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Information Note

Advice to Minister Selina Robinson

Date: February 25, 2023

Cliff #: 128194

Issue: Post-Secondary Funding Formula Review

Background / Facts:

- In March 2022 government announced a sector-wide review of how it funds operations at public post-secondary institutions (the Funding Review), based on direction from the 2020 Minister's mandate letter.
- The focus of the Funding Review is on the operational funding model for public post-secondary institutions. The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS) provides around \$2.4 billion annually in operational funding to the 25 public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) in the province.
- Don Wright has been engaged as an external consultant and engagement lead for the Funding Review. Mr. Wright led stakeholder engagement between May and August 2022, with over 40 targeted engagement sessions with the post-secondary sector including individual meetings with each of the 25 PSIs.
- PSFS received 50 written submissions in total from institutions and other stakeholders including student, labour and sector associations, and public post-secondary institutions, which have been posted publicly.
- s.13
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Analysis:

- The Funding Review was planned in two phases: an engagement phase and a formula development phase.
- During the engagement phase expectations have been set with stakeholders that a summary report would be released in Fall 2022, followed by a Final Report containing key findings in Fall 2023. s.12; s.13
- s.13
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Conclusion:

- s.13

Appendix:^{s.13}

Attachments:

1. s.13

2.

Contact: *Bobbi Plecas, Deputy Minister*
 Jo White, Assistant Deputy Minister

Reviewed by			
Dir:	ED:	ADM: JW	DM: BP

Mandate Letter Deliverable



Ministry	Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST)
Mandate commitment	Funding Formula Review - Public Post Secondary Education Funding Review s.13
What the initiative will achieve or problem it will address	<p>The mandate commitment is to conduct a funding review of post-secondary education operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success.</p> <p>s.13</p> <p>The review will seek to achieve three main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a funding model that equitably distributes provincial financial resources across the public post-secondary sector. • Align provincial funding with the post-secondary education and skills training needs of British Columbians, including recognizing public post-secondary institutions as key drivers of regional economies. • Support students to succeed by ensuring access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education and expanding critical student supports.

Scope of Initiative	<p>The review focuses only on block funding provided to the 25 public post-secondary institutions for general operations, which represents approximately 75% of government operating grants. Targeted funding, which represents approximately 25% of institutions' operating grants for high-demand occupations such as health and technology, is not within the scope of this review.</p> <p>Collective bargaining issues such as salary and workload, trades training funding, capital funding, and legislative changes are also out of scope of the review.</p> <p>During the engagement phase, Don Wright and Ministry staff met with key sector partners such as all 25 public post-secondary institutions, sector organizations, student, labour and sector associations, and the business community in over 40 targeted engagement sessions. The review has also received 50 written submissions as of October 2022. Engagement with Indigenous Partners is continuing.</p>
Status Update and Implementation Timeline (high-level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2022: Funding Review project and lead (Don Wright) announced • April-August 2022: Targeted Sector Engagement • Fall 2022 (TBD): Release of Engagement Summary / <i>What We Heard Report</i>. • s.13; s.12 • • • • • •

Information Note Advice to Transition Team

Date: November 15, 2022

Cliff #: 127119

Issue: Relevance of Post-Secondary Funding Formula Review to the Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow Plan

Background / Facts:

- The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) is conducting a review of the funding model for public post-secondary institution operating grants to ensure post-secondary institutions (PSIs) have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success. Please see Attachment 1 for a description of the Funding Formula Review (Funding Review).
- s.13
- s.12
- s.13
- s.12; s.13

Analysis:

- s.12; s.13
- s.13
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- s.12

s.12

- s.12; s.13

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Next Steps:

- s.13
- s.12
- s.12; s.13
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Attachment(s): *1. Funding Formula Review Overview*

Contact: *Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training*

EXECUTIVE PRIORITY REPORTING – ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROJECT

Project Name	Funding Formula Review
Accountable	Jason Butler, ADM
Supporting Role	Funding Formula Review Project Office
Responsible	Rachel Franklin, Executive Director

DELIVERABLE	Post-Secondary Funding Formula Review – Phase 1/2
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MILESTONES		
Activity	Completion Date	Status
1. Phase 1 Engagement	August 2022	Completed
2. What We Heard Report	October 2022	In Progress
Phase 2:		
3. PSI Technical Advisory Group established	August-Oct. 2022	In Progress
4. Ministry Workstreams established	July-August 2022	Completed
5. Discussion Paper preparation	Fall/Winter	In Progress
6. Development of funding model <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AEST workstreams meeting bi-weekly Data and policy analysis Engagement with PSI Technical Advisory Group Further sector engagement 	Fall-Spring 2023	In Progress

s.12; s.13

STATUS REPORT
What was achieved since last update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing <i>What We Heard</i> report incorporating feedback from 40 targeted sector engagement and 48 written submissions. Expected to be finalized mid-October. Finance Workstream and Policy and Governance Workstream have been established to center Ministry collaboration in phase 2 of the project. s.13
What will be achieved in the next two weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> s.13