend Pearson College.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY
Students	3	S. 17	0
Expenditures	\$210,000		\$0

Note: The program will not be offered in 2012/13.

25. UNITED WORLD COLLEGES SCHOLARSHIP FOR SEMINAR ON YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Twenty B.C. Grade 12 students will receive a \$4,000 scholarship to attend the three week "Seminar on Youth Leadership" program at Pearson College in July and August of 2011.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Budget
Students	0	S. 17	0
Expenditures	\$0		\$0

Note: The program will not be offered in 2012/13.

26. YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FUND

The Youth Educational Assistance Fund (YEAF) provides a \$5,500 grants for former BC youth in care between 19 and 23 years of age.

Program Expenditures and Number of Clients

	2009/10 FY Actual	2010/11 FY Actual		2012/13 FY Budget
Students	225	261	S. 17	270
Expenditures	\$1,223,000	\$1,429,000		Endowment

Note: StudentAid BC administers this program on behalf of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) that set up an endowment with the Victoria Foundation.

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	April 8, 2012
Cliff#	89736
File#	60100-30/SSDC/ 1011SSDC0003
Version #	2

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Sprott-Shaw Degree College - Application for consent for a Bachelor of Hospitality Management (formerly Bachelor of Global Hospitality Leadership)

BACKGROUND:

The *Degree Authorization Act* (the Act) requires private and out-of-province public institutions to undergo a quality assessment process and meet the established criteria before the institution can receive consent from the Minister to offer, advertise or grant degrees in British Columbia.

The Ministry does not currently review degree applications from private post-secondary institutions for system coordination or labour market need. Since 2003, the policy direction was that the success of these programs were left to market forces as no government operational funding went to private institutions. These programs go directly to the Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) for a quality assessment only based on the Ministry's established Degree Program Criteria and Guidelines.

Sprott-Shaw Degree College (the College) proposes to offer a Bachelor of Hospitality Management degree program with a focus on business administration, and interpersonal and sales skills. The College states its intended student base for this program will be international students. The 126-credit program is designed to meet the core requirements of the British Columbia Hospitality Management Diploma and Degree Programs Core Curriculum Handbook, which is standardized provincial curriculum.

Students complete a six-month internship and a capstone course. Program graduates may find work in hotels, resorts, cruise lines, tour companies, catering management services and similar businesses.

DISCUSSION:

The Bachelor of Hospitality Management proposal was posted on the Post-Secondary Institution Proposal System for public review for the required 30-day period and received no comments.

The Board determined at its June 13, 2011, meeting the proposal would undergo a three person expert panel review (see Attachment 1 for a synopsis of review process). At its November 28, 2011, meeting, the Board reviewed the College's program proposal, the external expert panel's report and the College's response to the report.

The Board assessed the proposal and determined that it met the established criteria only with the addition of *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent* concerning degree nomenclature, faculty qualifications, library resources, and other commitments the College made earlier. The Board noted the original proposed name of the degree (Bachelor of Global Hospitality Leadership), did not reflect the content of the program and should be renamed a Bachelor of Hospitality Management.

The Board recommended the Minister grant consent under the Act to offer the degree program with the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent* (see Attachment 2) which apply to all institutions receiving consent and the additional *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent* (see Attachment 3), which are not uncommon for some institutions under the Act. Under section 4(3) of the Act, the Minister may attach the terms and conditions the Minister considers appropriate, in addition to the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent*.

The Act stipulates the Minister must not give consent unless the Minister is satisfied the institution has given security to protect the interests of students and has adequate arrangements for student access to their transcripts. The College notified the Ministry that it has recently changed its Alternate Records Keeper and has submitted a new transcript maintenance plan. Accordingly, Ministry staff have reviewed the documentation provided by the College to confirm these requirements have been met.

S. 13

Approved / Not Approved


Honourable Naomi Yamamoto

Date: April 17, 2012

S. 13

Prepared by: Rosalyn Kilpatrick, Education Officer
Quality Assurance and Sector Labour Relations Branch
Phone #: 250-387-6176

Reviewed by:
Director
Executive Director TL
Deputy Minister

2 of 2

DEGREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT BOARD

DQAB Synopsis of Recommendation to the Minister

Sprott-Shaw Degree College: Application for a Bachelor of Hospitality Management (formerly Bachelor of Global Hospitality Leadership) degree program.

The *Degree Authorization Act* (DAA) requires that private and out-of-province public institutions undergo a quality assessment process and meet the established criteria before the institution can receive consent from the Minister to offer, advertise or grant degrees in British Columbia.

Sprott-Shaw Degree College's (the College) application for consent for a Bachelor of Hospitality Management degree program was posted on the Ministry's Degree Authorization website for public comment for 30 days. The proposal received no public comments.

At its June 13, 2011, meeting, the Board determined that the College's degree application would undergo a three-person expert panel review. At its November 28, 2011, meeting, the Board reviewed the degree proposal, expert panel report and the College's response to the report.

The Board pointed to issues regarding degree nomenclature, faculty qualifications, and library resources. The Board noted the proposed name of the degree does not reflect the content of the program and should be renamed a Bachelor of Hospitality Management. In addition, the College would be required to fulfill all other commitments specified in its response to the expert panel report and provide a progress report to the Board prior to admitting students to the program.

The Board determined the degree proposal met the established criteria and recommended the Minister grant consent for the College's Bachelor of Hospitality Management degree, for a five year period with Special Terms and Conditions of Consent as well as the Standard Terms and Conditions of Ministerial Consent.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

Name of Institution: Sprott-Shaw Degree College

Consent for: Bachelor of Hospitality Management

The following standard terms and conditions are attached to the consent from the Minister of Advanced Education under section 4(3) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.

- 1) **Consent period:** The consent period will normally be five years.
- 2) **Scope of consent:** Consent will be specific to the activity, program (major and minor, if specified) and site described in the submitted application.

The consent holder must inform the minister before implementation of any material change in circumstance (i.e., ownership change, location change, material change in learning outcomes, the minimum qualifications of faculty), or of substantive changes (i.e., termination or suspension of programs that have consent), which may change the scope of consent.

- 3) **Consent not transferable:** A consent is not transferable.
- 4) **Notice for students and public:** The following must appear in the consent holder's current calendar, and in the student's enrolment contract:

This program is offered under the written consent of the Minister of Advanced Education effective (consent date) having undergone a quality assessment process and been found to meet the criteria established by the minister. Nevertheless, prospective students are responsible for satisfying themselves that the program and the degree will be appropriate to their needs (for example, acceptable to potential employers, professional licensing bodies, or other educational institutions).

- 5) **Advertising:** A consent holder must not use any term or phrase in advertising that refers to approval of the minister or the Government of British Columbia other than that the program is offered under the written consent of the minister.
- 6) **Program Implementation:** The consent holder must enroll students in the degree program within three years from the date of consent. If the degree program is not offered within the three-year time period, consent is automatically revoked.
- 7) **Reporting:** A consent holder must provide the following information to the minister when requested:
 - if accredited in another jurisdiction, proof of continuing legal and accreditation status, and any variation in status;
 - A report on the current academic standards for each degree program for which consent has been granted, including but not limited to:
 - number and percentage of teaching staff/faculty by level of education, professional designations and experience;

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

- number of full time equivalent (FTE) degree students per full time equivalent (FTE) teaching staff/faculty;
 - the institution's annual report (including audited financial statement);
 - the institution's most recent calendar;
 - tuition and related fees for the degree programs for which consent has been granted;
 - student full time equivalent (FTE) enrolment in programs by year, for which consent has been granted;
 - number of degrees granted in the previous year for programs for which consent has been granted;
 - student attrition and retention rates;
 - job placement rates (both direct and indirect);
 - employer satisfaction;
 - student satisfaction;
 - number and nature of transfer agreements entered into the previous year regarding programs for which consent has been granted; and
 - other performance measures requested by the minister.
- 8) **Entitlement of consent holder to government funding:** Ministerial consent does not entitle the consent holder to funding from the government of British Columbia.
- 9) **Revocation and suspension of consent:**
A consent holder's failure to comply with any terms and conditions or any legislative obligation may lead the minister to amend, suspend or revoke consent. The Degree Quality Assessment Board may also recommend that the minister amend, suspend or revoke consent as a result of a comprehensive review which determined that the quality of the degree program had not been maintained.
- 10) **Financial security:** The consent holder must meet conditions established regarding the security of tuition fees. These are outlined in the Degree Authorization Regulations established pursuant to Section 9(1) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.
- 11) **Access to and security of student transcripts:** The consent holder must meet the requirements regarding the access to and security of student transcripts established under Section 4(4) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.
- 12) **Student contracts:** A consent holder must have an enrolment contract for students enrolling in degree programs. The student's obligation under the contract must not exceed a period of 12 consecutive months. The contract must include the following:
- the title of the program and name of degree;
 - the start date and end date;
 - policies on student withdrawal and refund of fees and charges; and
 - the statement required under term and condition #4.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

13) **Awareness of policies affecting students:** A consent holder must have a calendar or other comparable publication available to students and the public setting forth the following:

- admissions requirements and procedures;
- programs and courses with indication of when they are offered;
- rules and regulations for student, faculty and employee conduct;
- degree completion requirements;
- method of course delivery;
- tuition and other fees;
- transfer arrangements currently in place. If the consent holder has no credit transfer arrangements in place, the consent holder must indicate that no such arrangements exist.

14) **Misrepresentation or malfeasance:** The minister may deny, suspend, or revoke consent, where the following has taken place, or was taking place, at any time during or after the consent process until such time as the minister is satisfied that the situation has been remedied:

- information provided for reviews was not truthful and complete; and/or,
- misrepresentations, falsehood, fraud, abuse, or charges pending against the institution or its staff members for violations of law had occurred, or was occurring.

I acknowledge that I understand the terms and conditions attached to consent, that all information provided in the application is true, and that I agree to comply with all representations made during the course of the application, and with the terms and conditions of consent.

WILLIAM GARRETT

Name of authorized representative

VICE PRESIDENT Academic

Position at the Institution

Signature

Date

FEB 3 2012

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

Name of Institution: Sprott-Shaw Degree College (SSDC)

Consent for: Bachelor of Hospitality Management

The following special terms and conditions are attached to the consent from the Minister of Advanced Education under section 4(3) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.

- 1) **Degree Nomenclature:** That the proposed degree be renamed a Bachelor of Hospitality Management.
- 2) **Faculty:** That two doctoral level faculty with relevant work/managerial experience in the tourism/hospitality industry be hired prior to the start of the program to fully support quality program delivery.
- 3) **Library Resources:** That SSDC provide written confirmation from a senior administrator stating that adequate library resources specific to hospitality, tourism and leadership will be established.
- 4) **Previous Commitments:** SSDC will fulfill all other commitments specified in its letter of October 20, 2011 in response to the expert panel report.
- 5) **Progress Report:** SSDC is required to provide a progress report to the Board in advance of admitting students to the program.
- 6) **Revocation and suspension of consent:**
A consent holder's failure to comply with any terms and conditions or any legislative obligation may lead the minister to amend, suspend or revoke consent. The Degree Quality Assessment Board may also recommend that the minister amend, suspend or revoke consent as a result of a comprehensive review which determined that the quality of the degree program had not been maintained.
- 7) **Misrepresentation or malfeasance:** The minister may deny, suspend, or revoke consent, where the following has taken place, or was taking place, at any time during or after the consent process until such time as the minister is satisfied that the situation has been remedied:
 - Information provided for reviews was not truthful and complete; and/or,
 - Misrepresentations, falsehood, fraud, abuse, or charges pending against the institution or its staff members for violations of law had occurred, or was occurring.

... /2

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

I acknowledge that I understand the terms and conditions attached to consent, that all information provided in the application is true, and that I agree to comply with all representations made during the course of the application, and with the terms and conditions of consent.

WILLIAM GARRETT
Name of authorized representative

VICE PRESIDENT Academic
Position at the Institution

[Signature]
Signature

FEB 3, 2012
Date



April 17, 2012

Our Ref. 89736

File #: 60100-30/SSDC/1011SSDC0003

Mr. Patrick Dang, President
Sprott-Shaw Degree College
200 – 1405 Broadway St
Port Coquitlam BC V3C 6L6

Dear Mr. Dang:

The application submitted by Sprott-Shaw Degree College for a Bachelor of Hospitality Management degree has now completed all stages in the degree quality assessment process established under the *Degree Authorization Act* (the Act).

The Degree Quality Assessment Board reviewed the proposal at its meeting on November 28, 2011, and found that it met the degree program criteria for private and out-of-province public institutions.

As a result, I am pleased to advise that consent is given to Sprott-Shaw Degree College to provide, advertise and grant a Bachelor of Hospitality Management under section 3(1) of the Act for a term of five years with the attached *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent* as well as the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent* which apply to all institutions receiving consent.

I wish you every success in implementing this new degree program.

Sincerely,

Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister

Attachments

pc: Dr. Bill Garrett, Vice-President Academic
Sprott-Shaw Degree College

Degree Quality Assessment Board

Ministry of
Advanced Education

Office of the
Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9080 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	May 2, 2012
Cliff#	90030
File#	60100-20/UBC/1112 UBC0024
Version#:	3

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: The University of British Columbia (UBC) has applied for the Minister's approval to offer a Master of International Forestry degree.

BACKGROUND:

As required by Section 48 (2) of the *University Act*, UBC has applied for the Minister's approval to offer a Master of International Forestry degree. The degree proposal's mandatory 30-day peer and public review process on the Post Secondary Institution Proposal System (PSIPS) ended in February 2012, with no comments posted by other post-secondary institutions or members of the public.

The proposed degree is an interdisciplinary program that studies forestry and wood science in a global context from the perspectives of the natural and social sciences. The program is open to domestic and international graduates of social science and science-based bachelor's degrees.

The program intends to give students a solid foundation in the social, cultural, business, economic and scientific aspects of forests and rural land use. Emphasis is on international forest management and conservation; the global context for regional decision-making; international forest policy and governance; multinational production, financing, trade and marketing of forest products and services; the role of international regulatory bodies; business planning and leadership; and existing arrangements for environmental protection, human rights and natural resources management.

The program is not designed to educate professional foresters. See Attachment 1 for a checklist addressing system coordination criteria prepared by Ministry staff.

DISCUSSION:

The proposal states a rationale for offering an interdisciplinary master's degree open to international and domestic baccalaureate graduates from the natural and social sciences is to expand enrolment numbers. The proposal claims enrolment in undergraduate professional forestry programs is below target and insufficient graduates are being produced to meet the demand for resource management and conservation professionals.

UBC states that the program will be cost recovery and will improve the cost-efficiency of the Faculty of Forestry by increasing domestic and international student enrolments. Tuition fees for the program will be competitive with international forestry master's programs offered in the US.

UBC reports there is student interest in the program. The university has met with representatives of Beijing Forest University, Nanjing Forest University and Zhejiang Agriculture and Forest University and these institutions are interested in sending graduates to the proposed program.

Program applicants must have grounding in natural resource conservation and management or take supplementary undergraduate level courses prior to admission or in addition to the full program. Preference will be given to applicants with work or volunteer experience in natural resource conservation management and with competency in languages additional to English.

The program consists of 36 credits and can be completed in one year. Students have the option of completing up to 40 percent of their program at other universities approved for exchange by UBC, in which case the program may extend to two years. The program's anticipated start date is August 2013.

Graduates will be prepared for careers as policy analysts, negotiators or advisors with national governments, non-governmental organizations, multinational corporations, international agencies or consulting firms, research institutions and advocacy groups.

When designing the degree, UBC consulted two possible employers for its graduates, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Both organizations informed UBC there was a need for a program that educates leaders in forest conservation and management issues. Ministry staff checked the websites of both organizations and on the date of writing found seven job vacancies with CIFOR located all over the world which the program's graduates qualify for, and fifteen relevant vacancies with FAO.

Although the program does not train professional foresters, the Canadian Federation of Professional Foresters Associations (CFPFA) endorses the program and will help to market it. This is significant professional recognition. CFPFA members include professional forester associations established by provincial legislation (such as the Association of BC Forest Professionals), the Canadian Institute of Forestry which represents provinces without a recognized professional regulatory presence, and the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board.

Ministry staff consulted professional staff in the Labour Market and Immigration Forecasting Unit of the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation and were informed that policy researchers, consultants and program officers in the natural and applied sciences face above average employment prospects and above average wages. While these forecasts focus on BC and are not highly relevant to a degree designed to respond to broader regional and global requirements, neither staff at this Ministry nor with JTI have access to Canada-wide or international employment data at this occupational level.

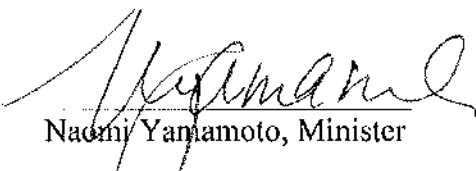
The program is not duplicated elsewhere in BC or Canada. In the US, Michigan Tech, Oregon State and the University of Washington offer master's programs in international forestry in conjunction with the US Peace Corps. In Europe, international programs focusing on the world's tropic forests are offered at the Universities of Dresden, Goettingen and Helsinki.

The program will primarily take place at the UBC-Vancouver campus. UBC is well qualified to offer this program as it has a strong interdisciplinary focus and is a world leader in forestry research and education, ranking 1st in Canada and 11th in the world for programs in environmental sciences, according to the 2011 QS World University Rankings by Subject (<http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2011/subject-rankings/natural-sciences/environmental-sciences>).

UBC has access to the international networks needed to run and sustain the program. Its Faculty of Forestry is a founding member of the International Partnership for Forestry Education and can offer combined programs with overseas universities. UBC's international and domestic contacts will be a basis for drawing to the program guest lecturers and field experts to supervise student internships.

S. 13

Approved / Not Approved


Naomi Yamamoto, Minister

Date:

May 28/12

Attachments: 1. Criteria Checklist for New Degree Proposals
2. Letter to UBC President Toope

Prepared by:

Dawn House, Education Officer

Governance and Quality Assurance Branch

Phone: 250-356-7700

Reviewed by:

Director

Executive Director

Assistant Deputy Minister

Deputy Minister

DR

TL



3 of 3

Pages 109 through 110 redacted for the following reasons:

S. 13 S. 17



Our Ref. 90030
File. 60100-20/UBC/1112UBC0024

MAY 28 2012

Professor Stephen Toope
President and Vice Chancellor
University of British Columbia
6328 Memorial Rd
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2

Dear Professor Toope:

Stephen
I am pleased to provide Minister's approval of the University of British Columbia's (UBC) proposed new Master of International Forestry program, as required by section 48(2) of the *University Act*.

As UBC has exempt status to the doctoral degree level, and because I do not have any concerns about the proposed degree, I am approving this degree without review by the Degree Quality Assessment Board.

I wish you every success in implementing this new degree program.

Sincerely,

Naomi Yamamoto
Naomi Yamamoto
Minister

pc: Dr. David Farrar
Vice President Academic and Provost
University of British Columbia

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	April 24, 2012
Cliff#	90458
File#	60100-70/EQA/AS
Version #	3

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Education Quality Assurance (EQA) Applicant Suitability of Cambridge Western Academy

BACKGROUND:

Cambridge Western Academy is a private language (ESL) institution that is a member of Languages Canada. The institution has applied for the Education Quality Assurance (EQA) designation.

The application process requires confirmation that an institution is in good standing with the Ministry of Advanced Education before it can be granted EQA. Confirmation of good standing also considers applicant suitability as set out in the Eligibility Requirements section of the EQA Policy and Procedures Manual (see Attachment 1). The Minister of Advanced Education has discretion to deny EQA to an institution if concerns with applicant suitability are found – even if all other EQA eligibility requirements have been met.

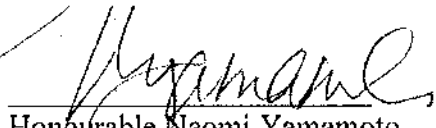
DISCUSSION:

During the review of applicant suitability for Cambridge Western Academy, concerns were raised that programs were being advertised on the website, promotional materials and application forms were career training in nature and meeting the threshold requiring Private Career Training Institutions Agency (PCTIA) registration. Cambridge Western Academy advertises a Business English Marketing Management Diploma as well as English for Tourism, Hospitality and Travel Certificate program. Both programs offer job experience components where the institution places students in either an internship or work placement specific to marketing and tourism/hospitality. These two programs are not registered with PCTIA.

Ministry staff wrote to Cambridge Western Academy on February 27, 2012, about these concerns as they relate to EQA applicant suitability. The institution was provided an opportunity to respond, before a decision would be made on its application for EQA designation. On March 26, 2012, the institution responded to these concerns (see Attachment 2 for the Ministry letter and the institution's response). Although the Ministry's letter was written to Cambridge Western Academy, the response was written by a representative of Arbutus College which is a separate institution under common ownership. Arbutus College is accredited with PCTIA to offer career training programs and is EQA designated.

S. 13

Approved / Not Approved


Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

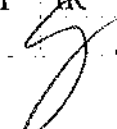
Date:

May 28 / 12

Attachments:

1. Applicant Suitability Requirements
2. Ministry Applicant Suitability letter and the institution's response

Prepared by:	Vicki Simmons, Policy Analyst Governance and Quality Assurance
Phone #:	250-356-2067

Reviewed by:	
Director	DR
Executive Director	AL
Assistant Deputy Minister	IR
Deputy Minister	

Ministry Good Standing and Applicant Suitability requirements from the EQA Policy and Procedures Manual (Eligibility Requirements Section)

Good Standing

Ministry Good Standing (General)

Institutions must be in good standing with the Ministry in order to meet EQA eligibility requirements and to maintain their EQA designation. An EQA institution will be considered “Not in Good Standing” with the Ministry if the institution is:

- found to be misusing the EQA brand;
- in contravention of EQA Brand - Use for the brand as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual;
- in contravention of the Certification Marks Terms of Use.

Ministry Good Standing (StudentAid BC Designation)

An institution with StudentAid BC (SABC) Designation will be considered “Not in Good Standing” with the Ministry if:

- its SABC Designation is suspended because it is under criminal investigation and/or is prohibited from accepting new applications for student loan funding; or
- its SABC Designation has been rescinded or not renewed for any reason other than:
 - voluntarily letting it lapse
 - no longer having programs meeting the required program length
 - no students from that institution having applied for loan funding in the last 3 years

Applicant Suitability

In addition to the Eligibility Requirements set out above, the Minister will determine, on an individual case basis, whether the applicant* is considered suitable to hold the EQA designation. In assessing applicant suitability, the Minister is looking for anything that might indicate the applicant may fail to comply with the terms and conditions of the EQA designation. The Minister will give consideration to several factors, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the reputation and character of the applicant;
- involvement in any criminal activities;
- association with any person or entity involved in criminal activities or activities that contravene a statute;
- the financial integrity of the applicant, including the sources of funding for the institution;
- any outstanding, related, civil judgments against the applicant;
- any ongoing legal proceedings involving the applicant;
- any false or misleading statements made by the applicant during the EQA designation process;
- such other factors as may be relevant in the public interest.

* For the purposes of this section, in the case of a private institution, the word “applicant” means the applicant institution and/or its owner(s).

Pages 115 through 116 redacted for the following reasons:

S. 13 S. 17

Page 092 to/à Page 094

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Copyright

Pages 120 through 121 redacted for the following reasons:

S. 13 S. 17

Page 096 to/à Page 107

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	May 11, 2012
Cliff#	98031
File#	60100-20/UBC/1112 UBC0023
Version#	3

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: The University of British Columbia (UBC) has applied to offer a Master of Sustainable Forest Management degree

BACKGROUND:

As required by Section 48 (2) of the *University Act*, UBC has applied for the Minister's approval to offer a Master's degree in Sustainable Forest Management.

The degree proposal's mandatory 30-day peer and public review process on the Post Secondary Institution Proposal System (PSIPS) ended in February 2012. No comments were posted on PSIPS by other post-secondary institutions or members of the public.

Attachment 1 is a checklist addressing system coordination criteria prepared by Ministry staff.

DISCUSSION:

To practice forestry in BC and most Canadian provinces, it is necessary to be a registered forestry professional. Most professional foresters in Canada achieve registration by completing an undergraduate degree in forestry accredited by the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB). UBC's proposal notes that this pattern is shifting in Canada and worldwide due to changes in student demand.

According to UBC, there has been a national decline in enrolment in traditional forestry undergraduate programs and an increase in employment of articling forest professionals from allied undergraduate programs. Instead of entering directly into an accredited undergraduate forestry degree program, many graduates from non-accredited degree programs in allied sciences work in the forestry industry until required to become registered professionals to maintain their position or advance in the field. Then some return to university to complete the requisite courses as unclassified students, while others may take years accruing the necessary courses through continuing studies.

UBC claims that the Canadian Federation of Professional Foresters Associations and the CFAB have recognized these shifting enrolment patterns and have developed new competency-based accreditation standards to take into account prior education and experience.

UBC states its proposed degree will be the first *master's* program in Canada to meet the new competency-based accreditation requirements. UBC does not add that there are currently 11 accredited programs at the *bachelor's* level in Canada, two at UBC and one at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). UBC's proposed master's degree may lead to raising credential levels desirable for employment.

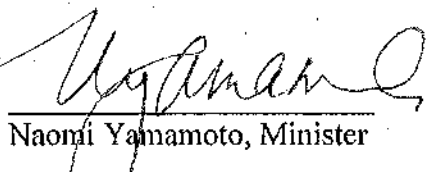
The proposed master's degree will enable graduates of bachelor's degrees in forestry-related sciences such as ecology, physical geography and environmental sciences to meet the requirements of the CFAB. UBC expects students will complete this professional degree in one year, as it is not research-intensive and does not have a thesis component.

UBC is currently not admitting students into its existing non-thesis professional Master of Forestry degree program pending the launch of this degree as well as UBC's proposed Master of International Forestry degree (Cliff # 90030). UBC states it intends to retain the Master of Forestry degree to maintain student choice and facilitate special arrangements such as developing inter-university master's programs.

S. 13

S. 13

Approved / Not Approved


Naomi Yamamoto, Minister

Date: May 28/12

S. 13

Prepared by:

Dorothy Rogers, Director
Governance and Quality Assurance
Phone #:

Reviewed by:

Executive Director
Assistant Deputy Minister
Deputy Minister

AL

TR



Pages 137 through 138 redacted for the following reasons:

S. 13 S. 21



Our Ref. 90031
File. 60100-20/UBC/1112UBC0023

MAY 28 2012

Professor Stephen Toope
President and Vice Chancellor
University of British Columbia
6328 Memorial Rd
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2

Dear Professor Toope:

I am pleased to provide Minister's approval of the University of British Columbia's (UBC) proposed new Master of Sustainable Forest Management program, as required by section 48(2) of the *University Act*.

As UBC has exempt status to the doctoral degree level, and because I do not have any concerns about the proposed degree, I am approving this degree without review by the Degree Quality Assessment Board.

I wish you every success in implementing this new degree program.

Sincerely,

Naomi Yamamoto
Minister

cc: Dr. David Farrar
Vice President Academic and Provost
University of British Columbia

Ministry of
Advanced Education

Office of the
Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9080 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	March 29, 2012
Cliff#	90391
File#	125-20/DAA/CONTR 60100-20/LINC/MONI
Version #	1

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: S. 15 of LearningWise Education Inc. (dba University Canada West) under the
Degree Authorization Act

BACKGROUND:

The *Degree Authorization Act* (DAA) provides a mechanism for private institutions (and public institutions from outside of British Columbia) to apply for Minister's consent to advertise, offer and grant degrees or to use the word "university" in British Columbia. The DAA requires degree programs proposed by institutions to go through a degree quality assessment process overseen by the Degree Quality Assessment Board before the Minister grants consent, with a similar process for the use of the word "university."

University Canada West (UCW) is the operating name of LearningWise Education Inc. (LINC). UCW was originally established in Victoria in 2004. LINC is a private company under the *BC Business Corporations Act*. In 2008, controlling shares in LINC were purchased by Peter Chung (Eminata Group) who owns and operates a large number of private colleges, including CDI and Vancouver Career College. In 2011, UCW moved its main campus to Vancouver and UCW's consent was amended accordingly.

UCW is governed by a Board of Directors that delegates the responsibility for the operation of the university to the President. On March 8, 2012, a letter was sent to the Ministry and Chair of the Degree Quality Assessment Board formally announcing the resignation of UCW's President and the appointment of Leslie (Skip) Triplett as Board Steward to oversee the operations of UCW until a search was completed for a new President. Skip Triplett is a member of UCW's Board of Governance and former President of Kwantlen.

DISCUSSION:

S. 13, S. 14

Page 141 redacted for the following reason:

S. 13, s. 14

S. 13, S. 14

Approved Not Approved

Option 3

Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

Date:

March 29/12

Prepared by:	Vicki Simmons, Policy Analyst Dorothy Rogers, Director Quality Assurance and Sector Labour Relations	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250-356-2067	Executive Director	AL
		Assistant Deputy Minister	K
		Deputy Minister	

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	March 7, 2012
Cliff#	90210
File#	60100-30/NYIT/ 1112NYIT0006
Version #	2

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: New York Institute of Technology – Renewal of consent for the Master of Business Administration under the *Degree Authorization Act*

BACKGROUND:

The *Degree Authorization Act* (DAA) requires private and out-of-province public institutions to undergo a quality assessment process and meet the established criteria before the institution can receive consent from the Minister to offer, advertise or grant degrees in British Columbia.

The New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) is a non-profit, private institution based in New York. The institution is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in the US and has been offering a Master of Business Administration degree in British Columbia since 2000. Prior to the introduction of the DAA, it was able to operate through its registration with the Private Post-Secondary Education Commission (currently Private Career Training Institutions Agency).

The institution received Ministerial consent under the DAA on April 11, 2007. Under the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent*, the term of consent is normally for five years and as such the current period of consent is due to expire on April 11, 2012.

DISCUSSION:

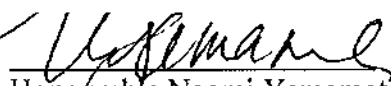
The Board has raised concerns about certain systemic issues in the operation and oversight of NYIT's Vancouver campus over the past few years. However, the Board has been closely monitoring NYIT's progress on these issues and noted in their most recent review that NYIT has made significant strides in improving its quality assurance standards. The Board also noted the strengths of the MBA program highlighted in the degree program review report.

The proposal for renewal of consent was posted on the Degree Authorization website for the required 30-day period. No peer/public comments were received on the proposal. The Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) reviewed the proposal and determined that a three-person expert panel would conduct a review of both the organization and the degree program (see Attachment 1 for a synopsis of the review process).

The Board reviewed and considered the proposal, the expert panel reports and the institution's response to the reports and determined that the proposal met the established criteria for both the organization and the degree program. The Board has recommended the Minister grant a renewed term of consent for the Master of Business Administration program that will be subject to specific terms and conditions (see Attachment 2 for the Board's recommendation letter).

Under section 4(3) of the DAA, the Minister may attach the terms and conditions the Minister considers appropriate. There are *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent* which all applicants are required to sign for each consent (see Attachment 3) and the additional *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent* the Board has recommended also be attached (see Attachment 4).

Approved/ Not Approved


Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

Date: April 10, 2012

- Attachments:**
1. Synopsis of the Board's review process
 2. Board's recommendation letter
 3. *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent*
 4. *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent*

Prepared by: Vicki Simmons, Policy Analyst
Governance and Quality Assurance
Phone #: 250-356-2067

Reviewed by:	
Manager	
Director	
Executive Director	
Assistant Deputy Minister	
Deputy Minister	



DEGREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT BOARD

Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) Synopsis of Recommendation to the Minister

New York Institute of Technology: Master of Business Administration

The *Degree Authorization Act* (DAA) requires that private and out-of-province public institutions undergo a quality assessment process and meet the established criteria before the institution can receive consent from the Minister to offer, advertise or grant degrees in British Columbia.

The New York Institute of Technology originally received consent under the DAA to offer and grant a Master of Business Administration degree on April 11, 2007. Under the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Consent*, the term of consent is for a period of five years.

The proposal for renewal of consent was posted on the Ministry's Degree Authorization website for peer/public comment for 30 days. The proposal received no peer/public comments.

At its November 28, 2011 meeting, the Board reviewed the proposal and determined that a three-person expert panel would conduct a review of both the organization and the degree program to determine if it met the established criteria.

At its February 27, 2012 meeting, the Board reviewed the proposal, the expert panel reports and the response from the institution. After careful consideration, the Board determined that both the institution and the degree program met the established criteria but also determined that the consent would be subject to specific terms and conditions that the institution subsequently committed to follow through with over the coming year.

Therefore, the Board recommended the Minister grant a renewed term of consent for the Master of Business Administration program for another five-year term with both the *Standard Terms and Conditions of Ministerial Consent* and additional *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent*.



DEGREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT BOARD

MAR 09 2012

File: 60100-30/NYIT/1112NYIT0006

Dr. Rahmat Shoureshi
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs
New York Institute of Technology
Northern Blvd
Old Westbury NY 11568-8000
USA

Dear Dr. Shoureshi:

My purpose in writing is to share with you the outcome of the Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) meeting held on February 27, 2012 regarding the New York Institute of Technology's (NYIT) application for renewal of consent to offer a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

The Board reviewed and considered the proposal, the expert panel reports and NYIT's response to the reports. The Board would like to acknowledge the steps NYIT has taken to address the systemic issues that the Board has raised over the past few years and the strengths of the MBA program highlighted in the degree program review report.

Although the Board is encouraged to learn of the President's commitment to the sustainability of the Vancouver campus, the Board remains concerned with its financial viability. After careful consideration the Board has decided to recommend the Minister grant consent under the *Degree Authorization Act* to offer the degree program for a renewed five-year term, with the following *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent*:

- NYIT must follow through on its commitment to raise the minimum GPA requirement for admission to 3.0 for the January 2013 admissions cycle;
 - NYIT will post information on the academic credentials of all NYIT-Vancouver faculty on its Vancouver website;
 - NYIT will amend the student contract so it directs students' attention to various student policies contained in the Student Handbook as noted in NYIT's response to the panel reports;
 - NYIT must provide a report to the Board on the status of the Vancouver campus finances and outcomes of NYIT's recruitment strategy as part of its annual report in July 2012 and again in January 2013;
 - NYIT must provide a report on the number of applications for and acceptances in the program along with a breakdown of the entering GPA for admitted students in September, 2012 and again in January, 2013.
- .../2

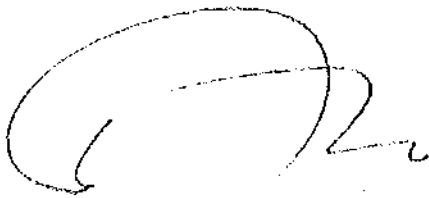
Degree Quality Assessment Board
PO Box 9883 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9T6

Telephone: (250) 387-5406
Facsimile: (250) 356-8851

The Board will assess each of these reports from NYIT along with the Annual Performance Report prepared by the Ministry following their visit next visit in the fall of 2012 to determine if NYIT is meeting these conditions. If the results indicate that NYIT is continuing to make strides in improving its quality assurance standards, the Board will be prepared to recommend the Minister remove these *Special Terms and Conditions of Consent* which will allow NYIT to proceed with another application for EQA designation.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for participation in this quality assessment process. If you have questions regarding this letter or the degree quality assessment process, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at DQABSecretariat@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. Rubidge', written over a large, faint, oval-shaped watermark or background mark.

Dr. Nicholas Rubidge
Chair

pc: Julia Saurazas, Executive Director and Campus Dean
New York Institute of Technology

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

Name of Institution: NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NYIT)

Consent for: MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

The following standard terms and conditions are attached to the consent from the Minister of Advanced Education under section 4(3) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.

- 1) **Consent period:** The consent period will normally be five years.
- 2) **Scope of consent:** Consent will be specific to the activity, program (major and minor, if specified) and site described in the submitted application.

The consent holder must inform the minister before implementation of any material change in circumstance (i.e., ownership change, location change, material change in learning outcomes, the minimum qualifications of faculty), or of substantive changes (i.e., termination or suspension of programs that have consent), which may change the scope of consent.

- 3) **Consent not transferable:** A consent is not transferable.
- 4) **Notice for students and public:** The following must appear in the consent holder's current calendar, and in the student's enrolment contract:

This program is offered under the written consent of the Minister of Advanced Education effective (consent date) having undergone a quality assessment process and been found to meet the criteria established by the minister. Nevertheless, prospective students are responsible for satisfying themselves that the program and the degree will be appropriate to their needs (for example, acceptable to potential employers, professional licensing bodies, or other educational institutions).

- 5) **Advertising:** A consent holder must not use any term or phrase in advertising that refers to approval of the minister or the Government of British Columbia other than that the program is offered under the written consent of the minister.
- 6) **Program Implementation:** The consent holder must enroll students in the degree program within three years from the date of consent. If the degree program is not offered within the three-year time period, consent is automatically revoked.
- 7) **Reporting:** A consent holder must provide the following information to the minister when requested:
 - if accredited in another jurisdiction, proof of continuing legal and accreditation status, and any variation in status;
 - A report on the current academic standards for each degree program for which consent has been granted, including but not limited to:
 - number and percentage of teaching staff/faculty by level of education, professional designations and experience;

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

- number of full time equivalent (FTE) degree students per full time equivalent (FTE) teaching staff/faculty;
 - the institution's annual report (including audited financial statement);
 - the institution's most recent calendar;
 - tuition and related fees for the degree programs for which consent has been granted;
 - student full time equivalent (FTE) enrolment in programs by year, for which consent has been granted;
 - number of degrees granted in the previous year for programs for which consent has been granted;
 - student attrition and retention rates;
 - job placement rates (both direct and indirect);
 - employer satisfaction;
 - student satisfaction;
 - number and nature of transfer agreements entered into the previous year regarding programs for which consent has been granted; and
 - other performance measures requested by the minister.
- 8) **Entitlement of consent holder to government funding:** Ministerial consent does not entitle the consent holder to funding from the government of British Columbia.
- 9) **Revocation and suspension of consent:**
A consent holder's failure to comply with any terms and conditions or any legislative obligation may lead the minister to amend, suspend or revoke consent. The Degree Quality Assessment Board may also recommend that the minister amend, suspend or revoke consent as a result of a comprehensive review which determined that the quality of the degree program had not been maintained.
- 10) **Financial security:** The consent holder must meet conditions established regarding the security of tuition fees. These are outlined in the Degree Authorization Regulations established pursuant to Section 9(1) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.
- 11) **Access to and security of student transcripts:** The consent holder must meet the requirements regarding the access to and security of student transcripts established under Section 4(4) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.
- 12) **Student contracts:** A consent holder must have an enrolment contract for students enrolling in degree programs. The student's obligation under the contract must not exceed a period of 12 consecutive months. The contract must include the following:
- the title of the program and name of degree;
 - the start date and end date;
 - policies on student withdrawal and refund of fees and charges; and
 - the statement required under term and condition #4.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

13) **Awareness of policies affecting students:** A consent holder must have a calendar or other comparable publication available to students and the public setting forth the following:

- admissions requirements and procedures;
- programs and courses with indication of when they are offered;
- rules and regulations for student, faculty and employee conduct;
- degree completion requirements;
- method of course delivery;
- tuition and other fees;
- transfer arrangements currently in place. If the consent holder has no credit transfer arrangements in place, the consent holder must indicate that no such arrangements exist.

14) **Misrepresentation or malfeasance:** The minister may deny, suspend, or revoke consent, where the following has taken place, or was taking place, at any time during or after the consent process until such time as the minister is satisfied that the situation has been remedied:

- information provided for reviews was not truthful and complete; and/or,
- misrepresentations, falsehood, fraud, abuse, or charges pending against the institution or its staff members for violations of law had occurred, or was occurring.

I acknowledge that I understand the terms and conditions attached to consent, that all information provided in the application is true, and that I agree to comply with all representations made during the course of the application, and with the terms and conditions of consent.

Rahmat Shoureshi

Name of authorized representative

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Position at the Institution

Rahmat Shoureshi

Signature

March 10, 2012

Date

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT

Name of Institution: NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NYIT)

Consent for: MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

The following standard terms and conditions are attached to the consent from the Minister of Advanced Education under section 4(3) of the *Degree Authorization Act*.

- 1) **Admissions Standards:** NYIT must follow through on its commitment to raise the minimum GPA requirement for admission to 3.0 for the January 2013 admissions cycle.
- 2) **Notice for students and public:** NYIT will post information on the academic credentials of all NYIT-Vancouver faculty on its Vancouver website.
- 3) **Awareness of policies affecting students:** NYIT will amend the student contract so it directs students' attention to various student policies contained in the Student Handbook as noted in NYIT's response to the panel reports.
- 4) **Reporting:** NYIT must provide the following reports to the Board and the Ministry:
 - a) A report on the status of the Vancouver campus finances and outcomes of NYIT's recruitment strategy as part of its annual report in July 2012 and again in January 2013;
 - b) A report on the number of applications for and acceptances in the program along with a breakdown of the entering GPA for admitted students in September, 2012 and again in January, 2013.
- 5) **Misrepresentation or malfeasance:** The minister may deny, suspend, or revoke consent, where the following has taken place, or was taking place, at any time during or after the consent process until such time as the minister is satisfied that the situation has been remedied:
 - information provided for reviews was not truthful and complete; and/or,
 - misrepresentations, falsehood, fraud, abuse, or charges pending against the institution or its staff members for violations of law had occurred, or was occurring.

I acknowledge that I understand the terms and conditions attached to consent, that all information provided in the application is true, and that I agree to comply with all representations made during the course of the application, and with the terms and conditions of consent.

Rahmat Shoureshi

Name of authorized representative

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Position at the Institution

Rahmat Shoureshi

Signature

March 10, 2012

Date

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

DECISION NOTE

Date: March 7, 2012
Cliff# 90178
File# 60100-20
/LANG

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Langara College's proposed applied Bachelor of Child and Youth Care degree

BACKGROUND:

Under the *College and Institute Act* (the Act), British Columbia public colleges and provincial institutes submitting proposals for applied master's degrees, and colleges submitting proposals for applied bachelor degrees, must first submit an applied degrees ministry review to the ministry before the full program proposal is forwarded to the Degree Quality Assessment Board for review.

In October 2011, Langara College submitted a proposal to offer an applied Bachelor of Child and Youth Care (CYC) degree. The degree builds on the institution's existing certificate and diploma programs in Education Assistant, Early Childhood Education, Social Service Worker and Family Studies. Students choose from one of three concentrations: Aboriginal Children, Youth & Families; Urban Child Welfare; and Early Years.

Langara currently offers a comprehensive Arts and Sciences university transfer program, career/vocational and continuing studies programs, and three baccalaureate degrees (Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Recreation Management).

Langara's degree proposal underwent an applied degree Ministry review, which is an internal review for degrees from institutions under the Act that assesses mandate, student and labour market demand, and system coordination.

DISCUSSION:

Infrastructure

Although the proposed program is consistent with the institution's mandate and current program offerings, Ministry staff noted that Langara stated it is utilizing class/lab space at 21% over-capacity and facilities development is necessary to meet enrolment management goals. Langara has also applied for additional funding for expansion in its five-year capital plan; however, there is no Ministry funding available. Therefore, there are questions regarding Langara's capacity to implement the proposed program.

Faculty Resources

Regarding faculty resources, Langara has confirmed it will be bringing in faculty from feeder programs, and will also be hiring new faculty for third and fourth year courses. There may be possible financial and infrastructure implications to increasing Langara's faculty complement to serve this program.

System Coordination/Duplication

Four other public post-secondary institutions in BC (Douglas College, the University of the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island University and the University of Victoria) offer undergraduate degree programs in the area of child and youth care. The University of Victoria program is delivered online and therefore is available to students in any region. As well, the University of British Columbia offers a Bachelor of Social Work, Capilano University offers a Bachelor of Early Childhood Care and Education, and Thompson Rivers University offers a Certificate in Child and Youth Mental Health.

In addition, Langara noted in its proposal that the Child and Youth Care (CYC) programs at both Douglas College and the University of the Fraser Valley have been full for some years with high application numbers. However, although Douglas College advised Langara that it would be moving its CYC program to the Coquitlam campus, Douglas College would still be in close proximity to Langara via rapid transit. Senior Ministry staff determined that Langara's proposed program would create unjustifiable duplication in the post-secondary system.

Student Demand

Langara provided evidence of strong student support for the proposed program through a survey of students currently enrolled in its Early Childhood Education and Social Services programs. As well, letters of support indicated there may be student demand and interest from professionals/practitioners already in the field and potential employer organizations. However, because students have options at other institutions in close proximity to Langara as well as an online program, adequate student demand for this particular program is questionable.

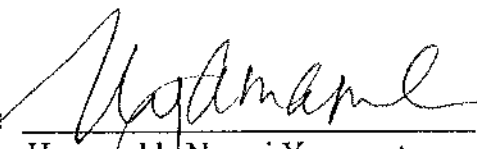
Value of Degree over a Diploma

No direct evidence was presented regarding the value of an undergraduate degree over a diploma (i.e., no statistics or reports cited). The proposal notes, however, that a degree in the field may facilitate employment in the profession and is almost certainly a requirement for supervisory or management positions. However, labour market evidence demonstrates that students are already gaining employment in the field with diploma level credentials.

Labour Market Demand

Although projected unemployment rates for the identified occupations are expected to be much lower than the provincial average for these occupations (except early childhood educator assistants), a college diploma is the minimum requirement and a Master's degree may be required. However, a degree is not the minimum requirement for entry into these occupations, and there was no compelling evidence provided that a degree is a requirement for employment or if it will simply increase chances of gaining more senior positions in the field.

RECOMMENDATION: Option 1 – Do not refer the proposed degree and inform Langara College that the proposal will not proceed

Approved/Not Approved:  Date: MAR 27 2012
Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

Prepared by: Rosalyn Kilpatrick
Quality Assurance and Sector Labour Relations
Phone #: 250-387-6176

Approved by:
Director DR
Executive Director AL
Assistant Deputy Minister IR
Deputy Minister DM for CWY

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION DECISION NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Education Quality Assurance (EQA) Applicant Suitability of Victoria College of Art

BACKGROUND:

Victoria College of Art (incorporated as Joami Arts Development Inc. dba Victoria College of Art) is a private career training institution that is accredited by the Private Career Training Institutions Agency (PCTIA). The institution has applied for the Education Quality Assurance (EQA) designation.

The application process requires confirmation that an institution is in good standing with the Ministry of Advanced Education before it can be granted EQA. Confirmation of good standing also considers applicant suitability as set out in the Eligibility Requirements section of the EQA Policy and Procedures Manual (see Attachment 1). The Minister of Advanced Education has discretion to deny EQA to an institution if concerns with applicant suitability are found - even if all other EQA eligibility requirements have been met.

DISCUSSION:

The Corporate Registry of British Columbia provides the legal framework within which all businesses, not-for-profit societies, cooperative associations and financial institutions operate in British Columbia, and files documents for the incorporation, registration, maintenance and dissolution of these entities.

During applicant suitability review, results for the Corporate Registry search for Joami Arts Development Inc.¹ reported that it was "Not in good standing". This indicated that the institution was in contravention of the *Business Corporations Act*. In accordance with Ministry policies, the Ministry is unable to recommend EQA designation for businesses that engage in "activities that contravene a statute."

Ministry staff wrote to Victoria College of Art on March 8, 2012, about this issue, as it relates to applicant suitability. The institution was provided 30 days to respond before a decision would be made on its application for EQA designation. Victoria College of Art advised the Ministry on March 10, 2012, that the company filings were now up-to-date with the Corporate Registry (see Attachment 2 for the Ministry's letter and institution's response).

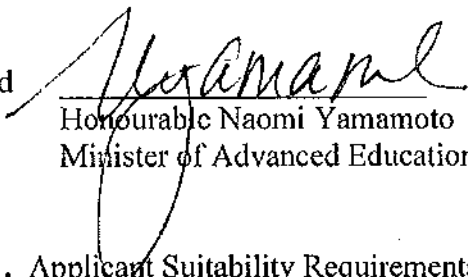
Ministry staff have confirmed that the status of Joami Arts Development Inc. (dba Victoria College of Art) is now "active" (that is, in good standing) with the Corporate Registry².

¹ Corporate Registry search conducted on December 19, 2011 and again on March 1, 2012 on "Joami Arts Development Inc", incorporation number BC0856934.

² Corporate Registry search conducted on March 13, 2012 confirmed "good standing" status.

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Approved / Not Approved


Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

Date:

April 16 / 12

Attachments:

1. Applicant Suitability Requirements

S. 13

Prepared by:	Vicki Simmons, Policy Analyst Quality Assurance and Sector Labour Relations	Reviewed by:	Director	DR
Phone #:	250-356-2067	Executive Director	Assistant Deputy Minister	Deputy Minister

Az
gf (for)

Ministry Good Standing and Applicant Suitability requirements from the EQA Policy and Procedures Manual (Eligibility Requirements Section)

Good Standing

Ministry Good Standing (General)

Institutions must be in good standing with the Ministry in order to meet EQA eligibility requirements and to maintain their EQA designation. An EQA institution will be considered “Not in Good Standing” with the Ministry if the institution is:

- found to be misusing the EQA brand;
- in contravention of EQA Brand - Use for the brand as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual;
- in contravention of the Certification Marks Terms of Use.

Ministry Good Standing (StudentAid BC Designation)

An institution with StudentAid BC (SABC) Designation will be considered “Not in Good Standing” with the Ministry if:

- its SABC Designation is suspended because it is under criminal investigation and/or is prohibited from accepting new applications for student loan funding; or
- its SABC Designation has been rescinded or not renewed for any reason other than:
 - voluntarily letting it lapse
 - no longer having programs meeting the required program length
 - no students from that institution having applied for loan funding in the last 3 years

Applicant Suitability

In addition to the Eligibility Requirements set out above, the Minister will determine, on an individual case basis, whether the applicant* is considered suitable to hold the EQA designation. In assessing applicant suitability, the Minister is looking for anything that might indicate the applicant may fail to comply with the terms and conditions of the EQA designation. The Minister will give consideration to several factors, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the reputation and character of the applicant;
- involvement in any criminal activities;
- association with any person or entity involved in criminal activities or activities that contravene a statute;
- the financial integrity of the applicant, including the sources of funding for the institution;
- any outstanding, related, civil judgments against the applicant;
- any ongoing legal proceedings involving the applicant;
- any false or misleading statements made by the applicant during the EQA designation process;
- such other factors as may be relevant in the public interest.

* For the purposes of this section, in the case of a private institution, the word “applicant” means the applicant institution and/or its owner(s).

Pages 158 through 161 redacted for the following reasons:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: TBD

ATTENDEES: Mr. Ashok Das, Indian Consul General

ISSUE(S): Meeting with the Indian Consul General to discuss concerns raised by Indian students who studied in University Canada West (UCW).

BACKGROUND:

In 2011, British Columbia welcomed 3,000 Indian students - approximately five percent of British Columbia's total, with over 90 percent coming to British Columbia to pursue post-secondary education.

In February 2012, an article appeared on the Deccan Chronicle, the largest circulated English newspaper in South India, raising concerns from Indian students who studied in UCW.

On March 22nd, 2012, UCW officials met with representatives of the Indian Consul and 18 students, representing nine percent of the Indian students attending UCW. Some of the concerns discussed included:

- Fear of the students about university being closed down;
- Credit transfer was not granted to some students as assured in some instances;
- Lack of explanation about medical insurance during student orientation;
- Concern about university amenities;
- Concern about the possibility of not getting post-graduation work permits after completing the program;
- Concern that management is not being transparent about the facts and proceedings;
- Concern about job placements;
- Concern about the discontinuation of students' bank loans due to recent articles in newspapers in India and Canada;
- Concern about the recognition of UCW and the value of the UCW university degree; and
- Concern about the recent resignation of the President of University Canada West

DISCUSSION:

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SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Attachment: Bio of Mr. Ashok Das, Indian Consul General

Prepared by:	David Chow, Senior Policy Advisor International Education Branch	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250-387-3639	Director	AM
		Executive Director	JL
		Assistant Deputy Minister	DM
		Deputy Minister	CWY



Bio:

- Master of Philosophy degree in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- Career as a Foreign Service Officer -served in different capacities in Indian Missions in Lisbon, Phnom Penh, Chicago, and Chittagong

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION MEETING INFORMATION NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: Tuesday, March 27, 2012, 4:30 – 5:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Ministers Yamamoto and Bell; twelve executive officers of the British Columbia and Yukon Territory Building and Construction Trades Council Representatives as listed in Appendix 1; Ms. Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland, Deputy Minister; Ms. Dawn Minty, Assistant Deputy Minister; and, Mr. Bill Parker, A/Executive Director

ISSUE(S): Meeting with British Columbia and Yukon Territory Building and Construction Trades Council to discuss foundation apprenticeship courses and trades training at community colleges.

BACKGROUND:

The British Columbia and Yukon Territory Building and Construction Trades Council (the Trades Council) is the umbrella group representing over 30,000 rank and file highly skilled trades workers from 10 International Construction Unions. They will be holding their 42nd annual convention in Victoria from March 26 - 28, 2012. Delegates from across the province will be attending to discuss a wide variety of issues affecting workers in British Columbia's construction industry.

The Trades Council requested a meeting with Ministers Yamamoto and Bell to discuss foundation apprenticeship courses and trades training at community colleges. At this meeting, Minister Bell will address topics including Major Projects Infrastructure and Industry Training as well as additional potential topics as listed in Appendix 2.

DISCUSSION:

While the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) plays an important role in trades training as the province's public post-secondary institutions deliver the vast majority of training (about 85 percent), the Industry Training Authority (ITA) has the responsibility for apprenticeship training in British Columbia and reports to the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. The ITA is the appropriate body to respond to any specific questions or concerns about trades training.

The Ministry supports trades training in public post-secondary institutions by providing funding for foundation programs, capital projects, and annual maintenance and overhead expenses of training facilities and training delivery. Major capital projects since 2001 include new trades training facilities at the Northern Lights College in Fort St. John, the College of New Caledonia campuses in Prince George and Quesnel, College of the Rockies Campus in Cranbrook, the North Island College Campus in Courtenay, the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Campus in Cloverdale and the University of the Fraser Valley Campus in Chilliwack.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Attachment

Prepared by:	Susan Ruskey Colleges and Skills Development Branch	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250-952-6117	Director	
		Executive Director	
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

Appendix 1

List of Attendees from the BC and Yukon Territory Building Trades Council

Name	Organization
Rob Tuzzi	Bricklayers Local 2
Don Doerksen	Teamsters Local 213
Wayne Peppard,	Allied Hydro Council
Jim Paquette	Sheet Metal Workers Local 280
Dale Nixon	IBEW Local 993
Phil Halley	Boilermakers Lodge 359
Dave Lepkey	Sheet Metal Workers Local 280
Herb Conat	Prince George BC Transmission Corporation
Allan Bruce*	Operating Engineers Local 115
Josh Towsley	Cement Masons 919
Manuel Alvernaz	Labourers 1611
Mike Flynn	IBEW 213

*Allan Bruce is also a member of the Industry Training Authority's Board of Directors.

Appendix 2

Industry Training Discussion Topics

1) *Labour Participation in the System:*

Organized labour has concerns that its oversight and delivery role has been significantly reduced since ITA was established.

Key Facts:

- ITA's Board is non-representational and its members do not represent specific constituencies. However, Mr. Allan Bruce (International Union of Operating Engineers) has been an ITA Board member since 2005.
- Representation on Industry Training Organization (ITO) boards is up to industry. The Resource and Transportation ITO boards currently have representation from labour.
- Eight union and joint board organizations deliver ITA-funded training programs (e.g., Electrical Industry Training Institute and Piping Industry Apprenticeship Board).
- Two union organizations are receiving Labour Market Agreement funding through the ITA to deliver trades training programs for women and Aboriginal people.

2) *Ratios:*

Organized labour supports regulations which prescribe the number of apprentices to be supervised by one certified worker (the "apprentice-to-journeyperson ratio") for quality assurance and safety reasons.

Key Facts:

- Ratios have been a long standing issue and are currently being reviewed in several provinces. Mandatory ratios can impede apprenticeship hires in organizations, particularly small businesses.
- BC has eliminated mandatory ratios. An apprentice's work-based training must be supervised by qualified trades people, but the employer has the flexibility to determine how best to manage this training in the workplace.
- Alberta recently increased its mandatory ratios to provide more flexibility to employers.

3) *Compulsory Trades:*

Organized Labour supports compulsory trades as a way to require workers in certain trades to receive training and certification, leading to greater public safety.

Key Facts:

- Unlike other Canadian jurisdictions, BC no longer has compulsory trades, which require an individual to be certified or apprenticing to work in the occupation. Prior to 2004, BC had 11 compulsory trades.
- To increase administrative efficiencies, and decrease regulatory burden, oversight of industry training and safety regulation were de-linked when ITA was formed in 2004. The *Industry*

Training Authority Act focuses on training, while the *Safety Authority Act* regulates health and safety for some trades.

- Currently about 25 BC trades are regulated by the BC Safety Authority, WorkSafe BC or other agencies that specify safety, licensing, and other requirements.

4) Supports for Apprentices:

The Council is concerned that the new system does not have sufficient supports for apprentices and employers to navigate through the system which may have an impact on participation rates.

Key Facts:

- Industry Training Authority (ITA) is completing a review of non-financial customer service supports available to employers and apprentices to inform future ITA initiatives aimed at improving support mechanisms and addressing identified gaps.
- ITA has expanded ITA Direct Access information system for all apprentices and sponsors, giving them key online functionalities such as entry of work-based training hours and new-apprentice registration.
- Apprentices are very satisfied with the on-the-job training that they receive (annual Apprentice Student Outcomes Survey). In the latest (2010) survey, 95 percent of completing apprentices said they were satisfied or very satisfied with their technical in-school training while 93 percent said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the work-base portion of their training.

5) Public Sector Role in Apprenticeship Training:

The Council advocates a stronger public sector leadership role in apprenticeship training, including mandating apprentice-hires on major public infrastructure projects.

Key Facts:

-

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6) Training Levy:

Organized Labour supports a Quebec-style training levy system to encourage more employers to train apprentices.

Key Facts:

- Quebec has a one percent levy on payroll taxes for companies who do not train apprentices at a level equal to one percent of their payroll. Funds generated by the levy are managed by a stakeholder group that determines how best to utilize the funds for training requirements in Quebec.
- In British Columbia, the BC Training Tax Credit program provides incentives for employers and apprentices to participate in, and complete apprenticeship training.

Briefing Notes

Branch Day Copy

Author Copy

*Original is our file copy

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: March 21, 2012
Cliff# 90314
File# 280-20/BJS-2012
X 60240-60/UVic
Version # 1

OR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: March 28, 2012. 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Mr. Jaraad Marani, Director of External Relations, University of Victoria Students' Society, and other representatives of the Students' Society to be determined. Ministry staff will also attend.

ISSUE: In preparation for the Minister's meeting with the University of Victoria Students' Society

BACKGROUND:

The University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), which represents over 16,000 undergraduate students at UVic, has requested a meeting with Minister Yamamoto. A list of the UVSS Board of Directors and Directors at large, with pictures, is included in Attachment 1.

Members of the UVSS met with Minister Yamamoto on October 6, 2011, and were included in the scheduled meetings during the Minister's tour of the University of Victoria on January 13, 2012. Topics of discussion at the October meeting included: interest rates on student loans; post-secondary funding; needs-based grants; inflationary cap on tuition; university budgets and the Pacific Carbon Trust.

DISCUSSION:

Although an agenda for the meeting has not yet been received, it is anticipated that the UVSS will wish to raise concerns regarding post-secondary funding and student financial assistance.

The UVSS supports the "Where's The Funding?" campaign. Goals of the campaign are to have the Province commit to: eliminating interest rates on student loans; re-establishing provincial needs-based grants; and, increasing core funding to post-secondary institutions. Eight British Columbia public post-secondary student societies, representing over 160,000 students, have joined the campaign.

Interest rates

British Columbia charges prime plus 2.5 percent (floating rate) or prime plus 5 percent (fixed rate) on student loans in repayment status and has the highest provincial student loan lending rates in Canada (along with New Brunswick). Government currently pays 100 percent of student loan interest while students are in full-time study and for six months after graduation.

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Students unable to repay loans due to low income or financial hardship may apply for the British Columbia Interest Relief Program, whereby government makes interest payment on the loan. (Note: will be replaced by the Repayment Assistance Program in July 2012, not yet announced).

Needs-based grants

In 2004, the British Columbia Grant Program (an up-front needs-based grant) was replaced with the British Columbia Loan Reduction program, putting greater priority on post-secondary completion. The program rewards students for annual completion by reducing their British Columbia student loan debt. It is projected that 21,000 students will have their loans reduced through this program in the 2011/12 fiscal year.

Students may also apply for the British Columbia Loan Forgiveness Program. The program forgives 100 percent of the British Columbia student loan over a three year period when professionals (such as nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, doctors, occupational therapists and specialty teachers) agree to work in under-served communities in the province.

Post-secondary funding

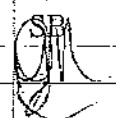
Overall, operating grants to post-secondary institutions will increase by \$9.1 million in 2012/13. There are planned reductions of \$20 million in 2013/14 and \$30 million in 2014/15. Institutions are being asked to identify cost-savings that do not impact program delivery, such as streamlining administrative and procurement functions.

Since 2001, operating grants increased by over \$584 million to over \$1.84 billion (approximately 46 percent).

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Attachments: Attachment 1 UVSS Board of Directors and Directors at Large

Prepared by:	Connie Marczyk, Education Officer	Reviewed by:	
	Research Universities and Health	Director	SB
	Programs Branch	Executive Director	SB
Phone #:	250-387-2340	Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

University of Victoria Students' Society
2011-2012 Board of Directors

The UVSS Board of Directors' offices are located in the Resource Centre, Room B103 in the Student Union Building (SUB). The Board is made up of 21 students including: five executive directors, eleven directors at large, and five constituency representatives.

The Board is the collective decision-making body for the Students' Society. They organize events, provide services, and advocate for students. Board members are elected annually and are accountable to the 16,000+ undergrads they represent.

Executive Directors



Tara Paterson, Chairperson

S. 22

Email: uvsschr@uvic.ca



Jaraad Marani, Director of External Relations

S. 22

Email: uvssextn@uvic.ca



Jenn Bowie, Director of Student Affairs

S. 22

Email: uvsssaf@uvic.ca



Dylan Sherlock, Director of Finance and Operations

S. 22

Email: uvssfin@uvic.ca



Remy Hall, Director of Events

S. 22

Email: uvssevnt@uvic.ca

Directors at large



Ariel Tseng



Emily Rogers



Hafeez Ali
Dhalla



Lucia Orser



Charles
Freund



Nadia
Hamdon



Tessah Clark



Allison
Rhodes



David Foster



Gabrielle
Sutherland



Samantha
Scott

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION MEETING NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: Monday May 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES: Mayor Lawrence Chernoff - City of Castlegar
Mr. John Malcolm Chief Administrative Officer - City of Castlegar

ISSUE: City of Castlegar's proposal for the construction of a regional hospital.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Castlegar has a population of approximately 7,200 people and is located in the Southern Interior/West Kootenay region of British Columbia between Trail and Nelson.

The City houses the main campus of Selkirk College. The College currently delivers a range of health and human service programs that include: a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program in collaboration with the University of Victoria, Practical Nursing, Health Care Assistant, Mental Health and Addictions, Nursing Unit Clerk, and Pharmacy Technician programs.

Selkirk College works closely with community partners to offer a number of these programs throughout the West Kootenay region on a rotational basis in response to student demand and health human resource needs. These programs utilize health care facilities throughout the region to provide clinical practice training.

Residents of Castlegar have access to local health care services at the Castlegar and District Community Health Centre. The regional hospital is located in Trail (Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital).

Castlegar City Councillors have recently met with representatives of the Interior Health Authority and the Minister of Health with the following proposal:

- That their hospital be replaced; and
- That the proposed hospital be designated a regional hospital, based on its centrality between Trail and Nelson.

The City of Castlegar and Selkirk College have held discussions regarding the possibility for the proposed hospital to be constructed on Selkirk College land. A feasibility study was undertaken by the City and one of the proposed locations was on Selkirk College property.

Selkirk College has indicated that, in the event there is government support for a new hospital in Castlegar, they would help support the initiative.

DISCUSSION:

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In the event that MoH and the Interior Health Authority identify a need to develop an education strategy to address health profession shortages in Castlegar, the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) would work with Selkirk College and potentially other public post-secondary institutions to undertake that work.

AVED works with post-secondary institutions and MoH on an ongoing basis to ensure health education program delivery continues to align with health human resource planning across the province.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Prepared by:	Andrei Bondoreff, Research Officer, Health Programs		
	Post Secondary Programs Branch 1	Director	
Phone #:	(250) 387-5610	Executive Director	JL
		Assistant Deputy Minister	JL (for)
		Deputy Minister	

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION MEETING NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: May 3, 2012, 4:30-5:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation;
Mr. Andy Smith, President and CEO;
Mr. John Beckett, Vice President of Training, Safety and Recruitment; and
Mr. Greg Vurdela, Vice President of Marketing and Information Services,
BC Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA)

ISSUE(S): BCMEA is requesting changes to prerequisites for heavy duty equipment mechanic apprenticeship program.

BACKGROUND:

The BCMEA is a multi-employer organization, representing approximately 65 ship owners and agents, stevedores (shipyard workers who load/unload containers), container, bulk and break bulk terminal operators from Victoria to the Alaska border. BCMEA has focused its attention on actions that provide a skilled and reliable workforce for its membership to support growth in British Columbia's shipping sector.

There are currently 997 apprentices registered in the heavy duty equipment mechanic apprenticeship program. Currently, entrants to the program must complete a 30-to-36 week foundation program, paying tuition ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Employers are given the opportunity to waive this foundation program requirement if they determine an individual is ready to begin an apprenticeship. Currently, 13 out of 15 public post-secondary institutions that deliver industry training programs offer foundation programs in heavy duty equipment mechanic apprenticeship program.

Foundation programs provide an opportunity for students to acquire fundamental skills and basic knowledge required to succeed in a given trade. Participation in these programs improves a student's likelihood of acquiring an employer sponsor, a required component for admittance to apprenticeship programs. Despite this, most apprenticeship programs in British Columbia do not require completion of a foundation program.

Foundation and apprenticeship programs are the responsibility of the Industry Training Authority (ITA). The ITA, in consultation with industry, determines the training requirements for a designated trade.

DISCUSSION:

The BCMEA is concerned that a prerequisite foundation program creates unreasonable time delays for youth and employers at a time when there is a growing shortage of heavy duty mechanics to support the Asia Pacific Gateway. BCMEA has proposed changing the structure of the program to make completion of a new foundation program optional.

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¹ British Columbia Institute of Technology, Camosun College, College of New Caledonia, College of the Rockies, North Island College, Northern Lights College, Northwest Community College, Okanagan College, Selkirk College, Thompson Rivers University, University of the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Community College and Vancouver Island University.

Presently, the Transportation Career Development Association, the industry training organization responsible for heavy duty equipment mechanic apprenticeship program, is working with industry and training providers to review the program structure and explore the feasibility of introducing an optional foundation program. There appears to be broad-based support from training providers and industry for a resolution to this issue of having a Foundation program prerequisite for one trade but not others.

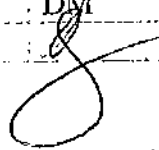
Any changes to the heavy duty equipment mechanic apprenticeship program must take into consideration the following:

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SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

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Attachment: Foundation Program Profile for Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic

Prepared by:	Kim Buchanan, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250 387-1006	Director	EH for SR
	Susan Ruskey, Ministry of Advanced Education	Executive Director	DH
Phone #:	250 952-6117	Assistant Deputy Minister	DM
		Deputy Minister	

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Pages 178 through 179 redacted for the following reasons:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

Date:	April 11, 2012
Cliff#	90386
File#	
Version #	2

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: April 13, 2012, in Prince George, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Mr. Don Kayne, President and CEO, CANFOR Corporation,
Representative (TBD) from the BID Group of Companies
Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation and MLA for
Prince George - Mackenzie
Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General and MLA
for Prince George - Valemont

ISSUE: Meeting requested by CANFOR and BID Group of Companies to discuss its

Not Responsive

BACKGROUND:

In December 2011, CANFOR and the Bid Group of Companies (BID) requesting the support of the Ministry of Advanced Education, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, and the Office of the Premier, to contribute the land, existing structures and industrial equipment.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

to help meet labour market

demands in the region (see Attachment 1). Under the proposal, BID and CANFOR would contribute the land, existing structures and industrial equipment.

The proposal calls for the College of New Caledonia (CNC), Northern Lights College (NLC), the British Columbia Institute of Technology and Thompson Rivers University to align resources, identify needs, and develop an implementation plan to deliver programming with support from provincial, federal and municipal levels of government.

The proposal lacks details regarding start up and operating costs and any proposed programming other than a statement that the facility would emphasize forest sector trades training. CANFOR / BID have suggested the first intake of students take place in January 2013, which would require an immediate decision from Government, whether to provide funding.

The Ministry of Advanced Education, in collaboration with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, is engaging with CANFOR and BID to determine potential "next steps" for the proposal.

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DISCUSSION:

Regional Positions

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On March 5, 2012, CANFOR / BID made a presentation to the City of Prince George and announced that they are seeking \$10 million from the provincial government as a matching contribution equal to the estimated value of the land and building on the site. Following this presentation, the City issued a resolution supporting new multi-institution trades training facilities in the City and urging "all levels of Government, industry, post-secondary education providers, First Nations and labour to work together in a united fashion to expand trades training opportunities in the City of Prince George and Northern British Columbia."

Other Projects

There are multiple projects either underway in Northern British Columbia, focused on the alignment of human resource needs and skills training. A specific Labour Market Partnership (LMP) project in which CANFOR is participating is the BC Forestry Solid Wood Sector Human Resources Committee (led by the BC Resource Training Organization), which is developing a comprehensive human resource strategy for the solid wood sector in all regions of the province to ensure there are sufficient numbers of skilled trades workers to meet the needs of the sector. Other major LMP projects include the Northwest Transmission Line Labour Market Partnership Project and the BC Natural Gas Workforce Strategy and Action Plan (see Attachment 4 for a list of relevant LMP projects in the North).

The Province is also piloting Regional Workforce Tables in the Northwest and Northeast. The goal of these Tables is to define regional economic opportunities and labour market needs, identify opportunities and recommendations to align existing skills training and labour market programs to meet regional employment opportunities. A key outcome of the two Northern Tables will be the development of a regional implementation and investment plan by the fall of 2012 to help inform labour market and post-secondary training programs.

S. 13

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

S. 13

Prepared by:	Adam Molineux, Director	Reviewed by:	
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
Phone #:	(250) 588-8703	Deputy Minister	

Pages 183 through 194 redacted for the following reasons:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING NOTE**

Date: March 30, 2012
Cliff# 90348
File#
Version # 1

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: Monday, April 23, 2012, 9:30 - 10:00 am.

ATTENDEES: Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Peter Cunningham, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Donna Barnett, MLA, Cariboo-Chilcotin; Rhonda Labelle, Executive Director, Cariboo-Chilcotin Aboriginal Training Employment Centre; and 3-4 members of the First Nations Human Resource Labour Council.

ISSUE:

s13 17

s 13 17

BACKGROUND:

In 1992, Canada developed a national program for Aboriginal skills and employment training, funded from employment insurance funds. The strategy has been renewed several times. In 2010, a new five-year agreement was put in place called the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS).

Under ASETS, community-based Aboriginal agreement holders deliver employment programs and training services to clients in a defined geographic area. At present there are 15 ASETS agreement holders in British Columbia:

- one serves the Métis population province wide through the Métis Nation British Columbia;
- one serves the urban Aboriginal population of the lower mainland through the Aboriginal Community Careers Employment Services Society; and
- 13 are identified as First Nation organizations who collaborate as the First Nations Human Resource and Labour Council (Council).

Collectively, the ASETS holders receive approximately \$50 million annually from Canada which includes operational and program funding.

The Council was first formed in 1992 as a joint management committee of First Nations provincial agreement holders with funding from Canada. The Council previously received core funding support from Canada utilizing "surplus funds". Following the signing of the Labour Market Development Agreement by Canada and British Columbia in 2008, the Council's operational funding was not renewed.

DISCUSSION:

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S. 13, S. 17

Attachments: Appendix 1

Prepared by:	Susan Kelly/Director	Reviewed by:	
	Aboriginal Programs	Director	SK
Phone #:	250 387-6148	Executive Director	DH
		Assistant Deputy Minister	DH (for)
		Deputy Minister	GH (for)

Page 197 redacted for the following reason:

S. 13, S. 17

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
BRIEFING NOTE**

Date:	April 18, 2012
Client#	90512
File#	60310-01/GEN 280-20/BN 2012

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Conference call of the Leading Edge Endowment Fund Society Board of Directors on April 24, 2012 to extend the end-date of the organization.

BACKGROUND:

On April 24, 2012, the Leading Edge Endowment Fund Society's (LEEF) Board of Directors will hold a conference call, which requires the participation of Minister Yamamoto who is a member of the board.

LEEF was originally established by the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED). However, since 2008, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation has been the provincial lead for research and has responsibility for liaison with LEEF. Consistent with past practice for meetings of the LEEF Board of Directors, that Ministry is expected to distribute materials specific to the meeting agenda directly to the Minister's office.

In 2002, the Government of British Columbia established LEEF as an independent Society and a registered charity. LEEF was provided with \$45 million to support 20 permanent British Columbia Leadership Chairs on a 50-50 cost-sharing partnership between the provincial government and private/non-provincial government sectors. LEEF also received \$11.25 million to establish nine Regional Innovation Chairs at colleges and the former university-colleges.

Each Chair is to be supported in perpetuity through an endowment of \$4.5 million for the BC Leadership Chairs and \$2.5 million for the Regional Innovation Chairs. The endowed Chairs were designed to attract world class faculty and to strengthen the province's capacity for innovative research.

Although LEEF is an independent Society, it is part of the Government Reporting Entity, due to the perception of government control. Of the nine members in total, three are government members including the Honourable Pat Bell, the Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, and Parliamentary Secretary Dr. Moira Stilwell. The Chair of the Board of Directors of LEEF is Dr. Martha Salcudean, Professor Emerita, University of British Columbia.

DISCUSSION:

S. 13, S. 17

Attachments: Attachment 1 -- Government of British Columbia press release, 2011

Prepared by:	Connie Marczyk, Education Officer	Reviewed by:	
	Post Secondary Programs Branch	Director	SGB
Phone #:	250-387-2340	Executive Director	SB
		Assistant Deputy Minister	(Signature)
		Deputy Minister	(Signature)



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2011PREM0014-000169
Feb. 23, 2011

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Science and Universities

YEAR OF SCIENCE LEGACY, RESEARCH AWARDS ANNOUNCED

VANCOUVER -- Over \$6.9 million in research funding will be provided to some of the province's top researchers through the Natural Resources and Applied Sciences (NRAS) Endowment, Premier Gordon Campbell announced today at an event celebrating excellence in B.C. research and innovation.

Premier Campbell also announced a further \$7 million for a Year of Science legacy that will go towards graduate fellowships in the coming months through the Leading Edge Endowment Fund.

"B.C. researchers are making significant contributions to our future quality of life and the economy of British Columbia," said Premier Campbell. "Their pioneering work continues to advance leading research and innovation projects with the potential to provide lasting benefits and make a huge difference to people's lives."

A total of 24 researchers received funding for their projects in the areas of natural resources, applied science and engineering. Among the broad spectrum of technologies that received funding were "smart" sensors for vehicle tires, an "optical biopsy" device for the early detection of cancer, a method of monitoring fish stocks using satellite imagery and new ways to improve the safety, economics and sustainability of B.C.'s surface mines.

"We are immensely proud of the work being undertaken by these researchers and their colleagues," said Science and Universities Minister Ida Chong. "Their projects have enormous potential both here in British Columbia and worldwide."

The NRAS Endowment was established in 2006 with a \$50-million investment by the B.C. government. The mandate of the fund is to build research and development, advanced training, technology transfer and commercialization capacity in B.C. in engineering, natural resources and the applied sciences. The BCFRST Foundation has developed the research programs in collaboration with the B.C. Innovation Council (BCIC), the Province's lead agency dedicated to strengthening B.C.'s knowledge economy through projects and programs that develop entrepreneurs and commercialize technologies. The evaluation of proposals and the administration of the funds are managed by the BCIC.

"There is incredible work being done in our province as evident by the breadth of research being recognized here today," said Danny Robinson, CEO of BCIC. "I look forward to tracking the progress of these bright minds and the resulting companies that will no doubt contribute to our economic development through jobs, training, investment and more."

-more-

Through the endowment fund, the Province makes targeted investments in applied research projects with potential to provide social, environmental and economic benefit to B.C. These investments are chosen by a select group of national and international experts, in co-operation with the BCFRST Foundation and BCIC. The BCFRST Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to nurturing and supporting research, and helping attract and retain faculty and graduate students, in British Columbia's post-secondary institutions in the fields of natural resources, applied science and engineering.

"On behalf of the Board of the BCFRST Foundation I applaud the government for their vision in establishing the NRAS Endowment Fund," said Martha Salcudean, chair of BCFRST. "As world leading researchers, the NRAS award winners announced today will propel B.C. leadership in knowledge discovery, technology development and technology deployment provincially, nationally and globally."

Since 2001, the B.C. government has committed \$1.8 billion to research in British Columbia, and leveraged over \$1 billion in research funding from other sources, generating jobs, economic development and supporting research excellence throughout British Columbia.

-30-

Media contacts:

Dale Steeves

Director of Communications

Office of the Premier

250 361-7783

Gordon Keast

Public Affairs Bureau

Ministry of Science and Universities

250 952-0132

Two Backgrounders follow.

-more-

BACKGROUND

THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND APPLIED SCIENCES ENDOWMENT

The Province of British Columbia established the Natural Resources and Applied Sciences Endowment (NRAS) in 2006 to enhance the quality of life for British Columbians by building a strong research, technology transfer and commercialization environment in the fields of natural resources, applied science and engineering. The endowment has been funded by an initial investment of \$50 million.

NRAS programs support some of British Columbia's most accomplished and promising researchers working on projects that hold potential for significant social, environmental and economic benefit to the province both over the near term and in the future. These programs specifically focus on innovative B.C. solutions to problems while anticipating possibilities for significant leverage from the natural sciences.

NRAS Award Recipients

Farid Golnaraghi, SFU

Title: Smart Sensors for intelligent tires.

Project Summary: Developing highly advanced and self energized "smart" sensors for vehicle tires, including wireless transmission modules and micro sensors. The primary focus of application will be on embedded, wireless, self-energized sensors in tires for measuring road applied forces, tire pressure, temperature, etc.

Award Amount: \$300,000

William Davidson, SFU

Title: Sex-determination in Atlantic salmon.

Project Summary: Determining the molecular basis for sex-determination in Atlantic salmon by identifying the genes involved in the sex-determining pathway.

Award Amount: \$298,760

Septimiu Edmund Salcudean, UBC

Title: Development of improved ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging techniques for the prostate.

Project Summary: Improved ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging techniques have the potential to improve prostate cancer diagnosis, treatment and disease progress monitoring, reducing patient suffering and healthcare expenditures.

Award Amount: \$291,330

Gregory Mori, SFU

Title: Improving pedestrian safety via automated data collection and safety analysis.

Project Summary: Real data is critical for the development of safe and effective transportation infrastructure. The development of novel computer vision algorithms will enable the automatic tracking of road users and improved analytical tools and measures for assessing road safety.

Award Amount: \$298,398

-more-

Maycira Costa, UVic

Title: Fish food from space: use of satellites to aid fisheries management.

Project Summary: Dr. Costa is developing an operational method for using satellite imagery to derive a spatial temporal time series of phytoplankton blooms and associate it with fish stock data. These satellite images may become a tool to help define fish stocks in the Salish Sea, B.C.

Award Amount: \$279,410

Shuo Tang, UBC

Title: Development of an optical biopsy device for skin cancer detection and evaluation.

Project Summary: The optical biopsy device will enable non-invasive, sub-surface structural imaging and biochemical composition identification similar to histology, providing real-time imaging that can potentially be used in the early cancer detection.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Xiaotao Bi, UBC

Title: Wood pellets: A choice feedstock to produce second generation liquid biofuels.

Project Summary: British Columbia has become a world leader in converting waste residues from sawmills to wood pellets. UBC researchers are developing a new generation of wood pellets by steam explosion pre-treatment to make these pellets suitable for hydrolysis and conversion to ethanol, as to increase the pellet durability.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Nicholas Coops, UBC

Title: Development of provincewide biodiversity indicators using Earth observation data.

Project Summary: This project will develop a framework for monitoring biodiversity change by identifying regions of unique biodiversity and ensuring these areas are well represented in the current network of parks and protected areas. Beyond developed biodiversity, these metrics will be used to predict bird species distributions and provide information for B.C. bird conservation plans.

Award Amount: \$286,400

Mohamed Hefeeda, SFU

Title: Enabling high-quality mobile multimedia services.

Project Summary: The project presents novel algorithms and systems to minimize the energy consumption of mobile devices, improve user-perceived quality and maximize the use of the wireless spectrum.

Award Amount: \$296,400

Donald S. Mavinic, UBC

Title: Excess nitrogen removal from wastewater using an innovative annamox process.

Project Summary: The project proposes a cost-effective, sustainable and more ecologically friendly technology for the removal of nitrogen in B.C. wastewater treatment plants with the potential to significantly reduce capital and operating costs, effluent toxicity and carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere.

Award Amount: \$249,600

-more-

Xiaodai Dong, UVic

Title: Ultra-wideband systems for wireless sensor networks with applications to natural resources and health care sectors.

Project Summary: The proposed wireless sensor network based on ultra-wideband (UWB) technology will be used for environment monitoring and control, hospital equipment logistics, patient tracking and localization, asset tagging and management, fleet management, animal tracking, family communications and supervision of children, search and rescue and more.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Mark Johnson, UBC

Title: Evaluation of the use of biochar (charcoal derived from non-timber forest biomass) as a means to increase forest productivity.

Project Summary: Nitrogen fertilizer, commonly used in forest management in coastal B.C., leads to greenhouse gas emissions including nitrous oxide and nitrate leaching into groundwater and surface water. This project will determine the potential for biochar to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and nitrate leaching, which are important considerations for improving the sustainability of forestry operations.

Award Amount: \$231,400

Doug Stead, SFU

Title: Improving mine safety, economics and sustainability through implementation of geotechnical innovation in British Columbia surface mines.

Project Summary: This project will aim to improve mine safety, economics and sustainability through implementation of geotechnical innovation in British Columbia surface mines. To achieve this, B.C. surface mines will receive state-of-the-art rock slope characterization, monitoring and numerical modeling techniques.

Award Amount: \$240,000

Anoush Poursartip, UBC

Title: Development of design tools to help fibreglass and composites companies reduce manufacturing risk.

Project Summary: Originally created for the aerospace composites sector, science-based manufacturing design tools are being optimized for usage in the industrial fibreglass and composites sectors, helping them to compete globally.

Award Amount: \$293,700

Reuven Gordon, UVic

Title: Plasmon-enhanced quantum information processing nanotechnology.

Project Summary: This projects aims to integrate two nanotechnologies to establish a novel platform for quantum information processing, offering quick solutions for computer problems.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Alexandra Fedorova, SFU

Title: Building better and faster video games with the help of parallelization.

Project Summary: Video games are a performance-hungry domain: better performance means better, more interactive and realistic video games. This project will develop tools and techniques for parallelizing video games, which will enable programmers to use familiar programming style, but let the underlying system efficiently parallelize the code across tens or hundreds of processors or GPU cores.

Award Amount: \$291,544

Jian Pei, SFU

Title: Interactive searching and mining of large evolving graphs.

Project Summary: The next generation of search engines will transform data from online social networks like Facebook and LinkedIn into business opportunities. By building search engines for large-scale evolving social networks and complex graphs, this project tackles storing large evolving social networks, time-sensitive community search and multidimensional community analysis.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Alireza Nojeh, UBC

Title: Development of novel, high-performance electron sources using carbon.

Project Summary: Electron sources are critical components in a wide variety of industrial and scientific equipment in clean air technologies, manufacturing, medical imaging, displays and electronics. The electron sources to be developed will increase equipment productivity and longevity, thereby reducing operating costs.

Award Amount: \$274,000

Kevin James Smith, UBC

Title: Novel catalysts for low-temperature methane oxidation.

Project Summary: This project will synthesize three new classes of nanomaterials to control the emissions from the exhausts of hybrid diesel/natural gas/hydrogen engines being developed by Westport Innovations in Vancouver. The most promising of these new materials will be incorporated into a prototype catalytic converter and tested in the facilities of Westport Innovations.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Vincent Wai-Shuen Wong, UBC

Title: Co-operative design and resource allocation for wireless mesh networks.

Project Summary: The throughput and reliability of wireless mesh networks can be improved by developing novel co-operative relaying, orthogonal frequency division multiple access and network coding schemes. The outcome of this project will help researchers and practitioners better understand the interactions and dynamics of different components and positively impact the theory and practice of wireless mesh network design and optimization.

Award Amount: \$299,100

Bozena Kaminska, SFU

Title: Multifunctional active composite materials for embedded microsystems devices.

Project Summary: A new generation of energy storage devices based on soft film polymer material will enable low-cost, environmentally friendly powering of electronic devices. The approach combines commercially feasible nano-structures used to increase energy efficiency and new advanced manufacturing processes for high volume fabrication.

Award Amount: \$300,000

Boris Stoeber, UBC

Title: Mobile chemical sensor networks for effluent source location.

Project Summary: The research supported by this project focuses on the development of high-performance chemical sensing technology. The sensors will be able to detect very small amounts of chemicals in the air along with any changes in their concentration. The capabilities of this new sensing technology will benefit surveillance of industrial processes, where chemical concentrations vary over time and spatially throughout the production site.

Award Amount: \$286,000

Zuomin Dong, UVic

Title: Development of design tools and key technology for next generation commercial hybrid vehicles.

Project Summary: This collaborative research will focus on the development of new design tools, key technology and control methods for advanced commercial hybrid vehicle powertrains to address the technical challenges of developing commercial hybrid vehicles with widely varying loads and drive cycles.

Award Amount: \$295,800

Albert M. Leung, SFU

Title: Wireless sensor networks for video surveillance

Project Summary: This research addresses the design issues of battery-operated wireless video surveillance systems from a complete system perspective, taking into account the generation, transmissions, storage, retrieval and consumption of video information.

Award Amount: \$300,000

-30-

Media contacts:

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Director of Communications

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MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION BRIEFING NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: *SkillsPlus* transition and program S. 17

BACKGROUND:

Since its inception, *SkillsPlus* has been wholly funded through the Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Agreement (LMA), and provides essential skills¹ training to low skilled employed individuals in industry sectors identified to have high levels of low literacy and essential skills. Program delivery exists in multiple economic development regions across the province.

SkillsPlus has provided essential skills training to approximately 900 employees throughout the province – achieving approximately 86 percent of its LMA target over the first two program cycles. In each successive program cycle – currently in its third cycle – continuous program improvement efforts have been undertaken including, but not limited to: strengthening the quality of training; expanding eligibility requirements; and seeking training opportunities in sectors and regions with high levels of low literacy and where program delivery had not previously occurred. Contracts under the most current *SkillsPlus* program cycle all had the end date of March 31, 2012.

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DISCUSSION:

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Prepared by:	Steven Rumpel	Reviewed by:	
	Colleges & Skills Development	Director	
	250-387-3395	Executive Director	
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

Page 209 redacted for the following reason:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING NOTE**

Date:	April 17, 2012
Cliff#	90482
File#	

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: April 24, 2012

ATTENDEES: Honourable Dr. Terry Lake, Minister of Environment and Member of the
Legislative Assembly for Kamloops-North Thompson

ISSUE: Operating funding for Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

BACKGROUND:

DISCUSSION:

Operating Funding

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Page 211 redacted for the following reason:

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Attachment: Appendix 1

Prepared by:	Randall Gerlach, Regional Manager	Reviewed by:	
	Northern Region	Director	MN
Phone #:	250 387-6269	Executive Director	AM
		Assistant Deputy Minister	DH & JT
		Deputy Minister	CWY

Page 213 redacted for the following reason:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING NOTE**

Date:	April 5, 2012
Cliff#	90302
File#	
Version #	1

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: Tuesday, April 17, 2012, 2:25 – 3:15 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Nathan Lane, Executive Director, Alex McLellan and Dustin McIntyre, of the Thompson Rivers University (TRU) Students' Union

ISSUES: Follow up meeting with officials of the TRU Students' Union to discuss the Student Summer Employment Program – Kamloops Pilot Project

BACKGROUND:

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In addition, the proposal requests that government provide central administration for the project, including funding for both start up and ongoing costs, the development of an online application system for employers and students, and a corresponding database for use by the TRU Career Education Department to match suitable employers with potential employees.

DISCUSSION:

Ministry staff reviewed the latest proposal and concluded the costing and assumptions are reasonable. While the Ministry recognizes the efforts by the Students' Union in developing the proposal, there is no new funding available at this time to support the pilot program or to implement the program on an on-going, larger scale if the pilot is successful. AVED also does not have the resources available to provide any administrative support for the pilot program.

It does not appear that the proposal has been forwarded to the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation (JTI) for consideration. Given the nature of the proposed project, the potential for funding from JTI is uncertain but AVED staff have been provided with a contact name should the Students' Union wish to pursue that option.

It is unclear to what extent the Students' Union has consulted with University officials on the proposed project, including staff in the TRU Career Education Department which (according to the proposal) would have a primary role in administering the program. AVED staff did contact Department staff and it appears the office already has the technical infrastructure (online application and database) in place to support the potential needs of such a project.

Although the TRU Students' Union is currently conducting a market survey to gauge employer support for the program, it appears that level of interest from regional employers is not yet quantified or confirmed.

The Federal government already provides funding for several wage-subsidy based youth employment programs. This includes the Canada Summer Jobs program which has a similar structure to the Students Union's proposed program. Providing funding for the pilot project might be perceived as duplication in government funding. As well, the pilot as currently designed is an employment program that offers wage subsidies to the private sector to create jobs. In general, government does not provide wage subsidies to private businesses for this purpose.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

S. 13

Prepared by:	Bonnie Wai, Education Officer	Reviewed by:	
	Teaching Universities, Institutes and Aboriginal Programs Branch	Director	
Phone #:	250-356-7738	Executive Director	
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

Date:	May 1, 2012
Cliff#	90736
File#	280-20/BN 2012 and 60240-60/UBC

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: May 10, 2012, Time 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Mr. Stephen Owen, Vice-President External, Legal and Community Relations, University of British Columbia, Nancy Knight, Vice-President, Campus and Community Planning, University of British Columbia, Howie Charters, Colliers Managing Director, and Wade Grant, Councillor Musqueam First Nation

ISSUE(S): The University of British Columbia's (UBC) upcoming plans regarding the UBC Line and Translink.

BACKGROUND:


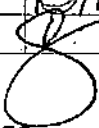
UBC has indicated that the university is the second largest transit destination in its region, outside of the metropolitan core. There are almost 60,000 transit trips a day to and from UBC, with a large percentage of its staff and faculty taking transit to work (31 percent). There are approximately 45,000 students at UBC, and roughly one in every one hundred employees in the Vancouver Census Metropolitan area work at UBC.

There is a high volume of buses on the roads leading to the campus but, despite this service, approximately 4,000 commuters per day are "passed up" by full buses on the 99 B Line between Commercial Drive and UBC. The growing number of residents on campus (in market and student housing) places additional pressure on transit.

DISCUSSION:

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Attachments: Attachment 1 – Stephen Owen's Biography

Prepared by:	Susan Burns, Director	Reviewed by:	
	Post Secondary Regions and Programs Division	Executive Director	DA
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
Phone #:	250-356-6114	Deputy Minister	

Biography

Honourable Stephen Owen, QC, PC

A former Member of Parliament of Canada for Vancouver Quadra, Stephen Owen was appointed Vice President, External, Legal and Community Relations of The University of British Columbia on August 15, 2007.

Stephen Owen was first elected to Parliament in November 2000; and re-elected in June 2004 and January 2006. In government, he served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice, Secretary of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Receiver General for Canada, Minister of Western Economic Diversification and Minister of Sport.

Prior to his election to Parliament, Stephen Owen was the David Lam Professor of Law and Public Policy and Director of the Institute for Dispute Resolution at the University of Victoria; Commissioner and Vice President of the Law Commission of Canada; Deputy Attorney General, Commissioner of Resources and Environment, Ombudsman and Executive Director for Legal Services Society of British Columbia; and a practicing lawyer.

Stephen Owen has advised numerous governments and international institutions in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe on issues of human rights, governance, conflict resolution and environmental sustainability. He has investigated security force killings in apartheid South Africa, Northern Ireland/Gibraltar, Somalia, Kosovo and Cambodia.

As Vice President, External, Legal and Community Relations at UBC, Stephen Owen's responsibilities include government relations, University legal counsel, public affairs and communications, University community engagement, the Robson Square Campus, the Learning Exchange and 2010 Olympics.

Stephen Owen received a J.D. from UBC, a LL.M. from UCL, University of London, and a M.B.A. from the University of Geneva.



**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
BRIEFING NOTE**

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education (AVED)
and Honourable Rich Coleman, Minister of Energy and Mines (MEM)

ISSUE: Request by the University of British Columbia (UBC) for Ministers' endorsement and attendance at the launch of the new Executive MBA (EMBA) in Strategic Mining Management program in Victoria or Vancouver in June 2012.

BACKGROUND:

In response to needs identified by the mining industry, UBC has designed a new EMBA program in Strategic Mining Management. The degree is offered in partnership between UBC's Sauder School of Business and its Norman B. Keevil Institute of Mining Engineering. S. 13

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DISCUSSION:

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Prepared by:	David Chow, Senior Policy Advisor, AVED and Sara Bose, Senior Policy Analyst, MEM	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	250-387-3639 250-387-5491	Executive Director	
		Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
MEETING INFORMATION NOTE**

Date:	March 27, 2012
Cliff#	90339
File#	280-20/BN 2012 and 60240-60/UNBC
Version 2	

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: March 28, 2012

ATTENDEES: Dr. George Iwama, President, University of Northern British Columbia

ISSUE: Meeting to discuss engineering programming under consideration for the Wood Innovation and Design Centre.

BACKGROUND:

Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) staff understand that Dr. Iwama wishes to speak with the Minister about engineering programming, in relation to the Wood Innovation and Design Centre (the Centre). It is not known whether Dr. Iwama will take the opportunity of speaking with the Minister to raise other issues of concern.

DISCUSSION:

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SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

S. 13

Prepared by:	Susan Burns, Director	Reviewed by:	
	Research Universities and	Executive Director	BB
	Health Programs Branch	Assistant Deputy Minister	
Phone #:	250-356-6114	Deputy Minister	

2 of 2

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION MEETING NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: May 11, 2012 at 8:45am

ATTENDEES: Dr. Robert Ashburner, Dr. David Kirby, and Dr. John Cruickshank, Society of British Columbia Veterinarians, Dr. Douglas Freeman, Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, and Ministry of Advanced Education Staff: Ms. Janice Larson, Ms. Lori Mackerizie and Mr. Kevin Perrault (by Teleconference)

ISSUE: Funding for British Columbia Residents for Veterinary Training at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN).

BACKGROUND:

Veterinary medicine education leading to a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine is a high-cost, specialized program with rigorous international accreditation standards. To establish opportunities for veterinary training in the western provinces, the WCVN at the University of Saskatchewan was created in the 1960s through a partnership between British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The four western provinces jointly fund the WCVN through a series of five-year inter-provincial agreements, the most recent of which expired April 30, 2012.

The WCVN provides education and training for up to 360 students in the four year undergraduate program and 141 graduate-level students. The current annual operating cost of \$32 million is split proportionally between the four provincial partners with Saskatchewan funding indirect costs for the College through its annual grant to the University of Saskatchewan. The only other veterinary college in the western provinces is the newly established University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM), which currently has capacity for up to 120 students. Initial investment in capital for the UCVM was \$80 million in 2005, with an annual operating grant just over \$25 million ongoing. At this time, the UCVM will only admit Alberta residents.

The WCVN inter-provincial agreement sets out the number of student spaces available to qualified residents from each of the four participating provinces and the annual costs for those spaces. British Columbia currently funds 20 first year spaces and 79 total spaces in the four year program for a total cost of \$7.1 million in 2012/13. Funding to support graduate students is contained within the per-space costs allocated to each province.

Ministry staff are currently in negotiations to renew the five year cost sharing agreement. An initial negotiation meeting was held in June 2011 at which time issues regarding the current agreement were raised by British Columbia and Alberta. Saskatchewan has indicated it will provide a formal response to those concerns subsequent to the planned meeting with the Minister on May 11, 2012.

The Society of British Columbia Veterinarians is an advocacy group for the veterinary profession in British Columbia, and have invited the Dean, WCVN, to meet with the Minister to discuss British Columbia's continued participation in the WCVN in context of the proposed five year renewal agreement negotiations.

DISCUSSION:

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Attachment: Veterinary Medicine Costs

Prepared by:	Kevin Perrault, Health Policy Analyst	Reviewed by:	
Phone #:	356-8257	Director	<i>LM</i>
		Executive Director	<i>LM</i>
		Assistant Deputy Minister	<i>LM</i>
		Deputy Minister	<i>LM</i>

Attachment 1

Summary of Veterinary Medicine Interprovincial Health Agreement Costs

	Actual			Projected
Program		Academic Year		chg from 2006
		2006/07	2012/13	
Veterinary Medicine	#,of students	60	79	19
	\$ per seat	\$69,740	\$90,225	29.4%
	Total \$	\$4,184,400	\$7,127,775	70.3%
	Ministry Budget		\$7,540,223	
	Surplus/Pressure		\$412,448	

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Annual cost escalation for 2013 onward based on 3 percent increase in operating grant allocation to University of Saskatchewan

**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	March 19, 2012
Cliff#	89898
File#	280-20

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Lisbon Recognition Convention: Approval of the proposed text to confirm that British Columbia has implemented the terms of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

BACKGROUND:

The Lisbon Recognition Convention was established to develop a framework for the assessment and recognition of higher education qualifications between countries. It was signed in April 1997, and brought into force on February 1, 1999.

The Lisbon Recognition Convention was created by European countries to make higher education, academic degrees and quality assurance standards more comparable and compatible throughout the continent. (This was a further refinement of the understandings agreed to in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO] Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region, which was signed in 1979.)

Many non-European countries expressed an interest in joining the Lisbon Recognition Convention as it was believed they offered structures that would promote education internationally. Ten countries outside of Europe have signed the Lisbon Recognition Convention including Canada, Australia and the United States.

The Lisbon Recognition Convention is a tool for promoting international mobility, both in terms of international education (so a person can pursue further academic work in a different country) and labour mobility (so a person's academic qualifications can be accepted by employers in a different country). It ensures that:

- People will have access to an assessment of their qualifications in another country;
- Students and graduates are guaranteed access to a fair process, which includes the principle that responsibility to demonstrate that an application does not fulfil the relevant requirements lies with the office undertaking the assessment; and
- Each country must recognize the qualifications – whether for access to higher education, for periods of study or for higher education degrees – as similar to the corresponding qualifications in its own system unless it can show that there are substantial differences between its own qualifications and the qualifications for which recognition is sought.

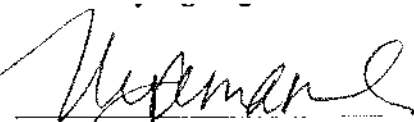
DISCUSSION:

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OPTIONS:


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Approved / Not Approved 
Honourable Naomi Yamamoto

Date: March 26/12

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Prepared by: Martin Young, Senior Advisor
Policy, Planning and
Intergovernmental Relations
Phone #: (250) 387-2347

Reviewed by:
Director VP
Executive Director JS
Assistant Deputy Minister 
Deputy Minister

Pages 231 through 235 redacted for the following reasons:

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**MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION
DECISION NOTE**

Date:	March 26, 2012
Cliff#	90356
File#	280-20

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Finalizing the 2012/13 Government Letter of Expectations

BACKGROUND:

The Government Letter of Expectations sets out high level priorities and expectations between Government and public post-secondary institutions. While some of the expectations have specific deliverables or accountabilities attached to them, others set out Government's overarching strategic priorities so that institutions can take these into account while carrying out day to day activities as well as long term planning.

In keeping with our commitment to create a system wide-coordinated approach, the 2012/13 Government Letters of Expectations also outline greater accountability for alignment with Government priorities.

The draft 2012/13 Government Letter of Expectations includes content that is consistent with the last letter, core content from the 2012/13 template for crown agencies and customized advanced education content.

Following teleconferences with institutional Board Chairs and Presidents, the Deputy Minister shared the draft Government Letter of Expectations with Board Chairs on February 3, 2012, for input and discussion with their Boards in February.

DISCUSSION:

Overall, the response to the 2012/13 draft Government Letter of Expectations was positive. Comments were received from eight individual institutions and collective views were provided by BC Colleges and the Research Universities' Council of BC. In total input or acknowledgement was received representing twenty four institutions.

Most questions were on new content (such as default rates and project boards) that required clarification. This clarification was provided either by telephone or letter. A summary of the feedback received is attached as Appendix 1.

Some edits were proposed as a result of the consultation. The one necessary change is removal of the reference to international education strategy activities in the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology letter as they are not required to engage in international education activities.

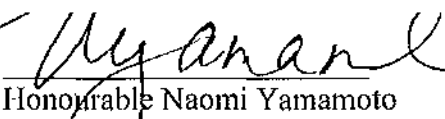
The other proposed edits are few in number and would demonstrate the Ministry's willingness to consider feedback. These suggestions have been highlighted in the revised draft Government Letter of Expectations (refer to Appendix 2).

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Once approved, the final Government Letters of Expectations will be sent to each institution for signature by the Board Chair. Once signed and returned, the letters will be provided for the Minister's signature and the copies distributed as required.

OPTIONS:

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Approved / Not Approved  Date: April 10, 2012
Honourable Naomi Yamamoto

Attachments: Appendix 1 – Summary of Feedback
Appendix 2 – Revised Draft Government Letter of Expectations
Appendix 3 – Draft letter to Institutions

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Prepared by: Cheryl Bell, Manager
Strategic Policy and Planning Branch
Phone #: (250) 387-6659

Reviewed by:
Director KC
Executive Director JS
Assistant Deputy Minister IR
Deputy Minister CWY

Pages 239 through 251 redacted for the following reasons:

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MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION DECISION NOTE

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of Advanced Education

ISSUE: Signing the 2012/13 Government Letters of Expectations

BACKGROUND:

The Ministry developed a 2012/13 Government Letter of Expectations (GLE), largely based on the last GLE between Government and institutions (2010/11) and the template used for crown agencies. The letter also incorporated new material based on Government's commitments and priorities.

Following a teleconference with institutional Board Chairs and the Minister, and another teleconference with institutional Presidents and Deputy Minister, the Deputy Minister shared the draft GLE with Presidents on February 3, 2012, for discussion with their Board Chairs over the month of February.

Feedback was received from twenty four institutions (with collective views provided through BC Colleges and the Research Universities Council of British Columbia). Many of the suggested changes were incorporated into the draft letter. On April 10, 2012, the Minister approved the final revised GLE and GLEs were sent to the Board Chairs for signature.

DISCUSSION:

Eighteen institutions have now returned signed GLEs to the Minister

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S. 21 Further discussion and follow up on the outstanding GLEs is underway. This Decision Note has been prepared to request the Minister's signature on the eighteen GLEs that have been received in order that the GLEs can be finalized.

Ministry staff have reviewed the GLEs and have confirmed that all have been signed off appropriately by the Board Chairs. Once signed by the Minister, one GLE will be returned to the institution, the other GLE will be retained by the Ministry and both parties are required to post the signed letter on their internet.

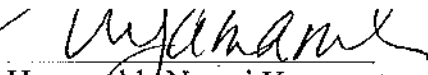
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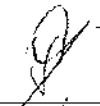
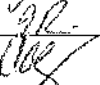

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RECOMMENDATION:

S. 13

Approved / Not Approved ☒  Date: May 7/12
Honourable Naomi Yamamoto

Attachments: Eighteen GLEs

Prepared by:	Kate Cotie, Director Strategic Policy and Planning Branch	Reviewed by:	Executive Director 
Phone #:	(250) 387-6197	Assistant Deputy Minister	
		Deputy Minister	

Pages 254 through 255 redacted for the following reasons:

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