

**Ministry of Post-Secondary Education
And Future Skills**

**2022/23
Annual Service Plan Report**

August 2023



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills 2022/23 Annual Service Plan Report compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2022/23 - 2024/25 Service Plan published in 2022. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson'.

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
August 16, 2023

Minister of State's Accountability Statement

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills 2022/23 Annual Service Plan Report compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan published in 2022. Under the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Act, I am accountable for achievement of the following results for 2022/23:



- Prepare workplans to fulfil each commitment identified in the mandate letter of December 7, 2022, to the Minister of State for Workforce Development;
- Engage with non-profit organizations, new international arrivals, and community leaders to identify issues and barriers preventing internationally trained workers from working in their fields to the full extent of their abilities;
- Evaluate approaches taken in other jurisdictions and propose additional measures to advance a successful foreign credential recognition program;
- Support the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills to ensure government can respond quickly if private institutions promote or offer sub-standard education to international students, and to advance the development of protections for international students that support their fair treatment across the sector;
- Submit a report to Cabinet on these results on or before March 31, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Mercier', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Honourable Andrew Mercier
Minister of State for Workforce Development
August 16, 2023

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Letter from the Minister

It is my honour to present the 2022/23 Annual Service Plan Report for the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills. This report reflects progress made on goals since February 2022, a period that saw the province at the forefront of Canada's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic while addressing new and developing challenges. For the past few years we've all experienced significant global challenges, such as affordability and the skills gap. Through it all, we continued to make investments in British Columbians and put people first.

It's people that are at the very centre of everything that our ministry does. Since I've been minister, I've had the pleasure of meeting students and learners, hearing about what's important to them, including their concerns around affordability, accessibility, and equality. I've also engaged with employers and industry leaders throughout the province to ensure we are working together to develop the talented and skilled workforce needed to sustain and grow our economy.

Over the next decade B.C. will have over one million job openings with nearly 80% requiring some form of education beyond high school. Ensuring post-secondary education and training are affordable and accessible is key to closing the skills gap, meeting today's labour force needs and ensuring all people in B.C. can learn the skills they need. Connecting British Columbians to the skills training they need to thrive also improves the ability of employers to build the labour force they need to be prosperous and help grow our economy.

We've supported British Columbians who need to improve their skills through short-term training for in-demand jobs. We introduced Skilled Trades Certification to ensure trades workers meet the same high-quality standards and have the most up-to-date skills.

In addition to providing a range of student financial assistance programs, including the B.C. Access Grant, we have improved affordability by building more student housing units as part of [Homes for BC](#), our government's 10-year housing plan. We also increased priority programming at public post-secondary institutions for health and human services jobs, and expanded tech programs adding 2,900 spaces for students. These and the other actions captured within this report set the foundation for accelerating talent development and skills training across the province.

Our ministry is focused on fostering lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia. We continued to engage and collaborate with Indigenous communities and partners to ensure post-secondary education and skills training programs are relevant, responsive and receptive to the needs of Indigenous communities and learners.

Embracing diversity is key to building a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone. Our ministry continues to ensure diverse perspectives are embedded in our programs, policies, services and in our workplace.

I am proud of all that our ministry has helped accomplish during these challenging and everchanging times. I look forward to the collaborative development and delivery of programs and services across the post-secondary education sector that will ensure people can get good jobs and build rewarding lives here in British Columbia.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson'.

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
August 16, 2023

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

This annual service plan report has been developed to meet the requirements of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets stated in the service plan for the reported year.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2020 and [Minister Anne Kang's 2020 Mandate Letter](#) shaped the goals, objectives, performance measures and financial plan outlined in the [Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan](#) and the actual results reported on in this annual report.

Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills plays a key role in promoting a collaborative approach for our education and skills training partners to contribute to the prosperity of all British Columbians, the resilience of our post-secondary education and skills training system, and to ensure employers can access the talent they need and our skilled workforce continues to grow. The ministry provides leadership and direction for post-secondary education and skills training across the province to help British Columbians succeed and reach their full potential.

Underlying our work is the recognition that an accessible, inclusive, responsive and future-focused post-secondary, skills and trades training system provides pathways into good-paying, high-opportunity jobs and supports economic growth.

The ministry is committed to lasting and meaningful partnerships with Indigenous peoples in B.C. as they move towards self-determination. This commitment is in accordance with British Columbia's ongoing reconciliation and recognition commitments as reflected in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

To support inclusive and affordable access, the ministry provides targeted supports and programs for Indigenous people as well as for underrepresented groups, such as former youth in care, those with disabilities, older workers, youth, and women in the trades. The ministry reduces financial barriers with a suite of needs-based student financial assistance programs available through [StudentAid BC](#). The ministry is also making it easier for students to navigate British Columbia's post-secondary system through [EducationPlannerBC](#).

To give learners the modern tools and spaces they need to prepare for 21st century careers, the ministry makes capital investments in education and training facilities and equipment throughout the province.

To prepare British Columbians for careers and high opportunity occupations, we work with post-secondary partners, employers, industry, social service providers, First Nations, Métis Nation BC, and other Indigenous organizations throughout B.C. to align and deliver relevant education and training programs and services. The ministry also provides digital information, tools and resources through WorkBC.ca, including the BC Labour Market Outlook, so British Columbians can make informed decisions about their career planning and skills training opportunities and employers from across the province can prepare for labour market changes.

The ministry provides oversight for the following Crown corporations: [SkilledTradesBC](#) (formerly the Industry Training Authority) and the [British Columbia Council for International Education](#) (BCCIE).

Operating Environment

The past year for B.C. was one of perseverance in the face of adversity. Around the world as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic eased we were confronted by new and developing challenges, such as global conflict, inflation, ongoing supply chain issues, labour shortages and the impacts of climate change as experienced through wildfires and floods. While these challenges are not unique to British Columbia, they demonstrated the vital role post-secondary education and skills training serves in shaping people's lives and ensuring the prosperity and success of British Columbia's future.

The 2022 Edition of the Labour Market Outlook forecasts that over the next decade B.C. will have more than one million job openings with nearly 80% requiring some form of post-secondary education or training. To help meet this demand we continued to invest in programs, supports and resources that help thousands of British Columbians retrain or improve their skills, access and afford post-secondary education and training, and provided information and resources to make informed decisions about career options.

As with the pandemic, the impacts of new and developing challenges were not felt equally across all industries and demographic groups. The most vulnerable people as well as workers in certain sectors, continued to experience greater impacts to their employment income, mental health, and career trajectories. Indigenous people were also disproportionately impacted. The ministry continued to collaborate with our partners to deliver and enhance programs, supports, and targeted programs to address the needs of those most effected.

Internally, two government branches were transferred into the ministry in December 2022. The Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG) and the Credential Recognition Improvement Branch (CRIB). The OSPG is a centre of expertise for professional governance of regulatory bodies outside of the health sector and is responsible for administering the Professional Governance Act. The CRIB provides oversight and advice on the processes used to assess the equivalency education, skills and work experience from outside of Canada compared to B.C. standards. This new alignment aims to help further enable fair, transparent and efficient foreign credential recognition processes here in B.C.

In February 2022, the *StrongerBC Economic Plan* signalled the forthcoming *StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan* - a generational commitment to accelerate talent development and skills training across the province, and to drive inclusive and clean growth. Creating the Plan would require the ministry to collaborate across government and work with other ministries to conduct targeted engagements with over 850 individuals including sectoral, regional and Indigenous partners. This work was done in addition to the actions captured within this report. While publicly launched on May 2, 2023, outside the scope of this report, it represents a pivotal effort which the ministry has led in helping build a StrongerBC for everyone by making investments and policy changes so post-secondary education and skills training are more affordable and accessible for all.

Economic Statement

After rebounding rapidly in 2021, British Columbia's economy saw slower yet strong growth in 2022. B.C.'s real GDP growth of 3.6 per cent last year was the fourth highest among provinces (tied with Ontario) and grew at the same pace as the national average, following growth of 6.2 per cent in 2021. Growth in B.C.'s real GDP was mostly supported by service-producing industries such as transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and professional, scientific and technical services. Goods-producing industries also experienced growth led by construction.

While B.C.'s recovery broadened in 2022, it remained uneven as sectors such as transportation and warehousing; accommodation and food services; and arts, entertainment and recreation have yet to fully recover to pre-pandemic levels. B.C.'s labour market continued to grow in 2022, with employment growth of 3.2 per cent and an average unemployment rate of 4.6 per cent, while wages and salaries increased by 10.8 per cent. Consumer spending on goods grew slowly after a rapid expansion at the beginning of the recovery and nominal retail sales posted overall growth of 3.1 per cent. Last year, prices rose dramatically as strong demand for goods and services was met with lingering supply-chain challenges and high prices for global commodities following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

In 2022, B.C.'s inflation rate averaged 6.9 per cent, the fastest annual rate since 1982, and up from 2.8 per cent in 2021. B.C. housing starts totalled 46,721 units in 2022, down 1.9 per cent compared to the previous year. Despite the decline, housing starts in 2022 were the second highest on record. Home sales fell sharply in 2022 as they adjusted to higher mortgage rates not seen since 2008. B.C. MLS home sales decreased by 35.2 per cent in 2022 compared to 2021. Meanwhile the MLS average home sale price rose by 7.4 per cent in 2022 because of strength early in the year, despite monthly declines in 9 of the last 10 months of the year.

On the external front, B.C.'s international merchandise exports grew by 20.4 per cent, boosted by strong commodity prices in the first half of 2022.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results

Goal 1: British Columbians have access to inclusive, responsive, and relevant post-secondary education and training to reach their full potential

Objective 1.1: Improve affordability and reduce barriers to ensure post-secondary education and training is accessible for all British Columbians

Affordable and accessible post-secondary education and skills training is fundamental to ensuring people have the skills needed for current and future jobs, and employers have the skilled workforce they need to adapt and grow.

Key results

- Built more new student housing units as part of [Homes for BC](#), government's 10-year housing plan. As of February 2023:
 - 4,735 beds via provincial government loans/grants.
 - 3,031 beds via Public Post-Secondary Institution self-financing and partnerships.
- Increased affordability through the student financial assistance program, including the B.C. Access Grant with \$34.6 million disbursed in up-front, needs-based non-repayable financial assistance.
- Worked with partners to further improve opportunities for former youth in government care through the Tuition Waiver Program (TWP). Approximately 950 youth formerly in care accessed tuition waivers to pursue post-secondary education and skills training. About 40% of students accessing the TWP are Indigenous and of those about 70% are female.
- Continued support for Contact North BC education access centres delivering online and distance education across northern B.C. The 22 centres, 19 of which were developed in partnership with local First Nations, provided post-secondary access to 1,636 students in their communities.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure, the ministry made post-secondary education and skills training more affordable and accessible. Student access to affordable housing was improved while prioritising Indigenous learners and current and former youth in care by working with public post-secondary institutions to build more student housing beds. Affordability was improved through a range of student financial assistance programs, and we continued to work towards expanding the

B.C. Access Grant. With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, we continued to work with partners to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age, and we ensured annual tuition and fee increases were limited to a maximum of 2% per year through maintaining the Tuition Fee Limit Policy.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
1.1 Post-Secondary costs are manageable and in line with household incomes ¹			
Undergraduate tuition and fees as a percent of median household income ²	7.0%	<8.6%	TBC ²
Average percent of income recent grads used to repay education-related debt ³			
Diploma, Associate Degree & Certificate Students	4.0%	<8.0%	4.5%
Baccalaureate Graduates	5.9%	<8.0%	7.2%

Data source: Statistics Canada and BC Student Outcomes Surveys, 2022⁴

¹As stated in the 2022/23 service plan, PM 1.1 targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were identical to 2022/23 target.

²Results are based on an annual survey of public post-secondary students eight months to two years after they complete their programs.

³Results are based on data available through Statistics Canada via the Tuition and Living Accommodation Survey and the T1 Family File from the Canadian Revenue Agency. 2022/23 results will be available from Statistics Canada in the Summer of 2023 with the release of household income data and will be available to be reported in the 2023/24 Service Plan Report.

⁴Efforts are made to contact all eligible public post-secondary graduates (over 55,000 each year), and a response rate of ~50% is consistently achieved. The margin of error for these measures is currently between +/- 0.7% and 1% (19 times out of 20).

This measure places the costs of post-secondary education in the context of people's incomes. Results reflect the average domestic undergraduate tuition and compulsory fees as a percent of provincial median household income, as well as the estimated median monthly loan repayment as a percentage of median monthly income for employed students with education-related debt at the time of leaving their institution.

Undergraduate tuition and fees as a percent of median household income results are based on data available through Statistics Canada and Canadian Revenue Agency. Average percent of income recent grads used to repay education-related debt results are based on an annual survey of public post-secondary students eight months to two years after they complete their programs. Targets align with nationwide benchmarks for loan affordability in student financial aid literature.

Objective 1.2: Lead a sustainable, high-quality post-secondary and skills training system that is relevant and responds to the changing needs of learners

The ministry is committed to working with partners to ensure an innovative, collaborative, high-quality post-secondary and skills training system that responds to the changing needs of learners, and is aligned with the labour market and career opportunities.

Key results

- Supported the creation of additional health education seats in high priority occupations such as Health Care Assistants, Medical Laboratory Assistants, and Respiratory Therapists, investing more than \$17 million to help address the province's health human resource needs.
- Enhanced the province's approach to micro-credentials and created opportunities for British Columbians to quickly increase their skills and acquire new ones, by allocating \$5 million for the development and delivery of 53 new micro-credentials at public post-secondary institutions.
- Supported the development and implementation of 26 innovative Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English Language Learning (ELL) Pathways to high-priority career programs, including in the areas of health, trades, technology, and early childhood education, allocating \$3.5 million to 11 public post-secondary institutions.
- Supported an additional 312 Early Childhood Education (ECE) student spaces at 11 public post-secondary institutions with an investment of \$2.8 million.
- Hosted over 40 stakeholder engagement sessions in the first phase for the funding review of public post-secondary education operating grants, and received 50 written submissions from institutions and other stakeholders, including student, labour and sector associations.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure, the ministry made it a priority to ensure the post-secondary and skills training system remains relevant and responsive. We continued to increase priority programming at public post-secondary institutions for high priority occupations such as, health and human services jobs, technology programming, and ECE spaces. Investment in public post-secondary institutions ensured the development and delivery of a range of micro-credentials in high-demand sectors, as well as to further develop a coordinated and consistent approach to micro-credentials in the province. Investing in ABE and ELL Pathways helped learners pursue further education that leads to sustainable employment. The ministry also continued to engage with system partners to make sure public post-secondary institutions have the funding and resources they need to support student success.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2021 Actual	2022 Target	2023 Actual
1.2 Graduates reporting their knowledge and skills developed through post-secondary education are useful in their employment ¹	86.4%	≥ 90%	85.4%

Data source: BC Student Outcomes Surveys, 2022²

¹PM 1.2 targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as ≥ 90%, respectively.

²Efforts are made to contact all eligible public post-secondary graduates (over 55,000 each year), and a response rate of ~50% is consistently achieved. The margin of error for these measures is currently between +/- 0.3% and 0.4% (19 times out of 20).

This measure reports the percent of employed graduates who indicated the knowledge and skills they acquired through their education was *very useful* or *somewhat useful* in performing their job. Results are based on an annual survey of public post-secondary students eight months to two years after they complete their programs, which allows graduates time to reflect on their education in relation to their experience in the workforce. Results for this measure remain high, although are slightly below the target. This measure is part of the [Accountability Framework](#), which is a set of planning and reporting processes for British Columbia’s public post-secondary education system.

Goal 2: British Columbians have workforce connections, training, supports and information to be job-ready and prepared for opportunities in B.C.’s economy

Objective 2.1: Equip British Columbians to be job-ready with post-secondary education, training, and workforce opportunities

The ministry supports delivery of post-secondary education and skills training programs, along with services and supports to prepare British Columbians for the labour force and help workers acquire new skills to meet evolving occupational requirements and labour market demands.

Key results

- Completed a 6-year expansion to create 2,900 student spaces in tech programs with \$42 million in annual ongoing funding.
- Introduced Skilled Trades Certification with an initial seven trades so more learners benefit from increased skill levels and trade certification, and British Columbia benefits from a highly-skilled trades workforce.

- Helped people attach or reattach to the labour market, investing \$125 million in Canada-British Columbia Workforce Development Agreement (WDA) funding in skills training and employment programs. About 50,000 people received services to gain skills, obtain employment, support their career goals, and increase labour market participation.
- Provided targeted supports for workers, employers and communities impacted by old growth deferrals with an investment of \$7 million. Nearly 500 people in 38 different communities accessed skills training and employment services to transition to new employment opportunities or further education and training.
- Helped over 4,500 unemployed or precariously employed people gain skills and reconnect to employment, with a focus on high opportunity occupations in areas such as health care, paramedicine, and early childhood education, through an investment of \$29 million in one-time funding in short-term skills training.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure, the ministry made it a priority to equip British Columbians to be job-ready. On top of the 2,900 tech seats, the ministry began working towards an additional 2,000 student spaces at public post-secondary institutions in tech-relevant programming. The ministry implemented the *Skilled Trades BC Act*, which came into effect through regulation in December 2022 and provides the regulatory framework for Skilled Trades Certification. Of the 50,000 people who received services through Workforce Development Agreement funded skills training and employment programs, over 24,000 were persons with disabilities who received services through a partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. We also commenced work on a major effort to accelerate foreign credential recognition so that skilled professionals trained outside Canada can apply the skills they have worked so hard to learn and master.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2019/20 Baseline	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
2.1 The percentage of individuals employed or in further education and training three months after completing a WDA skills training program ¹	67%	74% ²	>70%	73% ²

Data source: BC WDA 3-month Participant Outcomes Survey, Workforce Development and Skills Training Division, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

¹PM 2.1 targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as >70%, respectively.

² Due to changes in the data collection system that have impacted reporting, full data for 2021/22 and 2022/23 is not available.

The performance measure highlights the success of the ministry's WDA skills training programs in moving British Columbians along the employment continuum. This is accomplished by measuring outcomes three months after completing a program by

measuring the number of participants that became employed or moved on to further education and training. It does not include people who participated in the B.C. Employer Training Grant who were mostly employed before and during training. By excluding these participants, the measure focuses on people who are unemployed, the majority of whom face systemic barriers. This includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit, as well as immigrants, people with disabilities, visible minorities and youth-at-risk.

Changes in the system used to collect survey data have impacted reporting, resulting in partial results available to provide an estimate for 2021/22 and 2022/23. The ministry has implemented a new survey tool in 2023 and it is expected full results will be available going forward.

Objective 2.2: Provide British Columbians with the best information available to make informed decisions about their education, training, and career opportunities

It is a ministry priority to ensure British Columbians in all regions of the province are connected to current and future labour market opportunities by providing accurate, high-quality information on post-secondary education, skills training and workforce development opportunities.

Key results

- Refreshed the [WorkBC website](#) with improved navigation and enhanced design, providing British Columbians with quality information and resources to help plan for and achieve a successful career.
- Launched the 2022 Edition of the [BC Labour Market Outlook](#), reflecting today's demographic and industry trends, and providing information about job openings for the next 10 years to help British Columbians make informed decisions about their careers.
- The Find Your Fit program, an interactive event tour that helps students discover and explore careers, visited 58 schools across seven regions of the province, engaging with approximately 45,000 students. including six band schools and their 377 Indigenous students.
- Supported learners in their learning and career goals through [EducationPlannerBC](#), a centralized online platform delivered in partnership with the post-secondary system, that enables learners to prepare for post-secondary education as well as find, compare, and apply to their chosen institutions.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure, the ministry made it a priority to provide British Columbians the best information available for informed decision making. People who need to increase their skills or acquire new ones can rely on a variety of ministry resources to help make decisions about their career

and education. Educators, large and small businesses, and industry use the ministry’s labour market information in their planning, and government uses it to make informed decisions about new services, investments, policy and programs. The refreshed WorkBC website includes access to a sophisticated job board, high-opportunity occupations, education and skills training, and innovative career tools. EducationPlannerBC reached about 16,000 high school students through events and presentations.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2020/21 Baseline	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
2.2 Number of online and in-person engagements with ministry-provided labour market, career planning and education information ^{1,2}	6.43M	7.83M	Increase	8.45M

Data source: Labour market information, career planning resources and career opportunities, as well as information on education choices that are accessed through all available ministry sources, including the [EducationPlannerBC website](#) and [WorkBC website](#).

¹PM 2.2 targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as “Maintain or Increase”, respectively.

This measure reflects ministry efforts to engage and connect British Columbians in all regions of the province through a variety of relevant and accessible platforms (online, in-person, print and social media) that provide education, labour market and career planning information, resources, and tools. This measure reports the number of times labour market information, career planning resources and career opportunities, as well as information on education choices are accessed through all available ministry sources, including the [EducationPlannerBC website](#) and the [WorkBC website](#).

Goal 3: Lasting and meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in B.C. through post-secondary education and skills training

Objective 3.1: Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The ministry remains committed to meaningful reconciliation and recognizing the rights of Indigenous Peoples to participate in joint decision-making regarding post-secondary education and skills training policies, programs, and services for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners. These systemic shifts, supporting self-determination in the post-secondary education and training systems will help Indigenous Peoples access a range of culturally responsive and relevant programs that meet their priorities.

Key results

- First Nations-mandated institutes support the inherent rights of First Nations to self-determination and self-government, including First Nations control of First Nations education: The ministry supported First Nations mandated-institutes by:
 - For the second year, providing \$4 million in one-time funding to support core operating costs of ten First Nations-mandated institutes; and,
 - Worked in collaboration with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) on policy work to support the development of First Nations-mandated institutes legislation as per Action 1.8 in the Declaration Act Action Plan.
- Assisted Métis Nation BC (MNBC) to implement its business plan to explore establishing a Métis-dedicated post-secondary institute for higher education and skills training by providing \$250,000 to MNBC.
- The Aboriginal Service Plan (ASP) Program started as a pilot at 11 post-secondary institutions in 2007. In 2022/23, the Ministry initiated a reconceptualization of the program to better align with B.C.'s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. All 25 public institutions now receive \$250,000 to enhance the post-secondary educational experiences and outcomes of First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

The key results above highlight the ministry's commitment to meaningful reconciliation, and how we're working in collaboration and in partnership with the First Nations Education Steering Committee and Métis Nation BC to advance Declaration Act Action Plan commitments. The ministry leads four actions and supports another four actions in the Action Plan. These actions are the result of many years of consultation and co-operation with Indigenous partners.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
3.1 With First Nations and Métis and Indigenous partners, to co-develop and implement an updated Indigenous Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework ¹	Continued to collaborate with Indigenous partners	Framework Implementation – Establish Baseline	Other <i>Declaration Act</i> Actions have been prioritized by Indigenous partners.

Data source: Post-Secondary Policy and Programs Division, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

¹This performance measure was not carried forward in the latest service plan. For more details on forward-looking planning information, including the performance measure and current targets for 2023/24 – 2025/26, please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

The Government passed *the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (the Declaration Act) establishing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the Province's framework for reconciliation, as called for by the Truth and Reconciliation

Commission's Calls to Action. The ministry acknowledges the importance of consultation and collaboration with First Nations on whose territory public post-secondary institutions are located. The Province is also working to apply a distinctions-based approach in its relationships and engagements with Indigenous Peoples as committed to in the Declaration Act Action Plan. Initiatives will be undertaken collaboratively and co-developed with First Nations, Métis and Inuit as outlined in the *Interim Approach to Implement the Requirements of Section 3 of the Declaration Act*.

The ministry is working closely with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA), and Métis Nation BC (MNBC) to advance Declaration Act Action Plan commitments. We are taking their lead in terms of their highest priorities and focussing our efforts on those. Developing a new Policy Framework is a Declaration Act Action Plan commitment but it has been identified as a lower priority by partners than other actions. We hope to re-focus our efforts on developing a new Policy Framework over the 2023/24 fiscal year. The ministry continues to collaborate with FNESC, IAHLA and MNBC to identify appropriate performance measures that are meaningful and can demonstrate tangible progress over time. This measure has been retired until a new measure can be developed – for more information please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

Objective 3.2: Support accessible and responsive skills training and post-secondary education programs for Indigenous learners and communities

The Ministry works in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners to support the delivery of skills training and post-secondary education that reflects Indigenous knowledge, values, and culture and ensures the distinct needs and priorities of First Nations and Indigenous partners, including Métis and urban Indigenous communities, are met.

Key results

- Assisted Indigenous peoples in B.C. to access community-led skills training and post-secondary education, and upgrade their skills and education, secure employment, and support their local economies, with an investment of \$33 million.
- Assisted the First Peoples' Cultural Council to support the Youth Empowered Speakers initiative, which supports learners studying a degree/program that is linked to a career in education, language revitalization, or early childhood education, through an investment of \$2.6 million. This includes funding for tuition and living expenses in addition to mentor-apprentice language learning.

Summary of progress made in 2022/23

The key results above highlight the ministry's dedication to consultation and cooperation with Indigenous communities and partners. The ministry remains committed to the co-development of distinctions-based approaches to the delivery of community-based skills training and post-secondary programming.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2019/20 Baseline	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
3.2 Number of First Nations, Métis Chartered Communities, and Aboriginal Friendship Centres accessing training ¹	190 (actual)	148	226	170 (Measure not carried forward in the 23-24 service plan)

Data source: Workforce Development and Skills Training Division, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

¹This performance measure was not carried forward in the latest service plan. For more details on forward-looking planning information, including the performance measure and current targets for 2023/24 – 2025/26, please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

Working with First Nations, Métis Nation BC and Indigenous partner organizations, the ministry supported Indigenous people to access post-secondary education and skills training, and related supports, in their communities. These collaborations support community wellness and ensures self-determined economic, education and skills training priorities are met. The ministry is reviewing current Indigenous skills training and post-secondary education programming to ensure funding is directed in a way that is aligned with the *Declaration Act Action Plan* and the *BC First Nations Tripartite PSE Model*. As part of this review, the ministry is dedicated to work with partners to determine appropriate and agreed upon measures of success and what outcomes and baselines should be measured and reported on. This measure has been retired until a new measure can be co-developed with First Nations and partners as part of the program review – for more information please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

Financial Report

Financial Summary

	Estimated (\$000)	Other Authoriz- ations ¹ (\$000)	Total Estimated (\$000)	Actual (\$000)	Variance (\$000)
Operating Expenses					
Educational Institutions and Organizations	2,395,535	67,183	2,462,718	2,425,199	(37,519)
Student Services Programs	72,074	0	72,074	79,103	7,029
Private Training Institutions	1	0	1	0	(1)
Workforce Development and Skills Training	17,351	10,377	27,728	53,161	25,433
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	104,476	0	104,476	104,476	0
Executive and Support Services	23,251	0	23,251	28,309	5,058
Transfer from Ministry of Municipal Affairs		1,380	1,380	849	(531)
Transfer from Ministry of Attorney General		572	572	521	(51)
Sub-total	2,612,688	79,512	2,692,200	2,691,618	(582)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ²	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,612,688	79,512	2,692,200	2,691,618	(582)
Ministry Capital Expenditures					
Executive and Support Services	504	0	504	54	(450)
Total	504	0	504	54	(450)
Capital Plan					
Educational Institutions and Organizations- Post-Secondary Institutions	547,521	0	547,521	345,223	(202,298)
Total	547,521	0	547,521	345,223	(202,298)

¹ "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the "estimated amount" under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

² The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of [\$X] million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Income statement for Public Post-Secondary Institutions

Post-Secondary Education	2022/23 Budget (\$000s)	2022/23 Actual (\$000s)	Variance (\$000s)
Combined Income Statement			
Total Revenues	7,778	7,834	56
Total Expenses	7,682	7,644	(38)
Operating Results	96	190	94
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Assets (if applicable)	0	11	11
Net Results	96	201	105

Capital Expenditures

Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million in total)	Targeted Year of Completion	Project Cost to March 31, 2023 (\$m)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m)	Anticipated Total Cost (\$m)
British Columbia Institute of Technology Health Sciences Centre for Advanced Simulation	2022	89	0	89
<p>Objective: Construction of a four-storey 10,355 square metre simulation lab building at British Columbia Institute of Technology's Burnaby Campus. The project will enable British Columbia Institute of Technology to provide simulation-based training for their nursing, health sciences and technology programs. Construction began in Fall 2019 and completed in Spring 2022.</p>				
British Columbia Institute of Technology Student Housing	2025	26	94	120
<p>Objective: Construction of a 470-bed student housing building at British Columbia Institute of Technology's Burnaby Campus. Construction began in Fall 2022 with completion expected by Spring 2025.</p>				
British Columbia Institute of Technology Trades and Technology Complex	2027	0	178	178
<p>Objective: The BCIT Trades & Technology Complex comprises a series of phased projects that will replace and modernize existing functionally inadequate buildings and enhance and expand the Institute's Trades and Technology teaching space. This project will include demolition of space and the construction of a replacement facilities located in the South Campus. Construction is expected to begin in Winter 2023 with completion by Winter 2027.</p>				
Capilano University Student Housing	2024	6	52	58
<p>Objective: New 6-storey, 362-bed wood frame Student Housing building with mass timber 250-seat Dining Hall. Construction expected to begin in Spring 2023 with completion by Winter 2024.</p>				

Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million in total)	Targeted Year of Completion	Project Cost to March 31, 2023 (\$m)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m)	Anticipated Total Cost (\$m)
Douglas College Academic and Student Housing	2027	3	290	293
<p>Objective: A newly constructed 20-story concrete tower that combines 11 stories of Academic Space and 13 stories of Student Housing to create a living-learning community. Construction is expected to begin in Summer 2023, with completion in Spring 2027.</p>				
North Island College Student Housing	2024	4	74	78
<p>Objective: Construction of two new mass timber student housing buildings with a total of 217 beds. This includes a 4-storey mass timber single student building that will provide 157 beds and a 4-storey mass timber family building that will provide 60 beds. Construction is scheduled to begin in Summer 2023 with completion expected in Summer 2025 .</p>				
Okanagan College Student Housing	2024	15	60	75
<p>Objective: Construction of 376 student housing beds across the Kelowna, Salmon Arm and Vernon campuses of Okanagan College. Construction began in Summer 2022 with completion expected by Spring 2024.</p>				
Royal Roads Westshore Learning Centre	2024	32	68	100
<p>Objective: New 8,904 square metre (m2), 5-storey West Shore Learning Centre with 4 storeys of mass timber construction above a concrete first level and basement. Includes flexible classrooms, Indigenous spaces, Learning Commons, Innovation Space, academic and student support offices, and staff workspaces. Construction began in Summer 2022, with completion expected in Fall 2024.</p>				

Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million in total)	Targeted Year of Completion	Project Cost to March 31, 2023 (\$m)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m)	Anticipated Total Cost (\$m)
Simon Fraser University Student Housing	2023	108	0	108
<p>Objective: Construction of a new student housing building (386 student housing beds, 30 short term and 2 residence assistant / faculty-in-residence apartments) and renovation and expand the dining commons (800 seat capacity). Construction began in late 2020 with completion expected in early 2023.</p>				
University of British Columbia School of Biomedical Engineering	2025	27	112	139
<p>Objective: Construction of a 14,520 m2 facility to accommodate the School of Biomedical Engineering. Construction began in Summer 2022 with completed expected in early 2025.</p>				
University of the Fraser Valley Student Housing	2025	0	75	75
<p>Objective: Construction of a new six-storey, 398-bed hybrid mass timber student housing facility, with ground floor common areas and five floors of student housing. Construction is expected to begin in Summer 2023 with completion by Spring 2025.</p>				
University of Victoria Engineering & Computer Science Building Expansion	2026	5	128	133
<p>Objective: Expansion of the Engineering and Computer Science Building and construction of a stand-alone High-bay lab building. Construction is expected to begin in late 2023 with completion by Summer2026.</p>				

Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million in total)	Targeted Year of Completion	Project Cost to March 31, 2023 (\$m)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m)	Anticipated Total Cost (\$m)
University of Victoria Student Housing	2023	200	32	232
<p>Objective: Demolition of the existing Emily Carr Hall, Margaret Newton Hall, and Cadboro Commons to construct two new buildings that include 782 (621 net new) student housing beds, 600 seat dining hall and multi-purpose space. The project is targeting Passive House certification. Construction began in early 2020 with completion Fall 2023.</p>				
Vancouver Island University Student Housing and Dining	2025	0	88	88
<p>Objective: 266 beds in a new 9,547 m2 building with 7 storeys of mass timber construction above a two-storey concrete podium. Levels 1 & 2: 200-seat dining hall, study rooms, multi-purpose room, teaching kitchen, bike storage, shared laundry, Student Housing Offices. Levels 3 – 9: student housing, lounges & communal kitchens. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2023 with completion Summer 2025 late 2025.</p>				

Significant IT Projects (over \$20 million in total)	Targeted Year of Completion	Project Cost to Mar 31, 2023 (\$m)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m)	Anticipated Total Cost (\$m)
Modernizing StudentAidBC	2024	\$10,638	1,680	\$12,318
<p>Objective: Modernizing StudentAidBC is a multi-year, multi-phased initiative to improve the digital tools, information systems and internal processes, to enhance the experience of financial aid services to students.</p> <p>Costs: The current capital investment in the project is \$12.318 million culminating in fiscal year 2024/25.</p> <p>In 2022/23 the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed significant development work against project scope. • Completed training and demonstrations on system functionality and process to end users, including internal ministry staff and post-secondary institutions. • Completed testing and began engagement and communications for the summer 2023 launch of the institution and ministry user accounts, including a pilot with post-secondary institutions to gain first-hand experience in the new system. 				

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of August 2023, the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

[Architectural Institute of BC](#)

Established in 1920 under the *Architects Act*, the Institute establishes standards for entry into the architectural profession; provides services to support just over 5,100 registrants in maintaining credentials and overall professionalism; and enforces the competency, ethical and professional standards expected of those in a regulated practice. The Institute began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2023.

[Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC](#)

The Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) was formed under the *Society Act* in 1958 and incorporated under the *Applied Science Technologists and Technicians Act* in 1985. ASTTBC has just under 6,700 registrants and regulates a large number of different designations, reflecting the broad scope of work of their registrants. ASTTBC began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2021.

[Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals](#)

Forest Professionals BC (FPBC) is the business name of the Association of BC Forest Professionals. FPBC was originally brought into being with the passage of the 1947 *Foresters Act* and now represents over 5,300 registrants, including foresters and forest technologists. FPBC began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2021.

[Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC \(Engineers and Geoscientists BC\)](#)

Engineers and Geoscientists BC (EGBC) is the business name of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia. EGBC was first established under the *Engineering Profession Act* of 1920. In 1990 the professional regulator expanded to include geoscientists, and now has more than 39,000 registrants. EGBC began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2021.

[BC Council on Admissions and Transfer](#)

BC Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT) has a key coordinating role in facilitating communication and co-operation among post-secondary institutions and in ensuring a well-articulated system of academic course equivalency and academic credit transfer between and among institutions in British Columbia.

[BCcampus](#)

BCcampus provides teaching, learning, educational technology, and open education resources and supports to British Columbia post-secondary institutions.

[BC Council for International Education](#)

BCCIE is a provincial crown corporation that supports the internationalization efforts of B.C.'s public and independent K-12 schools, public and private colleges and universities and language schools. It promotes international education in and for B.C., enhancing B.C.'s international reputation for quality education and supporting the international education activities of the provincial government.

[BC Electronic Library Network](#)

BC ELN's purpose is to develop and support system-wide mechanisms that allow post-secondary libraries to meet the expanding information needs of learners, educators, and researchers at the lowest possible cost.

[BC Institute of Agrologists](#)

The British Columbia Institute of Agrologists (BCIA) was created in 1947 with the *Agrologists Act*, and currently has over 1,850 registrants. The practice of agrology includes many areas relating to natural resources and agriculture, including resource economics. BCIA began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2021.

[BC Registered Music Teachers Association](#)

BC Registered Music Teachers Association (BCRMTA) is a non-profit association. The objects of BCRMTA are to raise the standard of the profession, the promotion of the art of music teaching and the maintenance of the honour and interests of the music teaching profession.

[BC Society of Landscape Architects](#)

The British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects Board of Examiners sets and administers the examination necessary for the registration of members in the BC Society of Landscape Architects and reviews all applicants' qualifications to determine acceptability.

[Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia](#)

Chartered Professional Accountants of BC (CPABC) is the training, governing, and regulatory body for over 36,000 CPA members and 5,000 CPA students and candidates. CPABC carries out its primary mission to protect the public by enforcing the highest professional and ethical standards and contributing to the advancement of public policy.

[College of Applied Biology \(College of Applied Biologists\)](#)

The College of Applied Biologists (CAB) was established in 2002 with the *College of Applied Biology Act*. They regulate professional biologists, and biology-related technologists and technicians. CAB currently has approximately 3,200 registrants. CAB began operating under the *Professional Governance Act* in 2021.

[Degree Quality Assessment Board](#)

The Degree Quality Assessment Board is an independent advisory board that ensures legislated quality assurance requirements are met for post-secondary education in B.C.

[EducationPlannerBC](#)

EducationPlannerBC (EPBC) is mandated to connect students to post-secondary education opportunities and associated career paths by improving post-secondary planning and application services. Additionally, EPBC's mandate includes establishing and maintaining a provincial data exchange hub to support the transition of B.C. students into post-secondary and between institutions within the B.C. post-secondary system.

[SkilledTradesBC \(formerly the Industry Training Authority\)](#)

The ITA Act was subsequently repealed and replaced with the Skilled Trades BC Act (STBC Act) in March 2022, to manage and support an industry training and apprenticeship system in B.C. and to ensure that the system meets the Province's need for skilled workers.

[StudentAid BC Appeal Committee](#)

The Committee reconsiders appeals at the request of StudentAidBC applicants or borrowers. It provides feedback, when requested, to StudentAidBC on proposed changes to key case review processes.

Appendix B: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities

The following is a summary of progress made on priorities as stated in [Minister Anne Kang's 2020 Mandate Letter](#).

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
Work with post-secondary institutions to support students to succeed in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. Provided supports for students implemented early in the pandemic and ensured safe operation of post-secondary institutions.
With support from the Minister of Health, lead work to launch B.C.'s second medical school to expand our healthcare workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going. Simon Fraser University is working toward an inaugural student intake by September 2026, with the first graduating class expected in 2030.
Expand the B.C. Access Grant program by increasing eligibility to reduce barriers and make sure more people are able to access the skills they need for the jobs of the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going. The ministry is evaluating the B.C. Access Grant program and will use these findings to inform options for further expansion of grant eligibility.
Create an additional 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces in public post-secondary institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underway. Announced as part of the StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan.
Keep student fee increases low by strengthening the existing Tuition Fee Limit Policy to make sure institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going. Tuition and fee increases continue to be limited to a maximum of 2% per year. The ministry receives annual reporting from post-secondary institutions on tuition and fee increases.
With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. Announced as part of the StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan.
Conduct a funding review of post-secondary education operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions have the resources they need to support economic recovery and student success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going. The ministry is assessing policy considerations from the phase one engagements.

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
Continue to build 8,000 new student housing units as part of Homes for BC, our government's 10-year housing plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underway. Improved student access to affordable housing by working with public post-secondary institutions to build more student housing units as part of <i>Homes for BC Plan</i>.
Complete and implement the CleanBC Workforce Readiness Plan to train people for jobs in the low-carbon economy and help us meet our CleanBC commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underway. Programming and initiatives outlined in the StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan will contribute to supporting training for the low-carbon economy
Support the work of the Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation to invest in innovation clusters, with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underway. The ministry continues to work closely with JEDI on the education and training needs of leading and emerging economic sectors. Through funding to Mitacs for student internships, the ministry is supporting innovation in a wide range of sectors.
Support the work of the Minister of State for Child Care to implement and enhance the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underway. Programming to support the implementation of the Early Care and Learning Recruitment Strategy were announced as part of the StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan.
With support from the Minister of Labour, work with SkilledTradesBC to restore the compulsory trades system to improve safety and give more workers a path to apprenticeship completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation Complete. In March 2022, the new <i>Skilled Trades BC Act</i> was passed, which establishes a made-in-B.C. system to support and train apprentices and modernize the Crown agency responsible for trades training. Through the Act, Skilled Trades Certification for seven trades was introduced in December 2022. Three additional trades will be introduced in 2023 and a process to identify and certify additional trades has been established in collaboration with SkilledTradesBC.

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
Support the work of government to develop new skills training and career opportunities for people, including investments in new tech spaces, ECE learning opportunities and the new Health Career Access Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed. Increased priority programming at public post-secondary institutions including for ECE, tech, and health programs.