

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

**2025/26
Annual Service Plan Report**

August 2026



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills 2025/26 Annual Service Plan Report compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan published in 2025. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Sunner".

Honourable Jessie Sunner
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
July 23, 2026

Table of Contents

Minister's Accountability Statement	3
Letter from the Minister	5
Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report	6
Strategic Direction.....	6
Purpose of the Ministry.....	6
Economic Statement	7
Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results	8
Financial Report.....	20
Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations	22
Appendix B: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities.....	25

Letter from the Minister

As the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, it is my honour to present the 2025/26 Annual Service Plan Report.

Ensuring a sustainable post-secondary education and training system that is affordable, accessible and responsive is integral for preparing British Columbians for the jobs of the future. Meeting labour force needs and helping build a strong and sustainable economy through post-secondary education and training is central to my Ministry's mandate.

We know that over the next decade BC will have over one million job openings with over three-quarters of these jobs requiring some form of education or training. That's why in November 2025 government launched [Look West](#), BC's 10-year economic plan to accelerate major projects, grow priority sectors and build a future-ready workforce. This work builds on the [Stronger BC: Future Ready Action Plan](#), which set out government's broader approach to skills training workforce development. As part of this effort, government is making a historic \$241 million investment over three years, doubling the funding for skilled trades training by 2028-29. This includes a significant increase in funding to strengthen BC's trades training system, expand access to training, accelerate workforce development in priority sectors, all to support more people to access in-demand jobs and supporting long-term economic prosperity.

As we take on this work, my Ministry remains committed to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia as we continue to engage and collaborate to ensure that Indigenous learners can achieve their higher educational goals in ways that reflect a diversity of Indigenous cultures and values.

The Ministry also continues to welcome and support newcomers through programs such as the [BC Provincial Nominee Program](#), the [BC Newcomers Services Program](#) and the [Career Paths for Skilled Immigrant Program](#). The *International Credentials Recognition Act* was also fully implemented on July 1, 2025, making it fairer, faster and easier for people to use their skills to work in BC, no matter where they were trained. I want to express gratitude to Sunita Dhir, the Parliamentary Secretary for International Credentials who has diligently engaged with internationally trained professionals and regulatory authorities to ensure government expectations are being met and exceeded.

I am proud of what we have accomplished, and I look forward to supporting the programs, and services that help people from across our province to thrive and build rewarding lives right here in British Columbia.



Honourable Jessie Sunner
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
July 23, 2026

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 2024 and Minister Jessie Sunner's [2025 Mandate Letter](#) shaped the goals, objectives, performance measures and financial plan outlined in the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills [2025/26 – 2027/28 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 leads collaboration for our education and skills training partners to contribute towards sector sustainability, growing a skilled workforce that meets future challenges, and a high-quality, relevant and responsive system that ensures British Columbians can get the skills needed for the jobs of tomorrow.

The Ministry oversees public and private post-secondary institutions through legislation, funding and accountability frameworks, and protects the interests and well-being of students, both domestic and international. The Ministry oversees two Crown corporations: [SkilledTradesBC \(STBC\)](#) and the [British Columbia Council for International Education \(BCCIE\)](#). It also supports learners' financial needs through [StudentAid BC](#) and works with institutions to provide additional supports, such as mental health services and student safety.

Through federal labour market transfer agreements, the Ministry provides targeted skills training opportunities to workers, communities and employers. The Ministry provides education, labour market and career planning information so British Columbians can plan careers, access education and skills development programs, and connect to jobs.

The Ministry delivers immigration programs and services that help newcomers integrate socially and economically into the province and help facilitate economic immigration to address BC's labour market needs and attract international entrepreneurs. Immigration services such as the BC Provincial Nominee Program, BC Newcomers Services Program, Safe Haven Program and the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants Program enable community-driven, inclusive progress in support of social and economic well-being for all who make British Columbia home.

The Ministry oversees professional regulatory bodies under the [Professional Governance Act](#) and is responsible for the [Labour Mobility Act](#), which ensures that registered professionals certified in another Canadian jurisdiction can have their credentials recognized without

unnecessary barriers. The Ministry is also responsible for the [International Credentials Recognition Act](#), working to require professional regulatory bodies to be fairer, faster and more transparent in assessing internationally trained people's applications for licences to practice in their professions.

The Ministry is committed to reconciliation with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples by ensuring our institutions and training partners provide welcoming and culturally safe places to learn and work, helping communities get the training they need for economic and social well-being, and through implementation of the [Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#).

Economic Statement

Economic activity in British Columbia advanced in 2025, after modest growth in 2024, despite facing notable headwinds. Last year, homebuilding activity in the province continued at a steady pace, and lower interest rates and easing inflation supported household spending. Meanwhile, high uncertainty around the impacts of U.S. tariffs and significantly lower population growth tempered economic activity in B.C., and across many provinces. Overall, B.C.'s real GDP rose by 2.0 per cent in 2025, up from 1.2 per cent growth in 2024. B.C. was one of only two provinces that saw an increase in the rate of real GDP growth from 2024 to 2025. On an industry basis, B.C.'s economic growth in 2025 was led by real estate, rental and leasing; health care and social assistance services; mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; and construction.

B.C.'s labour market moderated in 2025, amid slower population growth and trade-related economic uncertainty. Total employment rose by 1.1 percent (+32,200 jobs), while wages and salaries rose by 3.1 percent. The unemployment rate averaged 6.2 percent in 2025, up from 5.6 percent in 2024, as labour force growth outpaced job creation. Despite rising last year, B.C.'s unemployment rate remained below the national average of 6.8 percent. B.C. housing starts totalled 44,193 units in 2025, down 3.6 percent from 2024, but remained above the 10-year historical average. Meanwhile, B.C. home sales activity declined by 5.7 percent compared to 2024, with muted demand contributing to a 2.9 percent decrease in the average home price. Inflationary pressures continued to moderate in 2025, reflecting slower price growth for services and subdued inflation for goods. Shelter inflation was the largest contributor to headline inflation last year but slowed substantially for both rented and owned accommodation compared to recent years. Lower gasoline prices, partly due to the removal of the B.C. consumer carbon tax, also helped ease headline inflation. Overall, B.C.'s consumer price inflation averaged 2.1 percent in 2025, down from 2.6 percent in 2024. Lower inflation and easing interest rates supported robust retail sales, which grew by 6.4 percent in 2025. On the trade front, B.C.'s merchandise exports remained relatively flat as markets adjusted to shifting global trade conditions. Overall, the value of B.C.'s goods exports edged down 0.1 percent compared to 2024 as increased exports to non-U.S. destinations were offset by a continued decline in goods exports to the U.S.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results

The following goals, objectives and performance measures have been restated from the 2025/26 – 2027/28 service plan. For forward-looking planning information, including current and future performance targets, please see the [latest service plan](#).

Goal 1: British Columbians have access to post-secondary education and training to respond to the urgent need for more and new skills

Objective 1.1: Provide more affordable access to skills training and post-secondary education

Ensuring British Columbians have affordable access to post-secondary education and skills training is a priority for the Ministry as the growing demand for a well-educated, highly skilled workforce remains fundamental to ensuring BC's workforce can keep pace.

Key results

- Improved education access and affordability through StudentAid BC, including over \$39.8 million in BC Access Grant funding, issued to approximately 35,000 low- and middle-income students.
- Invested \$11 million to support more than 4,500 workers in accessing skills training aligned with British Columbia's workforce priorities through the StrongerBC future skills grant.
- Empowered over 2,200 former youth in care to access post-secondary education through the Provincial Tuition Waiver program, providing over \$9.2 million in supports.
- Invested almost \$19 million to offer tuition-free access to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning.
- Invested approximately \$3.8 million through the Adult Upgrading Grant to offset the learning-related costs of over 3,000 low-income students enrolled in Adult Education programs across the province.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

As highlighted by the key results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure below, the Ministry continued to ensure post-secondary education and skills training was affordable and accessible over the past year. Affordability was improved through a range of student financial assistance programs, through the StrongerBC future skills grant, and by helping youth formerly in care access tuition waivers to attend post-secondary education. The Ministry also provided over \$16 million in StudentAid BC grants to support

approximately 9,200 students with disabilities making post-secondary education and training more accessible.

Objective 1.2: Build an inclusive workforce by bringing more people into the labour force who have historically been left behind

A priority for the Ministry is breaking down barriers and ensuring inclusive access to post-secondary education and training so more people can join the workforce. This ensures British Columbians are equipped to participate in our rapidly changing economy and supports a diverse and well-represented skilled workforce to meet labour market demands.

Key results

- Prepared over 11,000 British Columbians to obtain in-demand jobs through provincial investments and Canada-BC Workforce Development Agreement (WDA)-funded skills training programming.
- Delivered pre-apprenticeship programs through SkilledTradesBC supporting approximately 1,000 people in equity deserving groups with funding from the Canada-BC WDA.
- Supported over 1,200 young adults, about half of whom are Indigenous, through BladeRunners, a WDA-funded program for training in key sectors including construction, healthcare, hospitality and tourism.
- Provided over \$16 million in grants through provincially and WDA-funded programming to help employers, sectors, and communities support skills training in key sectors like healthcare, construction, and transportation.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure below, the Ministry continued to break down barriers and move more people into the workforce. Aligning labour market programs with the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction supports enhanced access to skills training and employment services for people facing multiple and complex barriers. The Ministry also invested nearly \$4 million to support delivery of 23 Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning pathways to high priority career programs at 12 post-secondary institutions. To help promote inclusive and safe post-secondary communities for everyone the Ministry launched the Post-Secondary Sexual Violence Action Plan alongside the introduction of the new *Sexual Violence Policy Act*.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Target	2025/26 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	6.6% (target <7.5%)	<Canadian average ²	TBD ³
Average percent of income recent grads used to repay education-related debt			
Diploma, Associate Degree & Certificate Students	3.7%	<8.0%	3.9%
Baccalaureate Graduates	6.3%	<8.0%	5.5%

Data source: Statistics Canada and BC Student Outcomes Surveys, 2025

¹PM 1.1 targets for Average percent of income recent grads used to repay education-related are consistently <8.0%, a standard benchmark for loan affordability in student financial aid literature.

²PM1.1 targets and actuals for undergraduate tuition and fees as a percent of median household income are based on data released annually by Statistics Canada. The target for this measure compares BC's result to the Canadian average and is considered achieved if BC's result is less than the Canadian average. The 2025/26 target will be available in late summer 2026 when household income data is released.

³2025/26 results will be reported in the 2027/28 Service Plan Report.

These measures place 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 the Canadian Revenue Agency. Average percentage of income recent grads used to repay education-related debt are based on an annual survey of public post-secondary students eight months to two years after they complete their programs. Targets for debt repayment align with a standard benchmark for loan affordability in student financial aid literature.

Performance Measure	2021/22 Baseline	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Actual
1.2 The percentage of individuals employed or in further education and training three months after completing a Ministry skills training program aimed at unemployed or precariously employed people ¹ .	67%	69%	>70%	59% ²

Data source: 3-month Participant Outcomes Survey, Labour Market Development and Immigration Division, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

¹PM 1.2 targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 were stated in the 2025/26 service plan as >70%, respectively.

²By data extraction date, 3-month Participant Outcomes Survey results reflect only part of 2025/26. Participants who completed in the latter part of 2025/26 are still to be surveyed and as such final numbers may change.

This performance measure highlights how the Ministry's Workforce Development Agreement (WDA)-funded skills training programs moves British Columbians along the employment continuum. This measures outcomes three months after completing a program. Specifically, it measures the number of participants who became employed or moved on to further education and training. This measure focuses on people who are unemployed, the majority of whom face systemic barriers to labour market participation. This includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit, as well as immigrants, people with disabilities, visible minorities and youth-at-risk. Success in obtaining employment is influenced by labour market conditions. During 2025-2026 the BC economy experienced weaker labour market conditions, including fewer vacancies and rising unemployment. These factors had an adverse impact on outcomes with 2025-2026 results being below target and baseline.

Goal 2: British Columbia has a high-quality post-secondary and training system that is relevant, responsive and innovative

Objective 2.1: Support a more responsive and relevant post-secondary and skills training system

A sustainable post-secondary education and training system that is relevant and responsive enables British Columbians to acquire new skills required to keep pace with evolving occupational requirements and meet labour market demands.

Key results

- Implemented, in partnership with public post-secondary institutions, an enhanced financial reporting framework that supports planning and financial sustainability.
- Increased priority programming at public post-secondary institutions including:

- Increased capacity of Nurse Practitioner training seats by 65% across the province and launched the first Licenced Practical Nurse to Registered Psychiatric Nurse bridging program in BC.
- In support of the Cancer Care Action Plan, medical imaging training capacity was significantly expanded including an increase of 75% in Radiation Therapy seats, 25% in Nuclear Medicine seats, and 10% in MRI seats.
- Reached over 4,000 more student spaces in tech-relevant programming annually compared to 2017 levels, including new programs at colleges in the northwest and the southeast of the province.
- Expanded Early Childhood Education programs by creating 537 additional student spaces and enhanced accessibility throughout the province, particularly in rural and remote communities, with expanded Work-Integrated Learning, hybrid and online program delivery options.
- Continued to support the expansion of medical education in the province, including advancing SFU's readiness for its new medical school with preliminary accreditation in October 2025 enabling the first admissions cycle for a 48-seat inaugural cohort, and ongoing implementation of UBC's approved expansion.
- Provided \$2.03 million in funding for 30 new micro-credentials with more than 2,900 learners enrolled in ministry-funded micro-credentials.
- Supported more than 750 work-integrated learning opportunities that helped post-secondary students transition into the workforce with real world experience, stronger professional networks, and exposure to sector specific skills.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

As highlighted by the results above, the Ministry created opportunities for British Columbians to increase their skills and acquire new ones. The Ministry continued to create opportunities for British Columbians working in the trades to quickly increase their skills and acquire new ones through TradeUpBC, and has invested more than \$22.5 million since 2020 for more than 230 micro-credentials funded and to date supported a total of 13,000 learners with improved access to industry aligned training for in-demand labour market skills. This past year there was also the highest number of apprentices ever in BC's history with nearly 50,000 people across the province registered as apprentices with SkilledTradesBC. Working in partnership with experts from the post-secondary system through the BC Post-Secondary Artificial Intelligence Working Group, the Ministry also released a first draft of model principles and guidelines for the use of Artificial Intelligence technologies in post-secondary.

However, throughout 2025/26, British Columbia's post-secondary sector continued to experience significant financial pressures driven by declining international student tuition, domestic enrolment volatility, and inflation. During this period, the Ministry supported post-secondary institutions through targeted engagements, enhanced financial monitoring, and targeted actions to help manage financial challenges. The Ministry initiated an independent review by Don Avison, KC, to assess the long-term financial sustainability of British Columbia's post secondary system and identify options to support institutions in

managing financial pressures while continuing to deliver training and skills needed for a growing economy. Looking ahead, the Avison review will inform future actions by identifying opportunities to better align system structure, financial health, and learner and labour market needs.

Objective 2.2: Ensure BC provides a quality post-secondary education experience for international students and has a fair, transparent processes to recognize international credentials

Quality international education with high standards for student learning, student supports, and labour market outcomes contributes to a diverse, globally connected post-secondary education system that attracts international talent to our Province. Creating clear streamlined pathways for skilled people with international credentials is also a priority for the Ministry that helps respond to the demand for people with in-demand skills and contributes to a strong, diverse economy.

Key results

- Improved access to regulated professions for internationally trained professionals by eliminating Canadian work experience requirements through full implementation of the *International Credentials Recognition Act*.
- The first data report under the *International Credentials Recognition Act* was released, establishing a foundation for analyzing credential recognition timelines, outcomes, and system performance.
- Introduced the *Post-Secondary International Education (Designated Institutions) Act* to strengthen oversight of BC's international education sector, ensuring better protection for international students.
- Maintained ongoing engagement with post-secondary institutions on the federal policy changes and engaged the federal government to advocate for a stable and predictable policy to help rebuild Canada and BC's reputation as a welcoming and high-quality education destination.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

As highlighted by the results above, the Ministry continued to prioritize creating clear streamlined pathways for skilled people with international credentials, and to ensure quality international education with high standards. The Office for International Credential Recognition (OICR) continued to support regulatory bodies and internationally trained professionals in understanding the *International Credentials Recognition Act*. The Office developed key guidance resources, including the Guide to the *International Credentials Recognition Act* and Credential Recognition: Your Path to Professional Licensure. The OICR also established the Standards for International Credential Recognition, which are used to guide the work of regulatory authorities and serve as performance criteria for audits of regulatory authorities. In addition, the BC Council for International Education delivered programs and services that support BC's post-secondary institutions to maintain strong international

education programs, meet government's higher standards, and develop the capabilities to provide a quality education experience for international students.

Objective 2.3: Provide British Columbia's workforce with the best information available to make informed decisions about their education, training, and career opportunities

Providing accurate, high-quality information on post-secondary education, skills training and workforce development opportunities enables all British Columbians to remain connected to current and future labour market and career opportunities.

Key results

- Provided up to date labour market information, data, trends in different industries, occupations and regions through the 2025 [BC Labour Market Outlook Report](#).
- Connected British Columbians to labour market information, including information on high-opportunity occupations through [WorkBC.ca](#) tools and resources to support career explorers and job seekers.
- Enhanced the WorkBC.ca Job Board, to support job seekers and employers in posting and finding jobs.
- Helped all learners make informed decisions about post-secondary education and career opportunities, and to search and apply for public post-secondary education in BC using [EducationPlannerBC.ca](#).
- Provided British Columbians with personalized and responsive career pathways through the [Find Your Path](#) digital tool.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

As highlighted by the results above, and by the outcomes noted in the related performance measure, the Ministry continued to provide the best information available for informed decision-making for education and career planning options. Educators, large and small businesses, and industry use the Ministry's labour market information such as the 2025 Edition of the BC Labour Market Outlook (LMO) in their planning. Government uses it to make informed decisions about new services, investments, policy and programs. The WorkBC website provides access to a sophisticated job board, high-opportunity occupations, education and skills training, and innovative career tools. People who need to increase their skills or acquire new ones can rely on EducationPlannerBC to help make decisions about their education.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2024 Actual	2025 Target	2025 Actual
2.1 Graduates reporting their knowledge and skills developed through post-secondary education are useful in their employment ^{1,2}	85.8%	≥ 90%	84.8%

Data source: BC Student Outcomes Surveys, 2025²

¹PM 2.1 targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 were stated in the 2025/26 service plan as ≥ 90%, respectively.

²Efforts are made to contact all eligible public post-secondary graduates (over 60,000 each year), and a response rate over 30% is consistently achieved. The margin of error for these measures is currently between +/- 0.4% and 0.5% (19 times out of 20).

This measure reports the percentage 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 ambitious target of 90%. 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.

Performance Measure	2020/21 Baseline	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Actual
2.2 Number of online and in-person engagements with ministry-provided labour market, career planning and education information ^{1,2}	6.43M	12.1M	Maintain or Increase	12.29M

Data source: [EducationPlannerBC](#) website, [WorkBC.ca](#) and other ministry sources.

¹PM 2.2 targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 were stated in the 2025/26 service plan as Maintain or increase, respectively.

²WorkBC.ca measures website traffic using "sessions", defined by a user's presence and actions on a website, which may include multiple page views within a single visit. EducationPlannerBC measures traffic using "page views", defined as each individual instance of a user viewing a webpage.

This measure reflects the Ministry's 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](#) and the [WorkBC](#) websites.

Goal 3: Advance reconciliation and self-determination with First Nations, Métis and Inuit in BC through post-secondary education and skills training

Objective 3.1: Implement BC's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and relevant components of the Action Plan

The objectives of the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) (the Declaration Act) continued to guide government's work with Indigenous Peoples to advance reconciliation. Self-determined and culturally relevant post-secondary education and skills training are fundamental to meeting these commitments. This underscores the Ministry's ongoing commitment to reconciliation through the inclusion of the [Declaration Act Action Plan](#), and the Ministry's continued commitment to ensure First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners achieve their higher educational goals in ways that reflect their distinct rights and diverse Indigenous cultures and values.

Initiatives continue to be undertaken in consultation and cooperation as outlined in the *Interim Approach to Implement the Requirements of Section 3 of the Declaration Act*.

Key results

- Supporting Declaration Act Action item 1.08, since receiving Royal Assent on May 16, 2024 on the *First Nations Mandated Post-Secondary Institutes Act*, joint work has continued with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the Indigenous Adult Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) to develop the regulations, policies, and procedures required to bring the Act into force. The Ministry has undertaken a final round of consultation with First Nations, including Modern Treaty Nations, and continues to work toward implementation.
- Supporting Declaration Act Action item 1.08, engagement continued with Métis Nation BC to support the development of a Métis-led post-secondary institute.
- Supporting Declaration Act Action item 1.09, worked closely with Native Education College staff to secure one-time funding for 2026/27 and guide the implementation of policies and procedures to support a transition to a public post-secondary institution and entry into the Government Reporting Entity.
- Supporting Declaration Act Action item 4.05, the development of a policy framework was initiated, and initial discussions with Indigenous partners has occurred.
- Supporting Declaration Act Action 4.41, through the Indigenous Skills Training and Education program, funding was delivered through 49 contracts serving 67 First Nations. Funding was also provided directly to FNESC to administer to First Nations through its established First Nations-led processes. Métis Nation BC also received funding to support Métis citizens in 38 Métis Chartered Communities. Additional

funding was provided to the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres. Approximately 3,600 participants are being served.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

The Ministry leads four Declaration Act Action Plan actions (1.08, 1.09, 4.05, and 4.41) in recognition of Government's commitment to the Declaration Act. These actions are the result of many years of consultation and engagement with First Nations, as well as the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Métis Nation BC, and other Indigenous organizations.

The Ministry also worked in collaboration with other lead ministries and partners to advance several additional Declaration Act actions, including:

- Supported Declaration Act Action 4.02, by working with the Ministry of Education and Child Care (ECC), FNEESC, and IAHLA to develop and implement First Nations-focused teacher recruitment and retention initiatives, and by working with Métis Nation BC on Métis-focused teacher recruitment and retention initiatives, that will increase and support First Nations and Métis teacher representation within the K-12 education system.
- Supported Declaration Act Action 4.18, under the First Nations Children and Youth in Care (FCYIC) Protocol and through collaboration with FNEESC, FNLC, ECC, and the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the Ministry continues to support implementation of the FCYIC Workplan through a variety of initiatives including financial and housing supports for former youth in care pursuing post-secondary education.
- Supported Declaration Act Action 4.30, by the provision of funding to FNEESC to deliver the Indigenous Languages Fluency Degree framework, a First Nations-led initiative. The Ministry also provided funding to Métis Nation BC to support Michif language revitalization learning and programming opportunities.

Performance measure and related discussion

In place of a conventional performance measure, the Ministry relies on the [Declaration Act Annual Report](#) to show progress towards achieving its actions. The Province reports annually on progress, with the latest report to be released in June 2026. This report, published on the Province's [Declaration Act website](#), provides detailed information on all actions, highlighting progress, complexity, challenges, and collaboration.

This work is guided by priorities identified by First Nations, Métis, and other Indigenous partners, and progress is being made in several areas. The action items that the Ministry is leading and supporting are to be implemented over five years and, as such, progress is advancing more quickly on some actions than others.

Goal 4: Contribute to BC's sustainable economy by providing immigration services and supports for newcomers

Objective 4.1: Ensure newcomers have the supports they need to thrive through their settlement journey

This objective recognizes how newcomers continue to play a critical role in supporting a strong sustainable economy and vibrant communities across this province. The Ministry offers a range of labour market and newcomer supports that help address BC's skills and economic development needs and ensures newcomers can thrive in communities throughout the province.

Key results

- Supported 38,701 clients who are temporary residents and naturalized Canadian citizens, with settlement, labour market and language services through the BC Newcomer Services Program.
- Supported 690 clients through the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants Program with 86% of clients completing the program.
- Nominated 6,214 people for permanent residency through the BC Provincial Nominee Program in 2025, including 38% in regions outside Metro Vancouver and 1678 health care workers.

Summary of progress made in 2025/26

Through the BC Newcomer Services Program, the Ministry continued to provide settlement, language, and labour market supports to temporary residents and naturalized Canadian citizens across the province. Targeted employment and credential recognition supports were also delivered through the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants Program. In addition, the BC Safe Haven program supported refugee claimants with their immediate needs and provided trauma counselling, language training, and employment services. Together, these programs helped reduce barriers to settlement and labour market participation and supported newcomers in building stable, connected lives in communities across British Columbia.

In 2025, the federal government cut all provinces' Provincial Nominee Program allocations by 50%, then offered small increases later in the year, though 2026 allocations were not substantially increased. Despite this volatility in the number of people the program could nominate, the Ministry was able to use the program to attract and retain highly qualified professionals, including health care workers, supporting economic growth and essential service delivery.

Performance measure and related discussion

Performance Measure	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Actual
4.1 Percentage of Career Paths Clients employed in their field upon program completion ^{1,2}	70%	70%	67%

Data source: Internal tracking Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

¹PM 4.1 targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 were stated in the 2025/26 service plan as 70%, respectively.

Skilled newcomers are improving their financial futures by joining the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants program, securing jobs that fully utilize their skills, education and experience. To date the program has served over 5,590 clients with 86 per cent of clients completing the program and achieving an average wage increase of \$11.63 an hour. This program prevents under-employment and contributes to BC's skilled talent pool, as the program has a specific focus on supporting people in high priority occupations needed in the province. The program continues to strive to meet its goal of ensuring clients are working in a job that matches their pre-arrival experience and overcoming underemployment. The percentage of clients employed in their field upon program completion has declined slightly due to shifting labour market conditions. The measure has been replaced in the current Ministry Service Plan 2026/27 - 2028/29 to highlight how the Provincial Nominee Program attracts top talent to drive economic development and address priority skills needs throughout the province in alignment with broader government goals such as the [Look West](#) strategy and the [Health Human Resources Strategy](#).

Financial Report

Financial Summary

	Estimated (\$000)	Other Authoriz- ations ¹ (\$000)	Total Estimated (\$000)	Actual (\$000)	Variance (\$000)
Operating Expenses					
Educational Institutions and Organizations	3,225,813	149,571	3,375,384	3,371,571	(3,813)
Student Services Programs	73,792	10,000	83,792	87,948	4,156
Private Training Institutions	1	0	1	0	(1)
Labour Market Development	39,737	24,984	64,721	60,243	(4,478)
Immigration and Strategic Planning	39,529	2,385	41,914	39,568	(2,346)
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	107,221	486	107,707	107,707	0
Executive and Support Services	29,775	(3,644)	26,131	31,990	5,859
Sub-total	3,515,868	183,782	3,699,650	3,699,027	(623)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ²	0	0	0	(1,584)	(1,584)
Total	3,515,868	183,782	3,699,650	3,697,443	(2,207)
Ministry Capital Expenditures (\$000)					
Executive and Support Services	504	0	504	1	(503)
Total	504	0	504	1	(503)

¹ "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations, Contingencies and Government Reorganizations. Supplementary Estimates and Government Reorganization amounts in this column are included in 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 \$1.6 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Operating statement for Post-Secondary Institutions

Post-Secondary Education	2025/26 Budget (\$000)	2025/26 Actual (\$000)	Variance (\$000)
Combined Operating Statement			
Total Revenues ¹	9,225,795	9,409,511	183,716
Total Expenses ²	9,182,237	9,108,069	(74,168)
Operating Results	43,558	301,442	257,884
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Assets (if applicable)	0	282	282
Net Results	43,558	301,724	258,166

¹ Higher than anticipated rate of return on investments and increase in third party donations.

² Decrease due to deficit mitigation strategies being applied by the sector.

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of July 31, 2026, 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 \(Forest Professionals BC\)](#)

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

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

BC Electronic Library Network

BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN)'s develops and supports 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 BC.

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 BC students into post-secondary and between institutions within the BC post-secondary system.

SkilledTradesBC

The *ITA Act* was 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 BC 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 StudentAid BC applicants or borrowers. It provides feedback, when requested, to StudentAid BC 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 Jessie Sunner's 2025 Mandate Letter.

2025 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2026
In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills programs and initiatives to ensure our programs remain relevant, are efficient, offer meaningful training opportunities for British Columbians, grow the economy, and help keep costs low. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints, the job opportunities available and projected to be available for British Columbians in the near future, and the threat of American tariffs.	• Ongoing – The Ministry of Finance continues to lead a coordinated approach for all ministries across government and PSFS continues to follow their direction.
Work with ministerial colleagues who have identified shortages of key skilled workers and professionals that are constraining economic growth or service delivery to find practical, fast, and efficient ways to address shortages of those workers through training, credential recognition, career laddering and other innovative approaches.	• Continued work with partner ministries including Health, Education and Child Care, and Jobs and Economic Growth to align post-secondary training with public sector and economic sector workforce needs. • Invested more than \$22.5 million since 2020 to fund development of 230 new micro-credentials and strengthen system coordination, improving access to industry-aligned training for in-demand labour market skills.

2025 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2026
Work with post-secondary institutions to evaluate and advocate federally in relation to the funding challenges caused by the federal government's changes related to international students. Support schools in identifying structural solutions, new revenue streams and cost reductions to ensure strong, sustainable public post secondary schools and training providers, who offer British Columbians the training and skills they need to be successful and help grow our provincial economy.	• Maintained ongoing engagement/consultation with senior executive and Heads of International of public post-secondary institutions to understand and address the impact of the federal policy changes. • Continued federal engagement to advocate on behalf of the sector for policy stability to allow the rebuilding of Canada and BC's reputation as a high-quality, welcoming international education destination.
Continue work with Indigenous partners to ensure that Indigenous learners can achieve their higher educational goals in ways that reflect a diversity of Indigenous cultures and values.	• Continued delivering Ministry-led Declaration Act Action Plan outcomes with Indigenous partners to strengthen Indigenous learner access and post-secondary systems, guided by Indigenous-identified priorities developed through consultation and engagement with First Nations, FNEC, Métis Nation BC, and other Indigenous organizations. This work advanced legislative, policy, funding, and institutional supports for Indigenous-controlled institutions, policy framework development, and community-based education, and was complemented by collaboration with other lead ministries and partners to advance additional Declaration Act actions.

2025 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2026
Support the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to enhance employment services and skills training for people facing multiple and complex barriers to assist them in exiting a cycle of poverty and build a dignified life.	• Ongoing, the 2025/26 fiscal year has been a transition period. To better align with ministry mandates, skills training programs for youth and people facing multiple barriers are transitioning from Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills to the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, effective April 2026. • The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills will take responsibility for the WorkBC Apprentice Services program, aligning with its mandate to develop a skilled workforce that meets labour market demand.
Work with the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs to ensure that postsecondary institutions that have identified opportunities in relation to using housing as an economic development tool are supported in delivering that housing urgently.	• Ongoing - Ministry is working with the ministries of Housing and Municipal Affairs and Infrastructure to support post-secondary institutions that have identified housing opportunities that have the potential to be an economic development tool.
Work with the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs to enable privately owned new purpose-built rental buildings that, if partnered with a public post-secondary institution, receive special provision under the <i>Residential Tenancy Act</i> to be exclusively for students registered at that institution.	• Ongoing – Ministry is working with the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs to support the development of privately owned, purpose-built student housing and is examining implications of providing special provisions under the <i>Residential Tenancy Act</i>.