

From: [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
To: [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
Subject: Background for Tuesday: Numbers and ELL language  
Date: Sunday, August 6, 2017 11:48:55 AM

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Hi Jen,

Because you are staffing the Premier, and he may have questions about our figures on ABE/ELL, here's what you need to know:

- We cite a 35% decline in enrollment in ABE and ELL in the NR and SN. That's the difference between 2013-14 enrollment and 2016-17 enrollment.

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- The total enrollment for 2013-14, across ABE and ELL, was 10,244 (full-time equivalent spaces)
- The total enrollment for 2016-17, across ABE and ELL, was 6,692
- Difference = 35% decline

These numbers came from the Comms Director, Rodney Porter. He'll be on-site at the event on Tuesday if you have questions or want more information. His number is 250-889-7494.

s.13

Let me know if you have any other questions about this before Tuesday morning.

Cara

**From:** [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#); [Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX](#); [Nash, Amber PREM:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX](#); [LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX](#); [Jones, JJ GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Final PJH materials for Tuesday  
**Date:** Sunday, August 6, 2017 5:03:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [20170808 NR\\_ABE\\_final.pdf](#)  
[20170808 QA\\_ABE\\_final.docx](#)  
[20170808 SN\\_ABE\\_final.docx](#)

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Hi all,

Here are the Premier's final materials for Tuesday:

- News Release (in final with BC gov logo - we will issue the release province-wide as soon as the announcement is made)
- Speaking Notes
- Q and A

The AVED Comms Director will bring printed copies of the NR to the event.

Cara

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2017PREM0071-001404  
Aug. 8, 2017

Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
Ministry of Education

### **Premier Horgan restores funding for Adult Basic Education**

VICTORIA – The British Columbia government is eliminating tuition fees on Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English Language Learning (ELL) programs, opening the door for tens of thousands of people to upgrade their education and skills every year.

“We’re committed to making it easier for British Columbians to get ahead,” said Premier John Horgan. “By eliminating these fees, we’re tearing down the roadblocks to the basic education and skills people need to improve their lives.

“The action we’re taking today gives hope and help to people throughout the province and is a long-term investment in B.C.’s economy.”

Today’s announcement at Camosun College in Victoria reverses action taken by the previous government in 2015 to impose tuition fees for ABE and ELL learners. Under that 2015 policy, Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning fees were set by each institution up to a maximum of \$1,600 per semester of full-time studies, the equivalent of the average cost of tuition for an arts and science undergraduate program. Enrolment in Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs subsequently dropped almost 35% from 10,244 full-time equivalent spaces in 2013-14 to 6,692 full-time equivalent spaces in 2016-17.

“Our province can’t afford to lose students who are keen to learn or advance their skills training in the post-secondary sector because of financial barriers,” said Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Minister Melanie Mark. “I’m proud we’re taking this action to expand opportunities for ABE and ELL students to thrive in the workforce and achieve academic success.”

“The numbers told the story – tuition fees on ABE and ELL programs shut people out. We’re re-opening those doors,” said Minister of Education Rob Fleming. “Now any British Columbian can go back to school free of charge, upgrade their skills and build a better life for themselves and their families.”

**Contacts:**

Jen Holmwood  
Deputy Communications Director  
Premier's Office  
250 818-4881

Rodney Porter  
Communications Director  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and  
Training  
250 889-7494  
[rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca)

Sean Leslie  
Communications Manager  
Ministry of Education  
Office: 250 356-8485  
Cell: 250 893-4403

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: [www.gov.bc.ca/connect](http://www.gov.bc.ca/connect)

## **Questions and Answers ABE/ELL Announcement**

### **You've reduced costs for ABE and ELL learners. What about other post-secondary learners?**

- We will make life more affordable for students. We committed to:
  - Interest-free student loans
  - Completion grants
- We intend to follow through on those commitments. Stay tuned.

### **Any funding support for university students starting school this September?**

- I'll have more to say when we introduce the Budget.
- Our focus today is helping people who want to upgrade their skills, learn English, and build a better life for themselves and their families

### **How many people will benefit from tuition-free ABE and ELL?**

- Thousands of people enroll each year, all across BC
- The previous Liberal government introduced tuition fees for ABE and ELL, shutting the door on thousands of learners
- Enrollment dropped by 35% over last three years
- With this announcement, we're opening the doors
- We're helping people get ahead

### **How much does ELL/ABE cost to enroll now?**

- In post-secondary it can cost up to \$1,600 a semester for full-time studies
- School districts set the costs for K-12 academic upgrading
- When tuition was added, these programs became inaccessible and unaffordable to many people – enrollment went down as a result
- We're making them tuition free again, opening the doors to a better future for people

### **How much will this cost?**

- You'll see the numbers reflected in our September Budget update
- Let's remember that adult education and English language learning used to be tuition-free. The previous government changed that, shutting the door on thousands of would-be learners.

- We're opening the doors to education for people who want to upgrade their skills, get a better job and help their families get ahead
  - New Canadians
  - Students who want to achieve their dream of going to university
  - Adults who want to go back and earn a high school diploma
  - Or learn a new skill for work

**What about students who have already enrolled and paid?**

- That's an administrative question – probably best for the schools to answer
- Any student enrolled English Language Learning or Adult Basic Education programs will not pay tuition as of September 1, 2017.

**What about the other costs of attending school? Will you help with those?**

- Today's announcement makes ABE and ELL tuition-free – that's a huge barrier removed.
- We have a plan to make life more affordable. Today's announcement is just one way we're helping people get ahead.

**ABE Announcement**  
**August 8, 2017**

**Speech objectives:**

- Announce we're following through on our commitment on ABE and ELL
- Talk about why you care about opening the doors of opportunity
- Focus on people – how this is going to help families

**Format:**

- Stand-up with podium and mic
- Premier to speak first, followed by two students (former and current)
- Q and A to follow

**Audience:**

- Invited guests from the post-secondary community
- Students who will benefit from this change
- Local media

**Special mentions:**

- s.22
- s.22
- Education Minister Rob Fleming
- Advanced Education Minister Melanie Mark
- Camosun College Board Chair

**SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE**

- Traditional territories:
  - Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples
- Good morning everyone
- Thanks for being here
- Joined by Ministers:
  - Melanie Mark, Advanced Ed
  - Rob Fleming, Education
- As we deliver on a commitment that will:
  - Make life more affordable
  - Give help and hope to people
  - And a chance to get ahead



- Education is the great equalizer
- It can open the door to
  - a good-paying job
  - and a secure future
- For many, it can be the key to a better life
  - New Canadians who want to improve their language skills
  - Students getting ready for university
  - Adult learners who need to upgrade their skills for work
  - Or earn their high school diploma

- When the previous government brought in tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning:
  - Enrollment plummeted
  - Down 35% over three years
  - Shutting people out
- Thousands of people missed out because they couldn't afford it
- We can't afford to leave people behind
- We will help them get ahead
  - By investing in their education
  - And we will grow BC's economy as we do it

- As of September 1, Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning are once again tuition-free
- Opening the door to tens of thousands of British Columbians
- Any person who wants to upgrade their skills and build a better life, we are here to support you in doing that

**From:** [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FOR SIGNOFF: ABE/ELL materials  
**Date:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 5:15:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [20170807 MA\\_ABE\\_finaldraft.docx](#)  
[20170808 NR\\_ABE\\_finaldraft.docx](#)  
[20170808 SN\\_ABE\\_finaldraft.docx](#)  
[20170808 QA\\_ABE\\_finaldraft.docx](#)

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Hi Jen,

Here are the materials for signoff by the Premier's office:

- Media Advisory
- News release
- Speaking notes
- Qs and As

Please reply and let me know if these are OK to proceed to final.

Thanks,  
Cara

Aug. 7, 2017

Media Advisory

Office of the Premier / Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training /  
Ministry of Education

VICTORIA – Premier John Horgan, Advanced Education, Skills and Training Minister Melanie Mark and Education Minister Rob Fleming will be joined by students, staff and faculty from Camosun College to make an announcement that will make life more affordable for people, and help them build a better life for themselves and their families.

Event Date: Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location:

Camosun College, Lansdowne Campus  
3100 Foul Bay Road  
Wilna Thomas Cultural Centre, Room 234

Special Instructions:

Complimentary parking reserved for media in Lot P1 (entrance off Lansdowne Rd)

Media can also call in (listen only) to hear the announcement.

Dial-in Information:

From Vancouver: 604 681-0260

From elsewhere in British Columbia: 1 877 353-9184

Participant passcode: 53206#

Media Contact:

Rodney Porter

Communications Director

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

250 889-07494

rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca

Sean Leslie, Communications Manager  
Ministry of Education  
Office 250 356-8485  
Cell 250 893-4403

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
[release number]  
Aug. 8, 2017

Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and  
Training  
Ministry of Education

### **Premier Horgan restores funding for Adult Basic Education**

VICTORIA - The NDP government is eliminating tuition fees on Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs, opening the door for tens of thousands of British Columbians to upgrade their education and skills every year.

“We’re committed to making it easier for British Columbians to get ahead,” said Premier John Horgan. “By eliminating these fees, we’re tearing down the roadblocks to the basic education and skills people need to improve their lives.

“The action we’re taking today gives hope and help to people across the province, and is a long-term investment in B.C.’s economy.”

Today’s announcement at Camosun College in Victoria reverses action taken by the previous government in 2015 to impose tuition fees for ABE and ELL learners. Under that 2015 policy, Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning fees were set by each institution up to a maximum of \$1,600 per semester of full-time studies, the equivalent of the average cost of tuition for an arts and science undergraduate program. Enrolment in Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs subsequently dropped almost 35% from 10,244 full-time equivalent spaces in 2013-14 to 6,692 full-time equivalent spaces in 2016-17.

“Our province can’t afford to lose students who are keen to learn or advance their skills training in the post-secondary sector because of financial barriers,” said Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Minister Melanie Mark. “I’m proud we’re taking this action to expand opportunities for ABE and ELL students to thrive in the workforce and achieve academic success.”

“The numbers told the story – tuition fees on ABE and ELL programs shut people out. We’re re-opening those doors,” said Minister of Education Rob Fleming. “Now any British Columbian can go back to school free of charge, upgrade their skills and build a better life for themselves and their families.”

Media Contacts:

Rodney Porter, Communications Director  
Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
250 889-7494  
[rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca)

Sean Leslie, Communications Manager

Ministry of Education  
Office 250 356-8485  
Cell 250 893-4403



## **Questions and Answers**

### **ABE/ELL Announcement**

#### **You've reduced costs for ABE and ELL learners. What about other post-secondary learners?**

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#### **Any funding support for university students starting school this September?**

- I'll have more to say when we introduce the Budget.
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- Thousands of people enroll each year, all across BC
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#### **How much will this cost?**

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- We're opening the doors to education for people who want to upgrade their skills, get a better job and help their families get ahead
  - New Canadians
  - Students who want to achieve their dream of going to university
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**ABE Announcement**  
**August 8, 2017**

**Speech objectives:**

- Announce we're following through on our commitment on ABE and ELL
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- Focus on people – how this is going to help families

**Format:**

- Stand-up with podium and mic
- Premier to speak first, followed by two students (former and current)
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**Audience:**

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- Local media

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- s.22
- s.22
- Education Minister Rob Fleming
- Advanced Education Minister Melanie Mark
- Camosun College Board Chair

**SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE**

- Traditional territories:
  - Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples
- Good morning everyone
- Thanks for being here
- Joined by Ministers:
  - Melanie Mark, Advanced Ed
  - Rob Fleming, Education
- As we deliver on a commitment that will:
  - Make life more affordable
  - Give help and hope to people
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- Education is the great equalizer
- It can open the door to
  - a good-paying job
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- For many, it can be the key to a better life
  - New Canadians who want to improve their language skills
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- When the previous government brought in tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning:
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- As of September 1, Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning are once again tuition-free
- Opening the door to tens of thousands of British Columbians
- Any person who wants to upgrade their skills and build a better life, we are here to support you in doing that
- [invite validators to tell their stories]

**From:** [Aaron, Sage PREM:EX](#)  
**To:** [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CFAx: Mark - adult basic education  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 2:50:22 PM

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Transcript seems like MMM did very well.

**From:** tno@gov.bc.ca [mailto:tno@gov.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 1:42 PM  
**Subject:** CFAx: Mark - adult basic education

CFAx (Victoria)  
CFAx Adam Stirling  
08-Aug-2017 11:08

Copyright



Page 25 to/à Page 26

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

**From:** [Blaquiere, Meagan LASS:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Making Life More Affordable  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:16:12 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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FYI

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**Meagan Blaquière** | Communications Officer | New Democrat BC Government Caucus  
☎ 250-356-0997 250-858-1148 ✉ [meagan.blaquiere@leg.bc.ca](mailto:meagan.blaquiere@leg.bc.ca)  
Connect with us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

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**From:** Blaquiere, Meagan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:16 AM  
**To:** NDP Staff and MLAs - All s.17  
**Subject:** FW: Making Life More Affordable

The following release went out.

Please share –

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/2zB7pfQ>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BCNDPCaucus/status/935950092011368448>

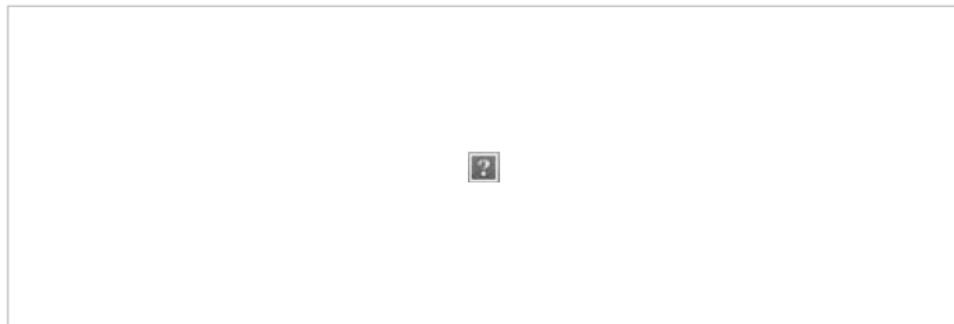
Caucus website: <http://bcndpcaucus.ca/news/making-life-affordable/>

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**Meagan Blaquière** | Communications Officer | New Democrat BC Government Caucus  
☎ 250-356-0997 250-858-1148 ✉ [meagan.blaquiere@leg.bc.ca](mailto:meagan.blaquiere@leg.bc.ca)  
Connect with us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

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**From:** Blaquiere, Meagan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:02 AM  
**Subject:** Making Life More Affordable



<http://bcndpcaucus.ca> 250-208-2554

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**For Immediate Release**  
**Nov. 29, 2017**

**Making Life More Affordable**

**VICTORIA** – As the fall session of the legislature draws to a close, much has been accomplished by the New Democrat government to make life more affordable for people.

Since July, the B.C. government:

- Increased monthly income assistance and disability rates by \$100 to help lift families out of poverty.
- Removed unfair tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges to give commuters well-deserved relief.
- Closed fixed-term lease loopholes so renters are no longer vulnerable to significant and unfair rent increases.
- Invested in homes for people, including 1,700 new affordable housing units and 2,000 modular homes for the homeless. The province is also studying demand-side measures to address the crisis in housing affordability.
- Removed barriers to education and skills training, by making Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs tuition-free
- Started tackling problems and rising costs at ICBC and BC Hydro.
- Raised the minimum wage and put B.C. on the path to a \$15-an-hour via the Fair Wages Commission.
- Began work on a comprehensive poverty reduction plan to lift families out of poverty and give them a chance at a better life.
- Waived tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning, to reduce barriers and help people reach their full potential.

Quote from Premier John Horgan:

“Too many families were left behind for too long. British Columbians deserve a government that works for people. We’re taking the first steps to make life more affordable and help families get ahead.”

**-30-**

**Media contact: Edward May 250-208-2554**

From: [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
To: [GCPE Editors](#)  
Cc: [Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX](#)  
Subject: NR set-up for Tuesday Aug. 8 @ 9:15 a.m.  
Date: Sunday, August 6, 2017 1:16:22 PM  
Attachments: [20170808 NR ABE final.docx](#)

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Hi again Grant,

Please set up the attached News Release:

- Please schedule for 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 8
- Province-wide distribution, including press gallery and all ethnic media
- Media contact info is included in attachment.

Thanks,  
Cara

Page 30 to/à Page 31

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

From: [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
To: [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
Subject: op-ed for review and approval  
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 11:02:07 AM  
Attachments: [ABE-ELL\\_final.docx](#)

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See attached.

Cara

Education is the great equalizer. It opens the door to a good-paying job, and a secure future.

We need to give help, hope and opportunity to people who want to get a basic education to learn the skills they need to join the workforce and build a better life for themselves and their families.

That journey starts with opening the doors to adult basic education and English language learning. These programs should be within reach for everyone, from new Canadians and recent immigrants, to students preparing for university and adult learners upgrading their skills for work.

The previous government put up barriers to a basic education when they introduced tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning in 2015. Fees were set by each institution, but could cost up to \$1,600 per semester of full-time studies, which is the same as the average cost for an arts and science degree program.

Many people could not afford to pay these new tuition fees. As a result, enrolment in Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs dropped 35% from more than 10,000 students a year to just under 6,700 students a year.

We cannot afford to shut thousands of people out of opportunity. Families can't afford it. And B.C.'s economy can't afford it. Our long term economic growth depends on an educated and skilled workforce.

This is why our government is removing the roadblocks to education by eliminating tuition for adult basic education and English language learning starting September 1, 2017.

This change will open the doors to tens of thousands of British Columbians to upgrade their education and skills each year.

By investing in education and opportunity for people, we are making a long-term investment in our economy and our future.

We will continue to make changes that give families relief from high costs and fees, and invest in better services that give people help and hope for a better life.



**From:** [Holmwood, Jen](#) PREM:EX  
**To:** [Dalzell, Danielle](#) GCPE:EX; [Aaron, Sage](#) PREM:EX  
**Cc:** [McGregor, Cara](#) GCPE:EX; [May, Ed](#) LASS:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 20171127-Op\_Ed\_PJH\_NewApproach\_V3\_DRAFT\_DD  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 2:08:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [20171127-Op\\_Ed\\_PJH\\_NewApproach\\_V3\\_DRAFT\\_DD.docx](#)

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A couple of minor changes.

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**From:** Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX  
**Cc:** McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; May, Ed LASS:EX  
**Subject:** 20171127-Op\_Ed\_PJH\_NewApproach\_V3\_DRAFT\_DD

End of session op-ed for approval.

A bit longer than usual.

Let me know what you think.

Danielle

## **Doing politics differently and building a better B.C. for everyone, ~~not just the few at the top~~**

Our government inherited some big problems. For 16 years, the B.C. Liberal government had been operating under the influence of big money, putting the wealthy first, and leaving everyone else behind.

This week marked the end of a busy fall session of the legislature. Our government is doing things differently, collaborating with the Green Caucus, and taking the first steps to make government work for everyone, not just the people at the top.

That includes working across party lines to pass significant legislation to take big money out of politics, give people a say in a fairer voting system, and protect renters from unfair rent hikes. We've also taken concrete steps to make life more affordable, improve the services people count on, and create good jobs throughout B.C.

Under the previous government, B.C. gained an international reputation for being the 'wild west' of campaign fundraising. They took tens of millions in big money donations while looking out for the interests of their wealthy donors. The wealthy and well-connected came first and people paid the price.

We reformed campaign finance rules so that government's actions and decisions benefit everyone, not just those with deep pockets. The days of limitless donations, lack of transparency and foreign and big corporate influence in B.C. politics are over.

We also passed legislation to hold a referendum asking voters if they want a change from our current voting system to a system of proportional representation.

And we fixed the fixed-term lease loophole to protect renters from unfair rent increases. After 16 years of neglect, housing has become too expensive and too hard to find for many families. We're working to make housing more secure and affordable for everyone.

Our September budget update included funding to build more than 1,700 units of affordable housing for families. We're working hard to increase the supply of housing, to find ways to curb speculation in B.C.'s housing market, and to get thousands of modular housing units online to help people off the street.

We're working to make life more affordable for people across the board. Our government cut MSP premiums by 50 per cent, and we're working towards completely eliminating this unfair fee altogether. We removed unfair bridge tolls, increased income assistance and disability payments and made adult basic education and English language learning tuition free. And we're tackling rising costs at ICBC and BC Hydro.

To improve education, we increased funding by \$681-million for our kindergarten-to-Grade 12 education system over three years, and added more than 500 trades training spaces at B.C. colleges and universities, and made college and university tuition-free for former children in care.

We invested \$322 million in province-wide action to stem the overdose emergency and help save lives, and established a standalone Ministry for Mental Health and Addictions as part of our commitment to improve the services people rely on.

And we're getting to work creating good jobs and a sustainable, innovative economy that puts people first.

Instead of focusing on one sector to create jobs, we're working to strengthen traditional industries like forestry and mining, while supporting small business, tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, technology and innovation.

We increased the hourly minimum wage to \$11.35 an hour, established a fair-wage commission to work towards a \$15-an-hour minimum wage in B.C., and lowered the small business tax rate from 2.5 per cent to 2 per cent.

Our government is also supporting people, communities and businesses affected by the recent wildfires, standing up for B.C.'s interests in the face of the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion, making reconciliation with Indigenous peoples a cross-government priority, and making B.C. a leader in the fight against climate change.

It's time for B.C. to work for everyone, not just the few at the top.

We're doing things differently, and working hard to make life better for people.

These are just the first steps. There's much more to come.

**From:** [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lowe, Mike GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: BC Fed  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 9:18:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [20171027 SN BC FED PIH V3.docx](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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**From:** Lowe, Mike GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 9:01 AM  
**To:** Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX  
**Subject:** FW: BC Fed

Hi Jen – just a reminder to please share with me the speaking notes from the premier’s speech for Rodney to make sure he’s got complete KMs for Minister Mark.

Thanks!  
Mike

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**From:** LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 7:32 AM  
**To:** Lowe, Mike GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: BC Fed

Hi Mike.  
I asked around yesterday but couldn’t get an answer -- could you ask someone at the PO if they have a transcript of the Prem’s Friday speech to the Fed and if so, could someone flip it to Rodney below pls?  
Thx very much.

***Marg LeGuilloux***

Executive Director  
Communications - Social Ministries  
GCPE  
778-584-1259

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**From:** Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 9:31 PM  
**To:** LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: BC Fed

Thanks. Just wondering if there’s anything there I can add to our KMs if we’re asked about this...

**Has the Premier given any direction to you on the new rules he announced to the BC Federation of Labour around hiring apprentices on government contracts?**

- The Premier ‘s comments should come as no surprise.

- We ran on a commitment to increase the value of public infrastructure projects by making sure British Columbians really are first in line for jobs.
- We're looking at a number of options to increase local hiring, boost the number of apprentices, and to make sure women, Indigenous people and other equity seeking groups have a fair opportunity.
- For example:
  - Negotiating a new Work Force Development Agreement with the Federal Government to invest in skills training programs that benefit all British Columbians.
  - Implementing apprenticeship ratios on government-funded infrastructure projects to increase participation of equity seeking groups in the skilled workforce.
  - Supporting co-op, apprenticeship and work experience programs for high school and undergraduate students.
- We believe we can do better.
- That's why my ministry is developing policies to address the mandate letter commitments.
- Policies that will truly put B.C. workers first.
- Happy to share those details in the coming months.

Rodney Porter  
 Communications Director  
 B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

**Mobile: 250 889-7494**  
 Email: [rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:rodney.porter@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 8:07 PM  
**To:** Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: BC Fed

Checking.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX" <[Rodney.Porter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rodney.Porter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** 2017-10-30 5:43 PM (GMT-08:00)  
**To:** "LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX" <[Marg.LeGuilloux@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Marg.LeGuilloux@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: BC Fed

Hi Marg; was there a transcript of the premiers address to BC Federation of Labour?

Rodney Porter

B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training  
Mobile 250 889-7494

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Edwardson, Jamie JTST:EX" <[Jamie.Edwardson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jamie.Edwardson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** October 30, 2017 at 2:44:18 PM PDT  
**To:** "Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX" <[Rodney.Porter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rodney.Porter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** BC Fed

I don't suppose there's a transcript of the premier's remarks to the BC Fed convention on Friday?

image001.png



**Jamie Edwardson**

Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives - Labour Market & Information Division  
Ministry of Advanced Education Skills and Training  
250.514.5306 | [Jamie.Edwardson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jamie.Edwardson@gov.bc.ca)

- Thank you Irene
- Give a hand to our performers!
- We're here on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples -- Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- A lot has happened since the last time the BC Fed got together
- We have a new government!

[pause]

- For 16 years, the BC Liberals shut working people out and left families behind.
- Contracts were ripped up...
- Hard-won rights were rolled back...
- And cuts to public services hurt people every day.
- Friends -- it is a new day
- With a new NDP government
- For the first time in 16 years, working people will get a fair shake!



- I'm proud to lead a government that's making life better for people
- Although government is slightly different than I remember
- I had a lot more hair back in the 1990s
- Work and workplaces will always change with the times
- But as trade unionists, our goals must be the same:

- Fair treatment for workers
- Secure and safe work
- And good jobs for people in communities across BC.
- This will always be our fight.
- I will always be in your corner.
- You can count on it.

[pause]

- It's been 101 days since we formed government.

- I'm proud of what we've been able to achieve in that time:
- We made Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning tuition free -- creating opportunity for people
- We eliminated tuition for kids in care -- giving them hope and a chance at a better life
- We removed unfair tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges
- We banned big money in politics

- We lifted social assistance rates by \$100 a month, the first increase in 10 years
- We ended the heartless bus pass clawback for people with disabilities.
- And thanks to your hard work and the Fight for 15 campaign...
- We raised the minimum wage and created a fair wage commission to get us to \$15 an hour
- B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will finally get the raise they deserve.

- The Fair Wage Commission will look at the world of work, not just wages
- We must address unstable and unfair employment...
- And update our labour laws in a changing world.
- We're strengthening public services like health care and education
- And bringing back the Human Rights Commission.
- We're standing up for B.C.'s interests on Kinder Morgan

- We're tackling the challenges of climate change
- We're acting quickly to address the opioid crisis
- We're ending the grizzly bear trophy hunt
- And taking meaningful steps toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.
- We did all of these things while dealing with the worst wildfire season in BC history.

- When communities are in trouble, people come together.
- Many of you stepped up, opened your hearts and homes, and volunteered to help.
- STORY -- PREOC Government workers from every Ministry, communities across the province
- It was a long and difficult fire season
- We got through it because the people of BC stood together.
- And together, we will support communities as they rebuild.

- Friends, if this is what we can accomplish in just 100 days...
- Imagine what we can do in the months and years ahead.
- It's going to take time to clean up the mess the BC Liberals created.
- 16 years of bad choices and neglect really add up.
- Families have been working harder, and falling further behind.
- The BC Liberals only care about the wealthy and well-connected



- They ignored the problems facing real people
- They did nothing while housing costs spiralled out of control
- They ignored a generation of students learning in overcrowded classrooms
- They ignored our seniors, left alone without the care they needed
- They cut supports to vital public services

- And they rolled back rights for working people
- Rights that were hard-fought and fairly bargained.
- The BC Liberals have no respect for workers – and it shows.
- They ripped up contracts.
- Their six dollar-an-hour training wage was a recipe for poverty and exploitation.
- They put up roadblocks to education with sky-high tuition fees

- They eroded skills training and apprenticeships, and increased temporary foreign workers
- The BC Liberals shut working people out.
- That's going to change.
- We've hired thousands of teachers and put resources back in BC classrooms
- So that our kids the education they deserve
- And teachers get the working conditions they bargained for.

- We're going to build roads, schools, and hospitals across our province
- And we'll use Project Labour Agreements to do it.
- Success stories like the Vancouver Island Highway project can happen again.
- It put thousands of local people to work, with good jobs that benefit families and communities.
- PLAs invest in the next generation of skilled workers by providing skills training and apprenticeships

- Including equity hiring to create more opportunities for women and First Nations
- We're going to make workplace safety a priority, and protect workers from the harms of asbestos, the leading cause of workplace deaths
- Because every worker deserves to come home at the end of the day.

[pause]

- Friends, we are working to build a Better BC

- Guided by the values we share: fairness, equality, and opportunity for all.
- **Our government will make life more affordable for people.**
- We'll create safe, affordable universal childcare
- We'll help build housing for people
- We'll bring in fair ferry fares
- And eliminate unfair MSP premiums

- **We'll deliver the services people count on.**
- Including help for people with mental health and addictions, with a stand-alone Ministry of Mental Health
- We'll build hospitals and urgent care centres
- Safer schools with better resources to help students succeed
- And we'll invest in transit and transportation to get people moving

- **We're going to grow our economy to make it work for everyone**
- We'll continue to support traditional industries like forestry and mining.
- We'll fight for a fair deal on softwood lumber
- We'll promote our value added and manufacturing sector...
- To make sure communities benefit from the wealth they helped create.
- We are supporting tourism and film -- two of our fastest growing sectors



- And encouraging new economic activity in our tech sector.
- The people of BC work hard every day to build a better life for themselves and their families.
- It's time they had a government that worked for them.
- Not millionaires or the highest bidder
- But real people.
- Together, we will build a stronger, fairer, more just province where no one is left behind.

- We've only just begun.
- I look forward to building that Better BC with you
- Thank you very much

**From:** [Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#); [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#); [Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX](#); [Nash, Amber PREM:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX](#); [Jones, JJ GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Final PJH materials for Tuesday  
**Date:** Sunday, August 6, 2017 7:41:29 PM

---

Hi,

Not quite final. Quick note: I've asked that the slug be changed to: Premier Horgan removes roadblocks to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs.

Tks,

R

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**From:** McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 06, 2017 5:03 PM  
**To:** Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX; Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX; Nash, Amber PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX; LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX; Jones, JJ GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Final PJH materials for Tuesday

Hi all,

Here are the Premier's final materials for Tuesday:

- News Release (in final with BC gov logo - we will issue the release province-wide as soon as the announcement is made)
- Speaking Notes
- Q and A

The AVED Comms Director will bring printed copies of the NR to the event.

Cara

**From:** [Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#); [GCPE Editors](#)  
**Cc:** [Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: NR set-up for Tuesday Aug. 8 @ 9:15 a.m.  
**Date:** Sunday, August 6, 2017 7:39:48 PM

---

Hi there,

Hey Grant, before this goes out, can you please change the slug to: Premier Horgan removes roadblocks to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs

Tks,

Robb

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**From:** McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 06, 2017 1:16 PM  
**To:** GCPE Editors  
**Cc:** Porter, Rodney GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** NR set-up for Tuesday Aug. 8 @ 9:15 a.m.

Hi again Grant,

Please set up the attached News Release:

- Please schedule for 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 8
- Province-wide distribution, including press gallery and all ethnic media
- Media contact info is included in attachment.

Thanks,  
Cara

**From:** [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
**To:** [Vaughn Palmer](#)  
**Subject:** RE: premier, the fed, victoria, friday....  
**Date:** Monday, October 30, 2017 10:44:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [20171027\\_SN\\_BC\\_FED\\_PJH\\_V3.docx](#)

---

Hi Vaughn,

Here is the text – as you know, he departed from it quite a bit.

Cheers,

Jen

---

**From:** Vaughn Palmer [mailto:vpalmer@shawlink.ca]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 6:34 AM  
**To:** Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX  
**Subject:** premier, the fed, victoria, friday....

Was there a text?

Sage already cautioned us that he, of course, departed from it...still would be interested in seeing please.

can check against delivery, because I was there.

thank you.

--vaughn

- Thank you Irene
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- The Fair Wage Commission will look at the world of work, not just wages
- We must address unstable and unfair employment...
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- And they rolled back rights for working people
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- **We're going to grow our economy to make it work for everyone**
- We'll continue to support traditional industries like forestry and mining.
- We'll fight for a fair deal on softwood lumber
- We'll promote our value added and manufacturing sector...
- To make sure communities benefit from the wealth they helped create.
- We are supporting tourism and film -- two of our fastest growing sectors

- And encouraging new economic activity in our tech sector.
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- It's time they had a government that worked for them.
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- But real people.
- Together, we will build a stronger, fairer, more just province where no one is left behind.



- We've only just begun.
- I look forward to building that Better BC with you
- Thank you very much

From: [McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX](#)  
To: [Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX](#)  
Subject: Update to SN for ABE/ELL  
Date: Sunday, August 6, 2017 1:32:10 PM  
Attachments: [20170808 SN ABE final.docx](#)

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Hi Jen,

FYI -- at the end of the speaking notes I wrote a direction for the Premier to turn over the mic to the two validators. However, I've just learned that it's actually the board chair of Camosun who will then come up to the podium and introduce the two students with a bit of background about their stories.

I'm sure this will all be reviewed in the green room before the event, but here is a revised copy of SN with the call-to-validators removed (everything else is the same).

Thanks,  
Cara

**ABE Announcement**  
**August 8, 2017**

**Speech objectives:**

- Announce we're following through on our commitment on ABE and ELL
- Talk about why you care about opening the doors of opportunity
- Focus on people – how this is going to help families

**Format:**

- Stand-up with podium and mic
- Premier to speak first, followed by two students (former and current)
- Q and A to follow

**Audience:**

- Invited guests from the post-secondary community
- Students who will benefit from this change
- Local media

**Special mentions:**

- s.22
- s.22
- Education Minister Rob Fleming
- Advanced Education Minister Melanie Mark
- Camosun College Board Chair

**SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE**

- Traditional territories:
  - Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples
- Good morning everyone
- Thanks for being here
- Joined by Ministers:
  - Melanie Mark, Advanced Ed
  - Rob Fleming, Education
- As we deliver on a commitment that will:
  - Make life more affordable
  - Give help and hope to people
  - And a chance to get ahead

- Education is the great equalizer
- It can open the door to
  - a good-paying job
  - and a secure future
- For many, it can be the key to a better life
  - New Canadians who want to improve their language skills
  - Students getting ready for university
  - Adult learners who need to upgrade their skills for work
  - Or earn their high school diploma

- When the previous government brought in tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning:
  - Enrollment plummeted
  - Down 35% over three years
  - Shutting people out
- Thousands of people missed out because they couldn't afford it
- We can't afford to leave people behind
- We will help them get ahead
  - By investing in their education
  - And we will grow BC's economy as we do it

- As of September 1, Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning are once again tuition-free
- Opening the door to tens of thousands of British Columbians
- Any person who wants to upgrade their skills and build a better life, we are here to support you in doing that

**From:** s.17  
**To:** [Nash, Amber PREM:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Aug 8 ELL/ABE announcement  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 14, 2018 10:06:14 AM

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**From:** Welgush, Lindsey GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 10:06 AM  
**To:** Lloyd, Evan GCPE:EX; s.17  
**Cc:** Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Aug 8 ELL/ABE announcement

Hello everyone,

This briefing has been scheduled for 4:00pm (4:05pm, to be exact) today at the legislature with Andrew Weaver and Liz Lilly.

Regards,

## **Lindsey Welgush**

### **Senior Executive Assistant**

Government Communications and Public Engagement

[Lindsey.Welgush@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lindsey.Welgush@gov.bc.ca)

(778) 698-4798

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**From:** Lloyd, Evan GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 8:38 AM  
**To:** s.17 Welgush, Lindsey GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Gibbs, Robb GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Aug 8 ELL/ABE announcement

JJ can you assist me in this – I will be briefing Weaver on event. Possibly as early as this p.m.

Lindsey can you please check with Liz – Green's COS to arrange a time that works – either today or Monday.

---

**From:** Geoff Meggs <[Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 7:43 PM  
**To:** "Sanford, Donna L GCPE:EX" <[Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca)>, "Lloyd, Evan GCPE:EX" <[Evan.Lloyd@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Lloyd@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** JJ Jones <[JJ.Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:JJ.Jones@gov.bc.ca)>, "Clark, Layne PREM:EX" <[Layne.Clark@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Layne.Clark@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Aug 8 ELL/ABE announcement

Thanks Donna

I copied to Evan Lloyd - he can ensure Mr. Weaver is advised



Geoff

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 2, 2017, at 6:23 PM, Sanford, Donna L GCPE:EX <[Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hello Geoff. Please see note below from JJ Jones at GCPE re: planned announcement at Camosun College in Andrew Weaver's riding re: Adult Basic Education, Tues Aug. 8. JJ can provide additional details. Would you like me to advise Liz directly? Do you want to discuss approach to Mr Weaver? Pls advise.

Thank you,

Donna

---

**From:** Jones, JJ GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** August-02-17 12:38 PM  
**To:** Sanford, Donna L GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** ELL/ABE announcement

Hi Donna,

Just writing to flag that we are likely to be announcing the removal of tuition from ABE/ELL on Tuesday at Camosun's Landsdowne Campus.

That is in Mr. Weaver's constituency.

We're nailing down the details but I wanted to check with you about how we could ensure we are honouring our commitments and treating our colleagues respectfully in this matter.

Cheers,

JJ

JJ – Manager, Strategic Planning – Cabinet Priorities  
Cell: 250-889-6308 – email: [jj.jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:jj.jones@gov.bc.ca)