



Our Ref. 90170

April 12, 2012

Professor Stephen Toope, President, The University of British Columbia  
Professor Andrew Petter, President, Simon Fraser University  
Dr. David Turpin, President, University of Victoria  
Dr. George Iwama, President, University of Northern British Columbia  
Dr. Allan R. Cahoon, President, Royal Roads University  
Dr. Alan Shaver, President, Thompson Rivers University  
Dr. Don Wright, President, British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Dr. Kris Bulcroft, President, Capilano University  
Mr. Jack McGee, President, Justice Institute of British Columbia  
Dr. Ron Burnett, President, Emily Carr University of Art and Design  
Mr. John McKendry, President, Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
Mr. Ken Tourand, President, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
Dr. Mark Evered, President, University of the Fraser Valley  
Dr. Ralph Nilson, President, Vancouver Island University  
Dr. David Ross, President, Langara College  
Dr. Jan Lindsay, President, North Island College  
Ms. Kathryn Laurin, President, Camosun College  
Ms. Laurie Rancourt, President, Northern Lights College  
Mr. John Bowman, President, College of New Caledonia  
Dr. Denise Henning, President, Northwest Community College  
Dr. Nick Rubidge, President, College of the Rockies  
Mr. Jim Hamilton, President, Okanagan College  
Dr. Scott McAlpine, President, Douglas College  
Mr. Angus Graeme, President, Selkirk College  
Ms. Kathy Kinloch, President, Vancouver Community College

Dear Presidents:

Thank you to all the presidents of British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions for your letter of February 28, 2012, sent to the Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education, regarding *Budget and Fiscal Plan 2012/13-2014/15*. I am pleased to respond on behalf of Minister Yamamoto.

Budget 2012 establishes the foundation to ensure government can provide a balanced budget by 2013/14, while protecting public services and encouraging investment and job creation. By controlling spending and protecting British Columbia's AAA credit rating, Budget 2012 ensures future generations will receive the public services that today's generation receives.

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Further, Budget 2012 protects core operating grants for all institutions in fiscal 2012/13, in addition to providing over \$9 million in new funding for health and medical programs, as well as other priorities noted in *Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan*.

The three-year fiscal plan provides over \$460 million in capital funding for the post-secondary sector, which includes over \$260 million targeted directly to routine capital for maintaining safe, functional and efficient facilities to support the delivery of post-secondary programs.

The \$20 million base budget reductions in 2013/14 and a further \$30 million reduction in 2014/15 are specifically targeted to administrative efficiencies, and are not directed at services and program delivery.

As we have discussed, the Ministry is committed to working together with the presidents of public post-secondary institutions to provide the necessary leadership and coordination which will ensure a common-sense approach is taken to explore opportunities and provide solutions that ensure the budget reductions can be managed without impacting direct program delivery.

As noted in your letter, institutions have undertaken measures in recent years aimed at reducing costs. Going forward, a focused system-wide approach is required to create efficiencies that extend between and beyond individual organizations.

The Ministry shares your commitment to a strong, world-renowned, public post-secondary system in British Columbia. I am confident that, as the Ministry and the post-secondary system work together to navigate the challenges of the economic environment, we will maintain our reputation and our commitment to a post-secondary system of the highest calibre.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland, CMA, FCMA  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Advanced Education

pc: Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education  
Honourable Kevin Falcon, Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier  
Ms. Robin Ciceri, President, The Research Universities' Council of BC  
Mr. Jim Reed, President, BC Colleges  
Ms. Ruth Wittenberg, President, BC Association of Institutes and Universities