



## BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

**DATE:** March 3, 2015

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

**ISSUE:** s.13,s.16,s.17

**RECOMMENDED OPTION:**  
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### BACKGROUND:

The U-Pass BC Program (Program) began in 2011 and allowed all 11 public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) in Metro Vancouver to join under the same terms (\$30 per month).

The Province of British Columbia (Province) has contributed up to \$11M per year to the Program (approximately \$9 monthly per student) since 2011. The provincial share was based on TransLink estimates of the revenues it would otherwise have received if students were paying non-discounted fares, or that other passengers would have paid if the capacity was not taken up by the U-Pass students.

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Student Associations were required to hold referendums to approve a mandatory fee increase to their monthly passes to \$35 to \$36.75 and finally to \$38 in the last year of the CA.

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### DISCUSSION:

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The PSIs, TransLink and the Province have now invested over \$3M in new technologies that allow eligible U-Pass BC students to register and renew their U-Pass BC/Compass Card online. Student usage of the Compass cards will provide useful data on total U-Pass BC usage and travel patterns.

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Currently, the U-Pass BC Program is only offered to publicly funded PSIs. The one exception is the Native Education College (NEC). NEC's program is being administered by Vancouver Community College, temporarily allowing it to qualify for entry to the U-Pass BC program. <sup>s.13</sup>  
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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

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**APPROVED / NOT APPROVED**

Hon. Todd Stone  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

**April 28, 2015**

Date

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