



2018-19 Report of the Executive Committee

76TH SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING · JULY 24 TO 27, 2019



Dear Members,

Please accept for your consideration the report of the Executive Committee for the 2018-19 membership year.

Since the 2017 BC election, students have seen positive changes in access to and affordability of post-secondary education. This year, the 2019 BC Budget eliminated interest rates on provincial student loans—something Federation members have been advocating for through our past Squash the Squeeze campaign and last year's Grants not Loans campaign. Our efforts on this issue have saved past, current, and future students millions of dollars collectively as they repay their student loans.

Our Open Textbooks Now campaign has had several successes locally and provincially over the past year: more and more instructors are choosing to use open education resources, and OERs in BC have collectively saved students more than \$10 million since 2012! The lobbying work of students at a provincial level paid off as well – this April the government announced a \$3.26 million infusion to BCcampus for the development of more open education resources. This was a popular topic amongst provincial legislators from all parties during the Federation's Fall 2018 advocacy week and students are celebrating the opportunities this funding creates.

This past year also saw a reduction of interest rates at the Federal level from prime +2.5% to just prime – essentially cutting this rate in half. These commitments will improve the lives of thousands of our members and have inspired us to advocate even more strongly for the complete elimination of interest rates on federal student loans as well. Our first big venture as an organization into federal advocacy has had a strong start with more open communication with non-member students' unions across Canada, showing promise for the influence we will have in federal lobbying in the future – especially during the federal election cycle in which member locals will be mobilizing young voters to use their voices to ignite change across this country.

Federation services continue to be of high value and good quality, and are well received by members. This year, the handbook service is being utilized by every member local—the first time in several years. Further, the newly-developed student discount app is on track to be launched in August. This app will help make everyday life more affordable for members and ease the financial barrier of accessing post-secondary education.

The future of our campaigns and services is promising, with vastly growing opportunities in the ways of federal advocacy, cutting edge services, and potential for growth through more relationship building with non-member and prospective locals. This coming year is going to be exciting: because of the work of members across the province, the Federation is positioned as a leader not only in BC, but also across Canada.

In solidarity,

The Executive Committee



Campaigns & Government Relations



INTRODUCTION

Beginning in the 2017-2018 year the Federation categorised its campaigns in four different sections. The first section, titled Central Campaigns, is mass mobilisation campaigns focused on access to education. The second section, titled Supporting Campaigns, focuses on advocacy that reflects particular issues in the post-secondary system. The third section in the strategy categorised campaigns that the Federation works on in coalition with other organisations, titled Coalition Campaigns. The final section, Awareness Campaigns, focused on key issues that affect our membership with campaigns that raise awareness on key topics and educate the membership on said issues. This report follows the above framework, categorising the Federation's campaigns into the same four sections.

CENTRAL CAMPAIGNS

The 2018-19 Campaigns and Government Relations Plan divided access issues into two campaigns: one which focused on tuition fees and funding and one which focused on student financial assistance. The aim of these campaigns is to educate the public on these issues and on solutions to student debt. In particular, education is required to create public awareness of the funding crisis in BC and offer different avenues for solutions, being institutional funding and student grants.

FUNDING NOT FEES

Polling shows that the general public is less aware of the damage to education done by funding shortfalls and tuition fee increases than they are of the impacts of skyrocketing student debt. Further, there appears to be a generally poor understanding of the cause and effect relationship between funding cuts and fee increases, and the student debt crisis.

The Funding Not Fees campaign focuses on generating more public awareness of the funding crisis in BC. Through the use of updated research, full-spectrum campaigning, and strategic localised messaging, the Federation is employing a diversity of tactics to engage the general public on the key issues of funding and tuition fees. The majority of the 2018-19 year has focused on research and development with the public-facing launch of the campaign planned for Fall 2019.

The goals of the campaign are to increase funding for institutions and secure a progressive funding model that provides stability and accounts for inflation; and to immediately freeze, and progressively

reduce, tuition and other user fees. The intent of the campaign is to be public facing with the goal of moving public opinion more in favour of properly funding institutions and reducing tuition fees. To achieve the goals of the campaign, the Federation has procured a communications firm and has been conducting research to inform campaign development.

The Federation is working with NOW Communications for the development of this campaign. During the reporting period, development has been in the research phase which included two focus groups to explore campaign messaging and design.

Focus Groups

The focus groups were held in Kamloops on February 25, and in Vancouver on February 26, ensuring that the groups would give insight that was representative of our members' regional diversity.

The focus groups allowed for the Federation to gain insight into what key messaging and design would resonate with the campaign's target demographic. The focus groups indicated that public knowledge regarding institutional funding is poor, and when presented with facts on tuition fees and funding it was clear to participants

that higher education costs are a symptom of underfunding.

Multiple draft campaign materials were also presented in the focus groups and messaging that focused on the broader societal impacts of underfunding garnered the most positive reception. This is in line with the initial campaign direction and the Federation will work with NOW Communications to develop messaging that follows this theme. It was also indicated that a campaign title of *Fund It Fix It* garnered the most positive reception.

Campaign Development

The campaign will utilise paid media advertisements such as transit ads, digital displays, and online advertising. The campaign theme is being developed to be cross-platform, with variations for still or video advertisements. While the ads are initially intended to bring the costs of post-secondary education into the public consciousness, they will also include a call-to-action with a link to a campaign site.

Fund It Fix It is being designed to run for multiple years and to be adaptable for speaking to different government audiences. Materials for on-campus outreach are also being developed to enable member locals to engage with members.

The campaign will be launched in Fall 2019, directly after the closing of the federal election.

GRANTS NOT LOANS

The Federation's past access campaign, *Squash the Squeeze*, successfully pressured one of the most intransigent governments in the provinces' history to make an investment in reducing the student debt burden. BC's interest charged on student loans was reduced from the highest rate in Canada of prime plus 2.5% (prime plus 5% for a fixed rate), to simply prime as of August 1, 2017.

While this change is noteworthy as an important victory set to save students and graduates \$17 million per year, it pales in comparison with other, more substantial investments made in education accessibility in other jurisdictions. The best example in Canada is Newfoundland and



Labrador, where the government has eliminated its entire system of student loans in favour of non-repayable grants. For those from low- and middle-incomes, grants, not loans, provide a fair and equal access to education.

The current BC government made clear its intention to eliminate interest on student loans, and with this campaign, the Federation sought to apply pressure to ensure this would be included in Budget 2019. The *Grants Not Loans* campaign was therefore divided into two phases, the first focusing on eliminating interest on the BC portion of student loans, and the second phase focusing on grants as the solution to the affordability crisis.

Interest on BC Student Loans

The priority of the campaign was the elimination of interest on BC student loans in the 2019 BC Budget. The issue was a focus of submissions to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, and member locals engaged in campaign outreach online and on campuses to increase pressure on the government.

A campaign video was released in mid-October. The video aimed to raise awareness of the issues caused by interest charged on student loans, and to drive traffic to the campaign action page. On the action page, supporters were encouraged send emails to Minister of Finance Carole James expressing their support for the elimination of interest on student loans in Budget 2019. The video was promoted on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and nearly 2,500 emails were sent to Minister James before the Budget announcement.

Physical campus materials including a poster, petition, and letter template were circulated in late November, and the Federation purchased advertisements in campus media newspapers to further drive traffic to the campaign action page.

BC Interest Victory

The BC Government's 2019 Budget announced the elimination of interest charged on BC student loans effective February 19, 2019. In response to the announcement, the Federation released a campaign victory video, and social media



shareables which garnered high amounts of engagement. Victory posters were distributed to locals to display on campus and advertisement pages were purchased at 11 campus media outlets to also promote the campaign victory.

An online tool was also created and housed on the Federation's website where people could send 'thank you' emails to Minister Mark, Minister James, and Premier Horgan. The emails thanked the recipients for eliminating interest charged on BC student loans and for prioritising students in Budget 2019, and also included a field where a personal message could be included. In total, more than 250 'thank you' emails were sent.

This achievement is a direct outcome of the work done by the Federation and member locals over nearly a decade, through the campaigns *Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence*, *Squash the Squeeze*, and work done throughout this past year.

Grants

The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training has been given a mandate to implement a \$1,000 completion grant to assist graduates with the burden of student debt. However, a small back-end grant does nothing to address the up-front barriers to post-secondary education, nor does it meaningfully reduce student loan debt.

The second focus of the Grants Not Loans campaign is the implementation of an up-front,



needs-based grant program. Throughout the 2018-19 year, much of the work undertaken has been research-driven to then inform the development of the front-facing parts of the plan. While polling shows that two-thirds of British Columbians support the implementation of such a program, more work needs to be done to move the government away from its agenda and towards one that will work for everyone.

The Federation worked with communications firm Grassriots to develop two aspects of a campaign: on-campus materials for local implementation, and a public-facing strategy to maintain and grow public support for the campaign goal.

Materials for on-campus outreach were distributed to member locals in the Winter 2019 semester. These materials included a poster, leaflet, pledge card, and sticker. A webpage was added to the Federation's website to provide information about student debt in BC and to make the case for a grant program as the solution. Two additional documents were produced and made available for download from the website: one focuses on how BC can pay for the proposed program; the other outlines the differences between grants, loans, and non-repayable loans.

The Federation worked with Grassriots throughout the Winter semester to develop a public-facing campaign. The development work included several webinars with member local directors and staff to solicit feedback and provide updates. Unfortunately, the firm was unable to demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the issue and goal of the campaign, and it was decided that the best course of action was to terminate the contract. Work is currently underway to develop the public-facing strategy in-house.

KNOCK OUT INTEREST

While a victory on BC student loan interest is important, delegates at the 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting recognized the need to expand advocacy efforts to the federal government in order to fully realise the elimination of interest on all student loans. Interest rates charged on Canada Student Loans match the highest rates

charged on student loans in the country.

The goal of the Knock Out Interest campaign is the elimination of interest charged on federal student loans in order to remove the financial barrier to post-secondary education for those from low- and middle-income families. The campaign was developed early in Winter 2019, and materials were distributed to campuses in late February.

Website

The campaign website knockoutinterest.ca houses campaign information and engagement tools. The main online action tool asks supporters to send an email to their local Member of Parliament and Prime Minister Trudeau asking for the elimination of interest on student loans, which also includes a field to include a personal story. Detailed information on federal student loans and the impact of charging interest on student loans on both individuals and the economy is also included.

Mobilisation

The website contains multiple mobilisation tools that members and the public can utilise to demonstrate support for the campaign's goal. These tools include an email to the Prime Minister (which is also sent to the supporter's local Member of Parliament), a fax to the Prime Minister (and local Member of Parliament), a platform for supporters to phone the Prime Minister's office, support to tweet at your Member of Parliament, and a tool for supporters to send letters to the editor of their local media outlets.

These tools have resulted in over 1,500 emails and 100 faxes being sent.

Materials

The campaign print materials, delivered to campuses in mid-March, include a poster, pledge card, and buttons. The purpose of the pledge card is to collect the information necessary to then send an email on behalf of supporters who have signed the physical material.

Outreach

The Federation utilised its existing Nationbuilder list to promote the campaign. Those on the list





who participated in the email action were sent a new email asking the user to fax their MP as the second level of engagement. A final email was also sent to folks who were on the list, had opened the email, but hadn't taken an action yet.

Endorsements

Outreach work to non-member students' unions to gather endorsements and spread the campaign is ongoing, and student's unions in BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and the Maritimes have been contacted. Presentations to several students' union boards have been scheduled and work will continue over the summer to identify further potential coalition partners. To-date, endorsements have been received from the Royal Roads University Students' Association, the University of Regina Students' Union, the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators, and the Confederation of University Faculty Associations–BC.

2019 Federal Budget

Soon after the launch of the campaign on March 19, the 2019 federal budget announcement included the reduction of interest charged on federal student loans, from prime + 2.5%, down to just prime. This reduction is planned to start in the 2019-20 school year. This promise shows the awareness of this issue at the federal level, and provides momentum that this campaign can draw upon.

SUPPORTING CAMPAIGNS

FAIRNESS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

After 16 years of funding cuts to public colleges and universities, the recruitment of international students, who pay tuition fee rates that produce a profit for the institutions, has become a measure to directly replace the revenue lost from public funding shortfalls. Unlike domestic students, tuition fees for international students are unregulated, resulting in international students having no understanding of how much their fees can increase year-to-year. The Fairness for International Students campaign calls for a provincial regulation of tuition fees for international students, the creation of a new international education strategy for BC, and aims to create awareness among domestic students of the unfair way international students are treated.

The Federation held an official provincial launch of the campaign in August 2018 at Camosun College. At the event, then-Chairperson Armutlu spoke broadly about the campaign and its goals, and then-Campaigns Coordinator Alhuwayshil spoke about her experience as an international student in Canada. The launch generated media coverage about the campaign and issues faced by international students and made fairness for international students the back-to-school issue covered by a wide-range of media outlets.

Materials for the campaign include posters, stickers, and postcards; a comprehensive research document and one-page fact sheet are also available to assist with local lobbying and education efforts. The postcards serve a dual purpose: the material is two postcards attached, one directed at local administrators and one directed at the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

International Education Strategy

Ministry staff have confirmed that the government has made it a priority to develop a new international education strategy for BC within this year. In May 2019 Federation representatives Celeste, Davies, and Falk met with Ministry staff as an initial, informal consultation for the development of a new international education





strategy. The meeting focused on the key challenges facing international education from both the institution and student perspectives. The Ministry staff were very receptive to the Federation's perspective, and confirmed that the government wants to develop a strategy that is a balanced and student focused approach. The Ministry staff will keep in contact with the Federation representatives and plan to schedule a more formal consultation for the development of a new international education strategy later in the year.

The decision to develop a new strategy represents a significant victory, as it is one of the main asks of the campaign. The Federation will continue its involvement in these consultations with the Ministry to ensure that the new strategy focuses on supporting international students in a fair and predictable manner.

OPEN TEXTBOOKS NOW!

Open Education Resources (OER) are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain, and that permit their free use and re-purposing by others. These resources commonly include textbooks and open access journals, but can also be modules, tests, videos, and study guides. The cost of textbooks and course materials has long been a financial challenge for students. Constantly changing versions of textbooks and skyrocketing prices have put many textbooks beyond student's reach. These unchecked cost increases add yet another financial barrier to students from low- and middle-income backgrounds. Further, the funds paid by

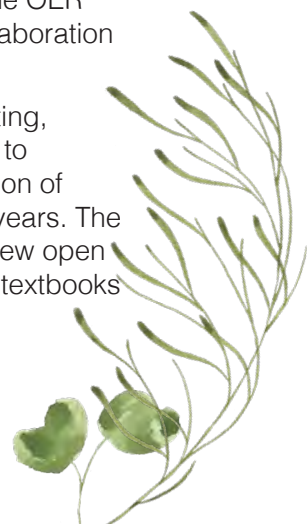
students for these materials frequently end up in the pockets of major publishing houses, and do not flow back to the creators of the academic materials. Such a system is the product of a copyright law regime that benefits knowledge owners to the detriment of creators and users.

The goal of the *Open Textbooks Now!* campaign is to better connect knowledge users and creators through a fully funded system of OERs that are free to students and instructors in BC. The campaign aims for provincial funding to support the creation and adaption of OERs, and also aims to have more on-campus uptake of OERs by faculty.

BCcampus

BCcampus is an organisation that supports BC post-secondary institutions in the evolution of their teaching and learning practices to best support students in BC. They focus on advocacy work and help to support institutions in innovative education projects. BCcampus is a world recognised leader in open education, and they work heavily on open textbook creation, facilitation, and advocacy. The Federation continues to work closely with BCcampus in the development and implementation of the OER campaign and their expertise and collaboration continues to be vital.

At the 74th Semi-Annual General meeting, delegates resolved to donate \$30,000 to BCcampus for the creation and adaption of open education resources over three years. The funding will go to the creation of one new open textbook, and at least three additional textbooks



will be created by curating, editing, and localising other content for classrooms in BC. All textbooks target first-year courses and cover a range of subject matter.

In April 2019, BCcampus hosted the Cascadia Open Education Summit, which is an annual conference for students, staff, administration, faculty, and librarians from across the Pacific Northwest region to participate in sessions and workshops discussing a wide range of open education topics. The Federation facilitated a student panel that provided students' perspectives of open; the Federation also facilitated a two-hour workshop on how to engage with students when advocating for and working on open education. In addition, the Federation hosted a table at the Summit to engage with attendees about work students are doing in BC through the *Open Textbooks Now!* campaign. Materials were very popular with attendees, who took them to use as samples at their own institutions.



Then-Chairperson Armutlu and then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas were in attendance along with representatives from Locals 6, 12, and 13. The Federation's ongoing collaboration with BCcampus continues to be mutually influential at promoting and encouraging the use of OERs across the province and helps keep the Ministry aware of the importance of OERs in post-secondary education.

Campaign Victory

On April 17, during the opening remarks of the Cascadia Open Education Summit, Minister Melanie Mark and MLA Bob D'Eith announced \$3.26 million dollars of funding to BCcampus for the purpose of expanding open education work. The funding will go to creating an open-source homework-management system, and the creation of open education resources, including open textbooks. The Federation was quoted in the government news release, which also highlighted the Federation's \$30,000 donation to BCcampus in the government background.

This announcement is a direct result of the work locals and the Federation have done to advocate for this funding, and many members of the open education community in British Columbia have recognised that fact.

YOUR CITY. YOUR VOTE.

In October 2018, general municipal elections took place across BC. Members made it clear due to the volume of other work occurring in the fall, that a municipal election campaign needed to focus on education and awareness on the topic rather than get-out-the-vote tactics. The benefits of an education campaign allowed for the Federation to take on campaign goals it is capable of achieving, while still maintaining capacity to engage in its other campaigns. The campaign sought to educate members in a topic that often is overlooked, which includes the responsibilities of locally elected officials and school board trustees.

The *Your City. Your Vote.* campaign took an educational approach to highlight the services run by municipalities and encouraged students to learn about what candidates are saying about issues that are important to them. To develop the campaign, the Federation researched services and regulations under the purview of city councils and broke them into seven main categories in order to make the information easy to talk about and easy for members to digest.

The Federation undertook the research, design, and production of the campaign throughout



August, and the materials (three posters, a digital toolkit, and a series of leaflets, each highlighting a municipal service category) were delivered to member locals in early September. A page was added to the Federation's website to promote the issues and direct members to register to vote and update their address.

The campaign was also used by the UFV Student Union Society.

COALITION CAMPAIGNS

VOTE PR BC

Youth and students are traditionally under-represented in municipal, provincial, and federal elections and referendums. A system of proportional representation would bring student and youth issues to the forefront as every vote would count, and students and youth have proven to show intent on participating in elections and referendums as identified in the most recent provincial election (youth voter turnout was higher than middle aged voters).

On, May 30 2018, Attorney General David Eby announced the details of the referendum on proportional representing that will occur as a mail-in ballot from October 22 to November 20, 2018.

The Make Every Voter Count (MEVC) coalition was founded by FairVote BC and FairVote Canada. The members of the coalition included twelve labour unions and other non-profit organisations. The purpose of MEVC was to provide education to voters on the electoral reform referendum and mobilise voters to the polls. MEVC transformed into a society, named Vote PR BC (PRBC), and was the official yes-proponent for the referendum. The Federation had a seat on the PRBC Executive that was filled by then-Chairperson Armutlu.

One of the campaign's primary outreach targets was students and young people. Student-specific materials were produced and delivered to campuses under a sub-campaign titled *Pro Rep is Lit*. PRBC hired students as on-campus field coordinators to help facilitate day-to-day campaign outreach at their own institutions.

The voting period for the campaign ended on November 30, 2018. The final outcome of the results were 38.7% in favour of proportional representation and 61.3% in favour of First Past The Post.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

EQUITY

The notion of accessible education includes a safe campus and community that empowers all people to succeed. Materials for the equity campaign are provided to help member locals with general outreach and education, enhance local initiatives, and assist member locals if they are responding to an incident or issue in their community. The Federation produces a series of "Unlearn" buttons and stickers that address issues of ableism, homophobia, racism, sexism, and transphobia. A materials order form has been developed so that locals can order Unlearn materials as needed.

The Federation created handheld pride fans branded with anti-transphobia, anti-homophobia, and pro-education messages. In addition to the fans sent to locals, the Federation distributed over 2,500 handheld fans to parade spectators.





RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AGENCIES

RELATIONS WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Advocacy Week

On October 29 to 31, the Federation held Advocacy Week in Victoria. The Federation met with over 70 Members of the Legislature and Cabinet Ministers including: the Speaker; 36 BC NDP members; 24 BC Liberal members; 1 Green Party Member, and the Premier. The meetings were mostly formatted as group meetings, with MLAs from a particular region all meeting with students together. Meetings with Ministers typically included just the Minister, their staff, and the student representatives. Representatives from Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 12, 13, 15, 17, and 20 participated in the Week. Additionally, representatives from the Simon Fraser Student Society and the UBC Alma Mater Society participated in the Week. A full list of meetings is included in Appendix II of this report.

A lobby document containing 12 specific recommendations was created for the Week, based on the 2018-19 Campaigns and Government Relations Plan. The final page of the lobby document included a table itemising the cost of each recommendation as a tangible calculation in order for the government to consider these investments as they developed the 2019 Budget. The 12 recommendations are divided into six key areas and are as follows:

Student Financial Assistance

- eliminate all interest charged on BC student loans; and
- increase non-repayable student financial assistance options for students from low- and middle-income backgrounds through the creation of a comprehensive up-front, needs-based grants program.

Institutional Funding and Fees

- increase base funding to colleges and universities by at least \$200 million starting in the 2019/20 year;
- freeze tuition fees and develop a plan to progressively reduce tuition fees at public colleges, institutes and universities to lessen the financial burden on students and their families; and
- strengthen the existing Tuition Fee Limit Policy to ensure that institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits in the form of new ancillary fees.

Open Education Resources

- allocate one-time additional funding of \$5 million to BCcampus to facilitate the creation and expansion of open education resources.

Reconciliation Through Education

- implement the education-related recommendations from the TRC; and
- provide annual funding of \$5 million to support the creation, integration, and support for Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in the classroom.

Regulation of International Student Tuition Fees

- amend the Tuition Fee Limit Policy to add a cap on fees for international students, to create fairness, consistency, and predictability for international student tuition fees; and
- develop a new BC international education strategy that will provide sufficient support for international students to assist in their cultural, social, and academic integration.



Investment in supports for Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policies on Campus

- review the sexual violence and misconduct policies at the twenty-five public post-secondary institutions to ensure they cover the necessary issues and provide satisfactory responses; and
- undertake a needs assessment amongst post-secondary institutions to determine the funding necessary to effectively implement sexual violence and misconduct policies.

A shorter briefing document was created to highlight overlapping interests with the Simon Fraser Student Society and the UBC Alma Mater Society, as well as to highlight the main topics being covered in meetings which were student financial aid, open education resources, and sexual violence and misconduct policies.

On October 31 the Federation hosted a government reception where participants had the opportunity to engage with members of government and staff in an informal setting. Participants highlighted the reception as an opportunity to build further connections with decision makers and appreciated the opportunity to further speak to local and student experiences.



Budget 2019 Consultations

Each year, the BC Legislature's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services has a consultation process to hear priorities and feedback from the public regarding the next

year's provincial budget. Along with a chance to submit a written submission to the Committee, stakeholders may select a date in one of eleven different cities across the province.

In preparation for the consultation presentations, the Federation created a written submission, as well as a guide for making a verbal submission and a template news release for locals to use to promote their involvement in the consultation process among local and campus media. The written submission focused on key recommendations to eliminate interest on student loans, create an up-front needs-based grants program, and invest in open education resources.

Federation representatives presented to the Committee in Mission towards the end of the consultation period. Federation and member local presentations were received positively, and it was noted by several MLAs that while the messaging was unified, the personal stories were also appreciated by members of the Committee.

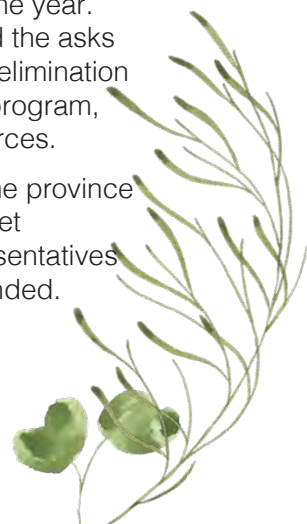
The Committee released the Report from the consultations on November 15, and many of the Federation's recommendations were included in the final budget report.

Budget 2019

BC Budget 2019 was released on February 19, 2019. Then-Chairperson Armutlu and Executive Director Olson participated in the budget "lock-up", where media and stakeholders were provided with an advanced presentation of the budget and were allowed a brief question and answer period.

Prior to the Budget 2019 presentation, Finance Minister James and Advanced Education, Skills and Training Minister Mark invited Federation representatives to attend a meeting to highlight their appreciation for the advocacy efforts that students engaged in throughout the year. Federation representatives highlighted the asks from students on Budget 2019 for the elimination of interest on student loans, a grants program, and funding for open education resources.

Several dozen students from across the province received invitations to watch the budget presentation at the Legislature. Representatives from Locals 6, 12, 13, 15, and 17 attended.



Students and Federation representatives also attended the government reception immediately following the announcement where they had the opportunity to engage with Members of the Legislative Assembly, staff, coalition partners, and the Premier.

Tuition fees

Following the current government's commitment to make Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English Language Learning (ELL) programs tuition fee free, Budget 2019 included additional funding of \$18 million over three years which brings the total annual budget for these programs to \$24 million annually.

Over the next three years provincial revenue from tuition fees is estimated to increase by an average of 7.3% each year.

Financial Aid

The Budget reflects the government's election commitment to eliminate interest on student loans, effective February 19, 2019. Interest will no longer accrue on new and existing BC student loans effective said date. The government estimates borrowers will collectively save \$22 million in interest payments in 2019/20. The Budget documents reflected a one-time expense of \$318 million to offset the costs related to this change. Government numbers also indicate this change will save the average borrower an estimated \$2,300 over a 10-year repayment period.

However, the Budget did not provide funding for a comprehensive up-front, needs based grants program.

Core Funding

Budget 2019 indicates an annual increase in core funding of 3.6% over three years, keeping just above inflation.

Other

Budget 2019 also includes the following investments in the post-secondary sector:

- \$3 million over three years to enable the Industry Training Authority (ITA) to increase hands-on support for community members in order to engage with and navigate

through the trades training system. As well, funding will support the development of a Performance Management Framework, which aims to evaluate the ITA's progress towards the inclusions of equity-seeking groups.

- \$5 million over three years to train more health-care providers through institutions across the province, specifically targeting professions that are facing shortages which are impacting the delivery of health care.
- Additional \$5 million in annual funding for post-secondary grants in 2021/22 to support technology programing.
- The Budget contains no funding for BCcampus or open education resources in BC as recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

This year's Budget transitioned and expanded the current Early Childhood Tax Benefit into a new BC Child Opportunity Benefit. This will benefit families with children up to the age of 18, with the largest supports going to those with the greatest need. The Benefit is aimed at helping to reduce child poverty in BC.

Budget 2019 follows through with the government's commitment to fully eliminate MSP premiums effective January 1, 2020, saving families as much as \$1,800 per year.

Budget 2020 Consultations

In May of this year, the government announced a change to its consultation process for the 2020 Budget. Rather than hold the consultations in the Fall, consultations will now be held in the summer, with the aim of receiving public priorities earlier on in the Budget cycle. The BC Legislature's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services held a consultation process in June 2019 to hear priorities and feedback from the public regarding the 2020 provincial budget. The format remained the same, allowing stakeholders the opportunity to submit a written submission to the Committee, and/or select a date to present their recommendations to the Committee in person in cities across the province.



In preparation for the consultation presentations, the Federation created a written submission as well as a guide for making a verbal submission. Chairperson Klassen and Executive Director Olson presented to the Committee on June 13 in Qualicum. A written submission was also provided to the Committee, in which the Federation outlined its recommendations to create an up-front needs-based grants program, increase institutional funding, reduce tuition fees, and the implementation of more fair policies for international student tuition fees.

Federation and member local presentations were received positively, and it was noted by several MLAs that while the messaging was unified, the personal stories were also appreciated by members of the committee.

Rental Housing Task Force

Then-Chairperson Armutlu and then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas attended a Rental Housing Task Force townhall session in Surrey on June 28. The session was facilitated by MLAs Spencer Chandra Herbert, Adam Olsen, and Ronna-Rae Leonard. The session included roundtable discussions where landlords and tenants were divided into separate groups and participants shared experiences common to their group. The goal of this session was to identify common themes and issues for the Task Force to utilise in its research. Participants also had the opportunity to record their thoughts and submit them to the Task Force. Armutlu and Patigdas focused their comments and submissions on the student perspective which included highlighting the exclusion of student housing in the Residential Tenancy Act, specifically under key areas such as rent increases and evictions.

RELATIONS WITH THE MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TRAINING

Federation Meetings

Ministry staff from the Student Financial Assistance department spoke at the Federation's 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting. The session included discussion on what work is being done on grants programing and interest charged on student loans. Delegates were also given the

opportunity to give feedback on the Student Financial Assistance operations overall.

Minster Melanie Mark attended the 37th Annual General Meeting to bring greetings and to speak with delegates about the work she and her government has done to improve post-secondary education and trades training in the province.

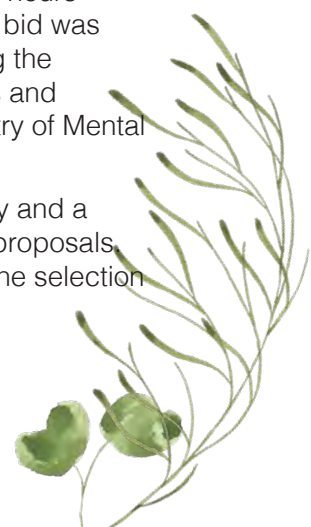
Mental Health Services

The Federation has been in consultation with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training to address the lack of available mental health and addictions services for post-secondary students. Throughout the academic year, the Federation has coordinated consultations that involved member locals and Ministry staff to ensure that the direction of implementation of the governments' mandate on improving mental health services integrates students feedback.

On August 7, the Federation participated in feedback sessions with Ministry staff working on the mental health initiative the Ministry has been working on. Federation representatives and staff were present in the sessions along with representatives from Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13, 16, and 17. Representatives from the UBC Alma Mater Society and the Simon Fraser Students' Society also participated. The session focused on gathering feedback on the idea of a student hotline that students can access 24/7 from anywhere in BC. The questions ranged from desired qualifications of those answering the phones, to what types of reasons students expect to use the hotline.

On January 3, a public open bid was announced by the government for the development of a virtual 24/7 mental health support offering counselling and referral services to post-secondary students extending to after-hours of existing on-campus resources. The bid was through cross-ministry efforts involving the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.

The call for bids concluded in late May and a committee was created to review the proposals. The Federation helped to coordinate the selection



of student representatives, which resulted in Campaigns Coordinator Vannan and a Local 5 member holding those seats.

Student Housing Working Group - Leading Practices

As the current BC Residential Tenancy Act (RTA) does not include student housing, many student tenants are without rental rights. The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training created a Student Housing Working Group for the purpose of creating a series of best practices for student housing. The Working Group is reviewing the nine recommendations put forward by a coalition of student representatives. The recommendations focus on tenancy contracts, privacy, repairs, rent increases, and appeals based on the rights guaranteed by the RTA. The majority of the recommendations are in line with the Federation's issues policy and perspective. The Working Group has since formed a small subgroup consisting of student association representatives, student housing directors and Ministry staff to discuss the recommendations in detail, and to write the initial draft of best practices.

In January a meeting was organised by Ministry staff to bring stakeholders together to discuss the best practices for post-secondary institutions focusing on the nine recommendations put forward. In attendance were student associations, Indigenous partners, a sub-committee of the working group, and Ministry staff. Federation representatives then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas and Researcher Celeste were in attendance and provided a unique perspective emphasising the vast difference in resources

and demographics between rural and urban institutions.

From March to June the small group held a series of videoconference meetings which either then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas or Researcher Celeste attended. The group finalised the discussion on all nine recommendations and determined language for the best practices for the recommendations. The group has since divided up the nine best practices, and plans to have them all written in a draft document by the end of the summer to be shared back to the larger Working Group in the fall. The goal is to present a final document of best practices for the Student Housing Workshop in October.



Moving Forward Together: Building Capacity to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Violence on Campus

On June 4 and 5 a forum was hosted by BCcampus to build capacity to prevent sexual violence on campus. Secretary-Treasurer Falk and Researcher Celeste attended on behalf of the Federation. The event gathered students, post-secondary institution staff, community organisations, and Ministry staff to discuss

best practices and ways that the Ministry can support those on the ground in preventing sexual violence on campuses. Minister Mark opened the forum with an announcement of \$760,000 in funding to support best practices and training resources. Participants heard speakers on a wide range of topics including plain language, best practices, student climate surveys, and a policy overview. The forum was a helpful resource and Federation representatives were able to bring the student voice to the discussions to remind others that resources and capacity vary widely across campuses and to focus on ways that the Ministry can ensure it is offering all campuses sufficient supports.



RELATIONS WITH MINISTRY OF LABOUR'S FAIR WAGE COMMISSION

The Fair Wage Commission was established in October 2017 and works independently to advise the government on how to raise minimum wages regularly in a measured and predictable manner. The three main tasks of the Commission include:

1. Develop recommendations for a pathway forward to raise minimum wage to \$15/hour that is regularly reviewed and continue to increase once achieved. (Completed)
2. Make recommendations about other wage rates under the Employment Standards Regulation for agricultural workers, liquor servers, live-in support workers, resident caretakers and live-in camp leaders. (Completed)
3. Advise government on ways to begin to address the discrepancy between the minimum wage and a living wage in BC. (Underway).

The Commission conducted two public consultations on improvements to Employment Standards and closing the gap between the living wage and minimum wage in BC. The Federation has participated in both consultations.

Submission for the Employment Standards Act Consultation

The Employment Standards Act is legislation that sets the minimum standards for workplaces in the province; yet it has been 25 years since its last comprehensive review. On February 28 the Ministry of Labour via the Fair Wage Commission opened a province-wide consultation through e-mail submissions, seeking input from the public about ways to modernise the Act through the following six themes:

1. increasing protection of child workers,
2. transforming the Employment Standards Branch,
3. supporting families through difficult times with job-protected leaves of absences,

4. strengthening workers' ability to recover wages/monies owed,
5. clarifying hours of work and overtime standards, and
6. improving fairness for terminated workers.

The Federation participated in the consultation process and worked to strategise with coalition partners including the BC Federation of Labour (BCFED), First Call, and the Poverty Reduction Coalition-BC. The Federation submitted its recommendation on Themes 2, 3, 4, and 5 with the students' perspectives and discussed how the changes will affect students.

Government Announcement

Following the consultation, the government passed legislation making changes to the Employment Standards Act (ESA), which had gone 15 years without updates. The updates include:

- Underage Employment: increasing allowable age of formal employment from 12 years old to 16 years old, with 13-14 years old allowed for light work. This change is welcomed by coalition partners in the labour movement and First Call Coalition as it prevents child labour, getting BC in line with United Nations recommendations and the rest of Canada;
- Recoveries of Earned Wages: creating regulation that prohibits employers to take tips from employees and prevention of tip pooling. Further, the period workers can recover wages is now extended to 12-24 months.
- Protected Leave of Absences: improving protection of workers trying to escape domestic violence as well as parents that are taking a leave to take care of an ill child.
- Elimination of Self-Help Kit: repealing the previous system that required workers to use the self-help kit to resolve issues with employers before forwarding a formal complaint to the Employment Standards Branch. This change means that workers gain a better avenue to advocate for their rights when an issue arises.



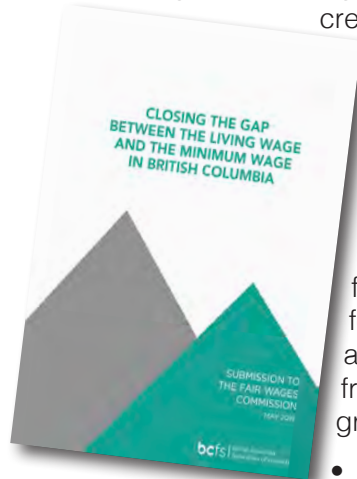
Further, the Employment Standards Branch, that is tasked in enforcing ESA, is being given an added \$4 million in its budget to support increase hiring of staff and support.

Submission for the Closing the Gap Between Living Wage and Minimum Wage Consultation

The final public consultation held by the Fair Wage Commission was to advise the government on ways to begin to address the discrepancy between the minimum wage and a living wage in the province. In May the Federation submitted recommendations which integrated the student perspective and focused on ways to reduce the living wage while better supporting the lives of students. These recommendations were:

- making post-secondary education affordable in BC through (1) freezing tuition fees and creating a progressive plan to reduce tuition fees at public post-secondary institutions; and (2) increasing non-repayable student financial aid options for students through a comprehensive up-front, needs based grants program.
- providing affordable housing through (1) ensured rent increases tied to the unit rather than to the tenants, (2) strengthened tenant protections, and (3) strengthened application and enforcement of the Residential Tenancy Act
- supporting the call for universal pharmacare in Canada to lower health costs and ensure access to prescription drugs.

The recommendations will inform the Commission's report, which is scheduled to be delivered to the Ministry of Labour by the end of the summer. The Federation's complete submission can be found on the Federation's website.



RELATIONS WITH THE OPPOSITION

Federation Meetings

Opposition Critic Simon Gibson attended the 37th Semi-Annual General Meeting to bring greetings from the Opposition Caucus and to talk about his Party's vision for post-secondary education and trades training in the province.

Meeting with BC Liberal MLA Dan Davies

Federation representatives met with Dan Davies, MLA for Peace River North and the Opposition Critic for Education on August 20. The meeting was in response to Davies' receipt of the Federation's research document on international students, and much of the discussion focused on the economic impact of international students and the precarity of the funding system's reliance on international enrolment. Davies was also interested in the *Open Textbooks Now!* campaign, and views open education resources as a natural and obvious progression of the increasing introduction of technology into the K-12 system.

BC Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson

On February 20, Opposition Leader Andrew Wilkinson participated in a radio interview where he expressed opposition to eliminating interest on student loans. Upon learning about these comments, the Federation contacted the radio station to request a response. Then-Chairperson Armutlu was interviewed and outlined concern with Mr. Wilkinson's statements and debunked inaccuracies. The Federation also published a blog post on March 6 to outline and debunk Wilkinson's inaccurate statements. The blog post was shared on social media and with the Executive Committee and highlighted the misleading comments made and spoke to the realities of the student loan program and student debt in BC.

BC Green Party

On February 6, Women Students' Representative Spicer and Executive Director Olson met with two Green Party opposition staffers to discuss the Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy Act. The meeting focused on gaps in the legislation, particularly in how the legislation is being



interpreted and implemented on campuses across the province, with the goal of identifying possible amendments to the legislation. The key hurdles to amending the legislation include the requirement to maintain confidentiality of survivors, and recognising the vastly different limitations of institutions based on size, location, and more. Following the meeting, Spicer provided the staff with written recommendations for amendments to the legislation.

RELATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Budget 2019

Each year, the minister responsible for finance produces a budget for the Government of Canada. This budget is provided to legislators who review the make-up of government's financial expectations for the coming year, then vote on the proposal. The process begins with consultations in the previous year then a launch day for the budget, then with the final review and adoption.

Budget 2019, entitled Investing in the Middle Class, was released on March 19, 2019. For students, the Federal Budget reduced interest charged on student loans and eliminated interest during the six-month grace period post-graduation. The Federation published a news to highlight the interest reduction as a victory for students.

The Budget also made some small improvements for students such as funding to support vulnerable students and students with disabilities, workers in training, indigenous education, increases in research funding, funding for work placement opportunities, promotion of apprenticeship programs, and laid the foundation for national pharmacare.

It is notable that the Federation's federal pre-budget submission from August 2018 included three recommendations: elimination of interest on student loans, funding for reconciliation through education, and universal pharmacare. All three recommendations were reflected in some capacity in Budget 2019.

Interest on Student Loans

Budget 2019 limits interest charged on student loans to the prime rate of interest for floating and prime + 2.5% for fixed (the existing interest rate ranges from prime plus 2.5% to prime plus 5%). Additionally, it removes interest charged on student loans during the six-month grace period following the end of studies. Government estimates suggest this change will save borrowers an average of \$2,000 over the loan repayment period. The government estimates that approximately one million student loan borrowers currently in repayment, and 200,000 graduates who leave school each year, will benefit from these changes.



Indigenous Education

Budget 2019 increases funding to the Post-Secondary Student Support Program by investing \$327.5 million over five years to renew and expand the program. This program had previously been capped at a 2% increase in funding annually. This funding takes a necessary step towards reconciliation through education by funding the backlog of Indigenous students seeking a post-secondary education.

An additional \$9 million over three years is being given to Indspire (an Indigenous-led charitable foundation) for additional bursaries and scholarships for First Nations, Inuit, and Metis students.



Pharmacare

Budget 2019 establishes the ground work for a universal pharmacare program by providing \$35 million over four years toward the creation of the Canadian Drug Agency Transition Office, an agency to assess drug effectiveness and negotiate prices.

Support for Vulnerable Students

Budget 2019 offers \$15 million over 5 years into the Canada Student Loans Program in order to modernise the program to better include vulnerable students, including things such as:

- increased cap for equipment grants for students with disabilities from \$8,000 to \$20,000;
- expanded eligibility for students with severe disabilities to qualify for loan forgiveness;
- for borrowers taking a temporary leave from studies for medical, parental, or mental health leave, to be granted an interest-free and payment free leave, in six-month periods for a maximum of 18 months. This program will receive \$20 million over five years starting in 2019-20, with \$4 million per year ongoing; and
- increased funding of \$4 million to provinces and territories for these accessibility improvements.

Work Placement & Apprenticeship Programs

Budget 2019 invests \$631.2 million over five years to expand the student work placement program. This funding aims to support up to 20,000 new work placements annually for post-secondary students in all disciplines.

The Budget also invests \$40 million over four years, and \$10 million annually ongoing, to Skills Canada. This aims to promote skilled trades to young people through skills competitions and providing resources. Additionally this Budget invests \$6 million over two years to create a national campaign aiming to make trades a first-career choice for young people.

Worker's Training Benefit

The Budget introduced a new program called the Canada Training Benefit. This program will give

workers funding to help cover up to half of the costs of a course or training program. Canadians aged 25 to 64 will earn \$250 per year up to a lifetime limit of \$5,000 to support their training costs. For this program, the budget includes over \$1.7 billion over five years, starting in 2019–20, and \$586.5 million per year ongoing for this new program.

In support of this program, a new Employment Insurance Training Support Benefit will allow workers to receive four weeks of EI payments to support those in training.

Research Funding and Researcher's Leave

Budget 2019 increases funding to federal granting councils—\$114 million over five years, starting in 2019–20, with \$26.5 million per year ongoing, to the federal granting councils—the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. This funding will create an additional 500 master's level scholarship awards annually and 167 more three-year doctoral scholarship awards annually through the Canada Graduate Scholarship program.

The Budget increases paid parental leave for student researchers and postdoctoral fellows (from six months to twelve months). This increase is expected to be beneficial for young researchers, especially women.







DISCOUNT PROGRAM

The Federation has coordinated the provision of local and provincial discounts for individual members for several decades. This service is one of the most tangible, direct benefits of membership in the Federation; moreover, through saving students money in their day-to-day lives, the Federation and member locals are working to reduce financial barriers to post-secondary education.

For the 2018-19 year, the discount program began its transition away from the International Student Identity Card—a program run in cooperation with the Canadian Federation of Students. Instead of the ISIC, the discounts were made available to students who simply showed their student ID.

Mobile Application

The 36th Annual General Meeting directed the Executive Committee to investigate the feasibility of evolving the discount program by developing a mobile application. The key components to a successful app were identified as: a map feature, discount listing by location, and a way for students to show an identifier to access the discount at the business. The program would also require a website which both promotes the program and discounts, and also allows the Federation and member locals to add discount partners.

Research and development of a mobile application occurred throughout most of the 2018-19 year. The Federation sought quotes from three app developers in British Columbia who do not outsource any design or coding work outside Canada. FreshWorks, a Victoria-based developer, was ultimately chosen to develop the mobile application.

The app is set for a soft launch in August 2019, with a full roll-out to be ready for September 2019; Freshworks has indicated that this is a reasonable timeline and that development is on track to meet this schedule. A series of webinar meetings have been hosted throughout the development process to keep member locals updated and to solicit feedback on features and design.

The mobile application will be rolled-out in phases. Phase one will include a discount listing page, discounts displayed on a map, a user profile, and the ability for businesses to upload their own discounts. It will also allow for different discount types like: flat percentage off, buy one get one, and



limited quantity discounts. Phase two will allow for non-members to purchase access to the discount program; additional features have been flagged for future development projects.

A working prototype of the application is live and beta-testing of completed features will be conducted as features are implemented.

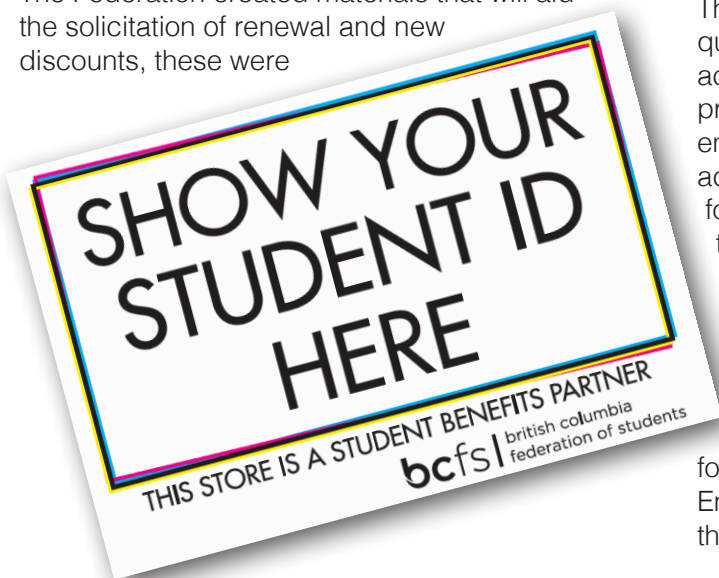
2018-19 Discount Solicitation

The Federation created a solicitation package that included a discount agreement, program background, solicitor's guide, solicitor's agreement, and a form for businesses with multiple locations. The agreement had explicit language that the discount provider would accept institutional student ID. The Federation produced regional discount guides and delivered them to locals. The guides were in the form of rave cards or booklets, depending on the number of discounts in the region. A static-cling window decal was produced for businesses to put on their storefront window to promote their participation in the program.

More than 350 discounts were secured for the 2018-19 year, including provincial discounts at Hertz car rentals and QE Home. The student discount section of the Federation's website was updated to reflect the change in the program during the transitional period.

2019-20 Soliciting

The Federation created materials that will aid the solicitation of renewal and new discounts, these were



shared to the Executive Committee through a dropbox link. The soliciting materials package included an About the Service and Solicitor's Guide that contained new information on the provincially coordinated discount program, and features of the mobile application. An updated Solicitor's Agreement, Discount Agreement, and Multiple Listing were also included in the package. Further, triplicate copies of the Discount Agreement were also mailed to member locals.

The Federation also coordinated a solicitor's training workshop through a videoconference to support member locals during the solicitation process. A recording of this session can be provided if requested.

MEMBERS' HANDBOOK AND DAYPLANNER

The handbook service was created by member locals in British Columbia in 1993 as a means of delivering high quality, ethically produced, and affordable dayplanners, particularly for small member locals. Today, thirteen versions of the handbook are made for member locals across the province each containing a section about the BCFS, a local-specific section, a common calendar and time management pages. In particular, the BCFS section contains the Federation's basic principles, ongoing campaigns work, coalition work, and services.

The quantity produced has allowed for better quality paper and full-colour pages, while achieving savings in writing, editing, designing, printing, and binding costs. The savings have enabled some students' unions to greatly reduce advertising in their handbooks, making room for more local-specific information. In addition, the books have always been produced using a unionized printing firm and using recycled paper and vegetable-based inks.

2018-19 Production

The Federation coordinated the production of handbooks for twelve member locals for the 2018-19 year; additionally, Local 12's Engineering Student Society ordered handbooks through the service. In total, 47,380 books were



produced. The handbooks were delivered to all participating locals on time and allowed for distribution in welcome back events and orientation.

2019-20 Production

The Federation has again secured a contract with Mitchell Press for the 2019-20 production year that includes a price increase that is reflective of the increased costs associated with paper procurement in the industry.

Every member local has ordered handbooks through the Federation's service for the coming year; additionally, Local 12's Engineering Student Society ordered handbooks through the service again this year. In total, 51,620 books are being produced for the 2019-20 year — an increase of more than 4,000 units over the 2018-19 year.

As in past years, the handbook contains information on current issues in post-secondary education in BC, campaigns, and other important information for members. The Federation's information section has been updated with minimal layout changes, as the previous designs received positive feedback. A sticker page was offered as an optional add-on, and was used by 11 participating locals and the Federation.

It is expected that handbooks will be delivered to campuses by August 23, on time for distribution at welcome back events and orientations.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MATERIALS

The Federation coordinates a bulk purchase program through which member locals can purchase membership development materials that are ethically produced and high quality, while maintaining a low price. The Federation works with Fairware—a Vancouver-based company dedicated to providing ethically-sourced materials—for the provision of the

service. By purchasing products collectively through the Federation, students' unions realise cost-savings through increased purchasing power and become leaders in making campuses sweat-shop free.

2018-19 Orders

The Federation facilitated two order intakes in the past year: a summer order and a winter order. Twelve member local unions and the Federation participated in the summer bulk purchase, collectively ordering nearly

88,700 items. In all cases, items were delivered in a timely manner and in advance of the welcome week distribution.

The winter order offered the most popular items from the summer order such as highlighters, pens, water bottles, shopping bags, notebooks, and shirts. Locals 1, 6, 13, 14, 15, and 16 placed orders for the winter order, and all items arrived on campuses in early January as scheduled.

2019-20 Orders

New options of drinkware, office and stationary giveaways, apparel, and technology giveaways were added in the store. Special items such



as lip balms and reusable straws were also an addition into the store as per request by locals.

The Federation's Shopify store was opened for member locals to place orders on May 15 with the deadline scheduled for June 7. Information on instructions and deadlines was circulated to the listserv as well. Orders were placed by Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 20; additionally, Prosum Health Benefits and CUPE 491 (staff of College of New Caledonia) participated in the service.

Product Provider Review

A provider review was conducted in lead up to the summer order to ensure that membership development materials provided to members are in best quality, ethical, and sustainable standards with competitive prices. Request for proposals were sent to service providers within British Columbia and across the country. Proposals were received from Mohr Good Ideas, Cavan, Fairware, Promo Sapient, and Union Proud. A review on current ethical standards and credentials of Fairware was also conducted.

The review concluded that Fairware offered the best price with ethical and sustainable practices of all providers that submitted proposals, as well as having a system that supports the needs of the Federation and member locals.

ONLINE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

The Federation's suite of digital services primarily focuses on the coordination and centralisation of purchasing online services on behalf of participating member locals. This centralisation allows member locals the flexibility of accessing their own account administrative panels but maintains awareness of the service by Federation staff so resourcing of member locals is still possible. The coordination of purchasing provides a discounted rate for some parts of the service, but particularly benefits those locals that don't have credit cards, as that is the only way to pay for these services directly.

Domain Registration and Network Settings

In order for a website to be hosted, the domain needs to be registered and the domain network



systems (DNS) settings need to be hosted. Domains currently hosted on the service belong to Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, and the Federation.

Webhosting

The Federation works with Rackspace Cloudsites Web to provide stable, independent cloud website hosting that allows member locals to host WordPress, Drupal, or PHP websites that are fully customisable.

The websites of Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and the Federation are currently being collectively hosted through this service. Member locals hosted by the Federation also has the ability to create sub-domains for clubs and other local initiatives.

Email Hosting

The Federation works with Rackspace to coordinate email hosting for member locals. While the central coordination doesn't reduce costs, it reduces the administrative burden on individual students' unions. Additionally, the central coordination assists those locals who lack the organisational capacity to manage their email system on their own. The Federation currently coordinates email hosting for Locals 4, 10, 14, 15, and 16.



Adobe Creative Cloud Licenses

The Federation currently centrally purchases Adobe Creative Cloud license subscriptions for ten member locals. Collectively there are 17 licenses coordinated through the Federation, and are purchased and retired at the request of participating member locals. The centralisation of purchasing enables member locals to realise significant savings and ensures that locals are using the appropriate license for business use.

Mobile Application

The Federation coordinates a master user agreement with Ready Education (formerly OOHLALA Mobile Inc.) for use by member local unions and individual members. The application serves as a communications platform between the Federation, member locals, campus groups, and individual members, and extends communication of campaigns and services beyond print and social media platforms. Cost-sharing with participating member locals is outlined in Internal Affairs Policy Section M: OOHLALA Partnership Service.

User Agreements

The master user agreement expires on July 31, 2019, and discussions about renewal are in progress. Active applications of member locals with signed agreements are also in consideration for renewal. Terms in consideration to add are an exclusivity clause that assures exclusive ownership of a Ready Education app will belong to the Federation and the member local on the campus.

Signed user and cost-sharing agreements have been received from Locals 1, 4, 6, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, and 20. Ready Education has been informed of permission to release the license for inactive applications.

Notable Features

Ready Education implemented changes on the homepage, which provide greater access to customised information for students and app administrators. Following that, enhancements to the maps feature of the app have also been implemented. The change allows app administrators to add categories of locations to feature and the corresponding operations

schedule. The map can also include information on points of interests, such as bike racks and microwave locations, and a link to a floor plan.

A new dining feature has been added that allows publishing of operation schedules, menus, and images of on-campus food establishments. This feature provides relevant information to members, allowing centralisation of information.

Ready Education has been working on development of a new attendance tracking product within the mobile application that allows for members to scan a QR code to 'check in' to an event or service provider and scan another QR code to 'check out'. This gives the administrator the ability to see how long someone stayed at an event or service area. After a member attends a service area or event, the Local can send them a notification to give feedback of their time in that spot. The feature also allows for push notification to be sent to all attendees in order to solicit feedback, or send information before, after, or during an event.

Upcoming features in discussion during the reporting period is LMS and SIS integration in the app to include academic and financial functionality to the Students' Union app. The Federation investigated feasibility of each member local to allow the integration and a bulk pricing to be included in the renewal of the master agreement. It has been determined that the prices of each integration vary greatly dependent on the institutions systems. Further, each students' union also has varied ability to have their institution on board to move forward in the integration within this year.

Locals 6, 13, and 16 are currently holding internal investigations as well as discussion with their respective administration to determine whether the integrations are to be applied and if so, what the timeline will be.

INSURANCE SERVICES

BC Student Health Consortium

The Federation coordinates a buying consortium for health and dental insurance, along with connected products, with the primary purpose of using the collective expertise and combined purchasing power of participating members



to secure lower rates and better coverage for individual members.

Consortium Membership

The Consortium is currently composed of Locals 1, 2, 4, 10, 13, 15, and 16.

Carrier Relations

The Federation continues to work with Green Shield Canada (GSC) for the health, dental, and travel components of member local union plans and does so without the need of a third-party data administrator. For accidental death and dismemberment insurance, the Federation works with Western Life Assurance.

Broker Relations

The Federation and Consortium members use the services of Prosum Health Benefits Consulting (Prosum) as their broker for all insurance services provided through the Consortium.

2019-20 Renewals

For 2019-20, all locals will experience a rate reduction or a no-change renewal with additional coverage for dental claims. Further, as a result of a decision at the March 2019 Consortium meeting, all member locals have changed their accidental death and dismemberment insurance to include coverage for death by suicide, a benefit not previously provided. Formal renewal packages were sent to Consortium members at the end of June.

Plan Reviews

The Federation recruited the services of Aptus Benefits Consulting (Aptus) to engage in reviews of Consortium member plans on behalf of the respective member locals and the Federation. The reviews involved Aptus examining claim details, plan design and local administrative practices to ensure that each plan is optimised and operating responsibly. The Federation has yet to select which member local plan will be the subject of a renewal in the coming year.

Consortium Meeting

Consortium members met on March 29 to 31, 2019. At the meeting, members reviewed developments in the service over the past year,

discussed program and service enhancements delivered by the Federation's service providers, considered new services and components, and reviewed the Federation's relationship with its existing providers.

Staff Benefit Plan

The Federation coordinates a staff benefit plan, which is now entering its fifth year of operation. To-date Locals 2, 10, 13, and 16 have joined the plan, which also includes the Federation staff and full-time elected members the Executive Committee.

Property, Casualty, and Liability Insurance

The Federation continues to undertake work to develop a bulk purchase arrangement for various forms of property, casualty, and liability insurance using a BC-based provider called Aon Reed Stenhouse (Aon).

To-date, Locals 6, 13, 16, and the Federation purchased property, casualty and liability insurance from Aon in Victoria, with most using the carrier/underwriter Northbridge. Expressions of interest have been received from Locals 1 and 5 in obtaining a quote in time for consideration for their coming year's renewal.

MEMBER SUPPORT AND WELLNESS SERVICES

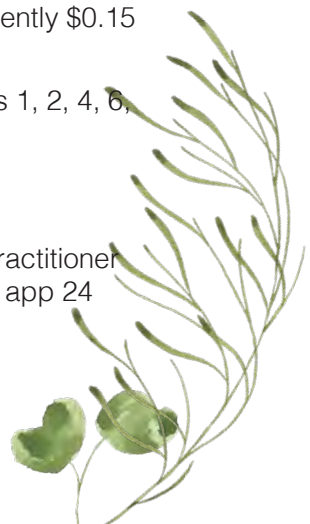
Legal Assistance Service

The Federation currently works with Sykes Legal to provide members free over-the-phone legal advice on a very wide range of topics, as well as substantial discounts on legal referrals. The service is currently offered as an added value option to member locals participating in a Consortium health and dental plan, but the service is universally available to all Federation member locals to implement at their respective campuses. The cost of the service is based on the scale of participation but is consistently \$0.15 per member or less.

The service is currently used by Locals 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 13, 15, and 16.

GOeVisit

GOeVisit provides access to medical appointments with a doctor or nurse practitioner through a secure web portal or mobile app 24



hours a day, seven days a week. The doctors and nurse practitioners can diagnose and prescribe treatment for over 300 illnesses through this mobile service. The service costs \$50 per year plus an additional \$30 per use. The Federation has secured a partnership with GOeVisit that allows Federation members to access the service for free. This service is not part of the BC Student Health Consortium, it is a service for all Federation members.

35TH ANNUAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

Since 1985, the Federation has held an annual skills-building symposium for member local representatives in BC. The Skills Development Symposium consists of workshops and seminars that provide elected representatives and local staff with a broad range of skills required to effectively operate a students' union. The Symposium provides participants with an opportunity to exchange information and develop relationships in an informal setting. Fully subsidised by the Federation for one participant from each member local union, and partially subsidised for the next 11 participants, the Symposium is highly accessible to member locals.

The 35th Annual Skills Development Symposium was held from Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2 at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria. Over 140 participants attended, representing directors, volunteers, and staff from 13 member local unions as well as from the Simon Fraser Students'

Society and the Quest University Students' Association. Sessions included:

- Introduction to Post-Secondary Education in British Columbia
- Working Collectively: Institution Administrators
- Navigating Institutional Governance
- Public Speaking
- Social Media
- Effective Meeting Participation & Facilitation
- Protecting the Right to Organise: Directors' Responsibilities
- Media Relations
- Working Collectively: Directors, Volunteers, and Staff
- Understanding Students' Union Finances
- Membership Outreach
- Negotiating Contracts
- What's the Recipe for Success?

Workshop facilitators included Federation staff and directors, and local staff, who are experts in the fields they presented, as well as external presenters recruited from the Federation's coalition partners and external firms. Participants had the opportunity to complete evaluation forms to rate and provide comments on each workshop as well as the Symposium overall. Approximately two-thirds of participants completed the forms, and provided useful comments for planning next year's Symposium.





Coalition and Solidarity Work



COALITION AND SOLIDARITY WORK

The notion of “strength in numbers” extends beyond the membership of the Federation. Working with labour unions, non-profits, and community organisations, the Federation can extend the influence of students to many other conversations and initiatives. Furthermore, through these coalitions, the Federation is able to bring ideas and campaigns to members in order to help spread the reach of other important causes. The Federation works with labour unions, policy development organisations, business associations, and non-profits to provide students’ perspectives in these spaces.

BC BUILDING TRADES

BC Building Trades is an umbrella organisation representing 17 unions that specialise in the building trades. It exists to promote the building trades in the province from the workers’ perspective. The organisation lobbies government to take a greater responsibility for managing construction markets and to stop the use of unqualified contractors, cheap materials, and untrained labour.

Then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas and Organiser Davies attended the Community Benefit Agreement conference on January 25. The conference consisted of a series of sessions led by businesses and unions that highlighted the positive aspects of Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) and showcased the best practices used in places such as California, Washington, and Ontario. All sessions helped to inform participants on the economic benefits of CBAs, and how to better lobby for more CBAs in the province.

BC FEDERATION OF LABOUR

The British Columbia Federation of Labour represents unionised workers throughout British Columbia and has historically been one of the Federation’s strongest allies.

Convention

The BC Federation of Labour Convention was held November 26 to 30, 2018. Organiser Davies and Researcher Celeste attended Convention, and then-Chairperson Armutlu gave remarks about the Federation’s work and the strong relationship between students and labour in the province of BC.



Young Workers' Committee

The Federation has participated in the BC Federation of Labour's Young Workers' Committee since 1997. The Federation currently has a non-voting seat on the Young Workers' Committee, which is currently filled by Chairperson Klassen.

The Committee presented to the City of Maple Ridge about creating a plaque in memory of Grant De Patie who was a young worker that died while working in Maple Ridge. New work-safety legislation (Grant's Law) specifically protecting nighttime workers was proposed, accepted, then partially repealed by the previous government. The plaque is one initiative the Young Workers' Committee have begun in an effort to raise awareness of unsafe work conditions for young workers. The plaque unveiling in the City of Maple Ridge was well-attended by the community.

Young Workers' School

Each year, the Young Workers' Committee organises a Young Workers' School to train and engage with young union members across the province at Camp Jubilee. This year, the school took place on September 14 to 16. The Federation sent then-Campaigns Coordinator Alhuwayshil, then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas, and then-Services Coordinator Pesklevits.



Federation representatives participated in workshops on equity in the workplace and harassment and bullying in the workplace. Approximately 100 young workers from across the province participated in the School.

Based on the feedback and availability of young workers the timing of the School was changed for 2019 to be June 14 to 16. However, due to a conflict with Federation meetings, no Federation representatives were able to attend.

BC POVERTY REDUCTION COALITION

The Poverty Reduction Coalition is a non-partisan coalition composed of over 70 organisations that have come together to advocate for a provincial poverty reduction plan that will address homelessness and inequality in British Columbia. The Federation is a voting member of the coalition and Chairperson Klassen is the Federation's representative. The Coalition meets on a monthly basis.

BC Budget

The Coalition has commended the changes outlined in BC Budget 2019 to the social assistance system which is now more supportive in ways such as helping clients access identification, changing definition of spouse, and extending the shelter rate to a family member. However, the Coalition sees the \$50/month increase on the welfare and disability rate and addition of only 200 modular houses an insignificant investment to address needs and the issue of the depths of poverty.

BC Poverty Reduction Plan

In July 2018 the Poverty Reduction Coalition launched The ABC Plan campaign to educate and engage the public in advance of the government's 2019 poverty reduction plan. The goals were to create accountability of the plan through clearly stated targets and timelines which addressed poverty in BC and a plan that eliminates poverty in the province by 2030 – aligned with the UN goal; to implement bold policy changes that increase income supports and protect rental housing; and a comprehensive



plan that involves all pillars of poverty reduction and a cross-ministry approach.

Materials for the campaign included a toolkit for meetings with MLAs, a campaign website, and an e-mail action tool that allows supporters to email their local MLA, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction Shane Simpson, spokesperson for Finance MLA Mable Elmore, and the official oppositions. All the materials and tools were circulated via the Executive Committee listserv for member locals to implement in August.

On November 5, Bill 39 – Poverty Reduction Strategy Act was tabled and passed unanimously. The Bill outlines the development of the strategy, which includes targets to reduce the poverty rate by 25 percent among all persons and the child poverty rate by 50 percent based on the 2016 data within five years of January 1, 2019. The Bill also includes a section dedicated to Indigenous rights, including the commitment on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Persons.

On March 18 the government released the Poverty Reduction Plan, Together BC. The Plan focuses on six priorities:

1. Affordable housing
2. Supports for families and youth
3. Access to education and training
4. Expansions of opportunities for people
5. Income supports
6. Social inclusion

Expanding on education and training, the plan reiterated previous announcements on elimination of interest on students loans, reinstatement of funding for adult basic education and English language learning, increasing training opportunities for older workers, investments in trades training, and investments in skills development for people needing extra supports such as youth in care, Indigenous workers, and survivors of abuse.

The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition expressed mixed feedback on the Plan. While the Plan

meets some of the pillars of the poverty reduction strategy endorsed by the Coalition, not all key recommendations that address the depths of poverty were included. Overall the feedback on the Plan was positive and more comprehensive review of the plan can be found on the Coalition's website. The Coalition will continue to engage the public on other pillars of the poverty reduction not included in the Bill such as increasing the income supports and protecting rental housing.

Federal Poverty Reduction Strategy

On August 21 the Federal Poverty Reduction Strategy, Opportunity for All, was released. The strategy contained clear definitions of measurements of poverty and with targets such as:

- reduce poverty by 20 percent by 2020 and 50 percent by 2030;
- reduce chronic homelessness by 50 percent;
- end all long-term drinking water advisories on public systems on reserve by March 2021; and
- reduced or eliminated the housing need for 530,000 households.

The Federal strategy does not include tangible and financial investments to achieve the targets.

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

Students' unions across BC and Canada have been vocal advocates for the end of Canadian Blood Services' discriminatory ban on blood donations from men who have sex with men. In the 2015 federal election, the Liberal Party of Canada campaigned on a promise to completely remove the deferral period and replace the existing screening process with one that identifies high-risk behaviours instead of a blanket ban.

On September 19, Executive Director Olson participated in a web-consultation with Canadian Blood Services regarding its upcoming request to Health Canada for a lower time-based deferral period of three months. The webinar provided participants with information on current domestic and international research and risk analysis, and allowed stakeholder groups to ask questions and share support or opposition for the change.



On November 20, the Federation received a request to write a letter to the federal Health Minister supporting the proposed change. The Federation sent a letter to the Minister that expressed support for the shortened deferral period. In addition, it expressed support for a complete change of the screening process to identify high-risk behaviour rather than discriminating against an entire group of people based on their sexuality and gender identity.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES- BC

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives- BC is an independent, non-partisan research institute concerned with issues of social, economic, and environmental justice. The Federation maintains a membership with the CCPA, which provides access to research, publications, and advisories on government policies and current events. The CCPA uses its research to propose concrete, solutions and alternative policies to create a more equitable BC.

Good Economy Project Committee

The Federation is a financial supporter of the Good Economy Project, and holds a seat on the Advisory Committee. The seat is currently filled by Coordinator Beasley. In March, the new CCPA-BC Executive Director Shannon Daub attended an Executive Committee meeting and provided an update on the progress and future of the Good Economy Project.

Precarious Employment in BC

The CCPA recently began a research project investigating precarious employment in BC. The CCPA invited the Federation to be part of the research advisory group and hosted their first meeting for this project in March. Researcher Celeste represents the Federation in this research group and the Federation is currently the only student perspective for the initiative. The research project intends to replicate and extend the Poverty and Employment Precarity in Southern Ontario (PEPSO) survey, with adaptations to the BC context.

On May 15 the CCPA hosted a workshop entitled "Precarious: An invitational workshop

to explore insecurity in the labour market and beyond." Then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas and Researcher Celeste were in attendance and were the only student representatives at the workshop. The workshop consisted of presentations and open discussions of precariousness in BC, and will inform the research development of the advisory group moving forward. The research group aims to complete a BC survey of precarious employment in the coming year.

HEALTHY MINDS | HEALTHY CAMPUS SUMMIT



Healthy Minds | Healthy Campus is a province-wide community of practice that shares common goals of promoting mental health at post-secondary institutions, and applying a socio-ecological lens in identifying strategies for supporting mental health on campus. A summit is held annually with varying themes and foci each year that include campus stakeholders, students, faculty, staff, and senior administrators from institutions across BC.

Healthy Minds | Healthy Campus Summit was held on March 7 to 9. The theme of the Summit was *Building Connection at All Levels: A socio-ecological approach to well-being on campus*. The event consisted of the main summit on the first two days, which included various sessions related to mental health, ongoing initiatives, and plenary dialogues by stakeholders from the sector. The main summit was followed by a student summit on the third day, which



encouraged dialogue between student representatives across the province on promoting mental health and wellness on their campuses. Then-Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas, Researcher Celeste, and Secretary-Treasurer Falk attended the Summit.

On May 6, the Federation submitted an application to be a member of the organisation's planning group. The group is tasked to develop a strategic plan that increases engagement in the Healthy Minds | Healthy Campus community and to review the current structure of the Healthy Minds | Healthy Campus.

FEDERATION OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATORS

The Federation of Post-Secondary Educators (FPSE) is the organisation that represents academic workers through trade unions at BC's post-secondary institutions. The FPSE has a long history of working with the Federation to further the common initiatives of students and workers.

On May 13, Secretary-Treasurer Falk and Executive Director Olson attended the FPSE annual general meeting in Kelowna. Falk provided remarks to the plenary session, which spoke to victories achieved in the post-secondary sector through the partnership between the organisations, and moving forward towards addressing the lack of funding to the post-secondary system. The meeting was an opportunity to build strong relationships with faculty from across the province as well as the new leadership.

At the Federation's 37th Annual General Meeting members voted to endorse FPSE's *Precaious Prof's* campaign which advocates for fair wages and fair working conditions for contract and sessional instructors. After the launch of the Federation's *Knock Out Interest* campaign, FPSE was one of the first coalition partners to endorse the campaign.

FIRST CALL: BC CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCACY COALITION

First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition is a non-partisan, province-wide coalition of over 90 provincial and regional organisations that come together to mobilise British Columbians in

support of strong public policy on the allocation of resources for the benefit of children and youth. The Federation is currently represented on the coalition by Chairperson Klassen.

In Fall 2018, the provincial government became a signatory to the Early Care and Learning Plan by the federal government. In this plan, the focus is to enhance Supported Child Development Programs that allow children with developmental disabilities to access equipped childcare. In 2018, the province received a \$20 million investment in the first year to address immediate issues such as a lack of equipment and long wait times for the services; in 2019 the plan provided a \$10 million annual investment to increase training and facilities and will receive an additional \$10 million investment in 2020. Distribution of the investments are determined through the equity lens. The Coalition continues to support the advocacy work on a long-term sustainable plan and an expansion in access to early intervention programs.

On February 9, an open letter addressing the poor child labour standards in the province was submitted by the Coalition to Minister of Labour Harry Bains. At the time, children as young as 12 years old were allowed to work with minimal restrictions in British Columbia, contradicting the Federal commitment of 16 years old being the minimum age of employment. The Coalition's open letter advocated for a legislation change by spring 2019.

The Coalition has focused its work on advocating for changes to child labour conditions in the Employment Standards Act. On April 29, Bill 8 was introduced by Minister Harry Bains, and later passed into law, proposing changes to the Employment Standards Act. Specific to children and youth, employment regarding Bill 8 called for the following changes:

- raise the age for formal employment, (this is the age where special government provisions about things like hours and type of work no longer apply), from 12 to 16;
- prohibit hazardous work for those under 16;
- compel government to develop a list of acceptable tasks and occupations for the employment of children aged 14 and 15;



- allow the Director of the Employment Standards Branch to consider applications for permits to hire those under the age of 14; and
- compel government to define “hazardous industries and work” prohibitions and regulations for 16 to 18 year olds.

The changes to the Employment Standards Act provide better protections for children and adolescents who are working, bringing the province’s standards in compliance with international standards. The legislation not only raises the age of formal employment, it also develops more regulations and specifications that determines acceptable working conditions and tasks that differentiates the industry from safe to hazardous for underage workers. In response to and support of the Bill, the Coalition published a briefing note on the context and history of child labour conditions in our province, which is available on the Coalition’s website.

At its May 8 meeting, the Coalition reviewed the new calculations of child poverty conducted by Living Wage for Families. The presentation included updates on the decreasing effects of the Affordable Child Care Benefit and Child Care Free Reduction Initiative on the living wage. In particular, a 45 percent decrease is expected in child care costs due to the subsidies in Metro Vancouver.

RIDESHARING BC COALITION

At the 37th Annual General Meeting delegates resolved that the Federation would officially join the Ridesharing BC Coalition. Coalition membership is diverse, with 33 organisations participating including: Vancouver Pride Society, Donnelly Group, ABLE BC, and the BC Restaurant and Food Service Association.

On January 28, Organiser Davies attended a Surrey Board of Trade lunch that discussed transportation needs in the Lower Mainland with a particular focus on the municipalities of Surrey, Delta, Langley, White Rock, and Abbotsford. During the event, Coalition members including Davies met with Minister of Transportation Claire Trevena about ridesharing. Among the issues raised, the Ridesharing Coalition discussed the need to ensure that ridesharing could be successfully implemented in BC. Minister Trevena

had stated the government was looking at regulations that would require all drivers to hold a Class 4 license, special insurance products from ICBC, along with other regulations being looked at to limit the amount of drivers on the road.

On April 25, Organiser Davies and the Ridesharing Coalition met with the Minister Claire Trevena to discuss the implementation of the ridesharing policies which will dictate the rules that ridesharing providers will have to operate under in British Columbia. Organiser Davies highlighted the need for ridesharing, especially to service communities underserved by transit in the province. Topics also discussed were safety, availability of existing services, and the lack of options for late night travel.



TENANT’S RESOURCE AND ADVISORY CENTRE (TRAC)

The Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre (TRAC) provides legal education and information about residential tenancy matters to tenants and community advocates. TRAC works to enhance legal protections for tenants and support efforts to expand the availability of affordable rental housing in BC.

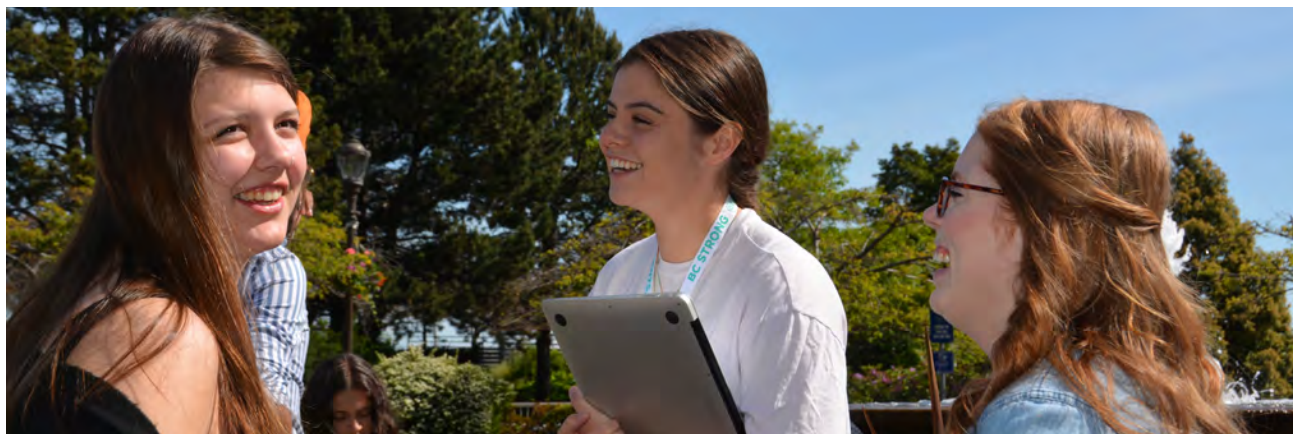
TRAC’s submission to the Rental Housing Task Force recommended strengthening rent control, allowing pets under reasonable circumstances, and increasing investigations and administrative penalties.

TRAC’s annual general meeting was held on June 5, at which Chairperson Klassen was elected to the Board of Directors.



A watercolor illustration of a laurel wreath, composed of various green leaves and branches, framing the central text. The leaves are rendered in shades of green with soft, painterly textures.

Internal Affairs



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Federation. The following is a list of changes within the composition of the Committee since the July 2018 general meeting:

Campaigns Coordinator

Amal Ahuwayshil July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

Eleanor Vannan May 1, 2019 to present

Chairperson

Aran Armutlu July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

Tanysha Klassen May 1, 2019 to present

Indigenous Students' Representative

Santanna Hernandez July 25, 2018 to present

Representative-Local 1 Members

Jenna Brook July 25, 2018 to January 10, 2019

Mickella Biggs January 10, 2019 to present

Representative-Local 2 Members

Kim Thein July 25, 2018 to present

Representative-Local 4 Members

Michelle Frechette July 25, 2018 to June 21, 2019

vacant June 21, 2019 to present

Representative-Local 5 Members

Cole Hickson July 25, 2018 to June 21, 2019

Kole Lawson June 21, 2019 to present

Representative-Local 6 Members

McKenzie Hutchinson July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

vacant May 1 to June 18, 2019

Abby Mitro June 18, 2019 to present

Representative-Local I0 Members

Joshua Ralph July 25, 2018 to present

Representative-Local I2 Members

Paula Tran July 25, 2018 to June 18, 2019

Taylor Dotto June 18, 2019 to present

Representative-Local I3 Members

Chantelle Spicer July 25, 2018 to January 13, 2019

vacant January 13 to March 22, 2019

Anouk Borris March 22, 2019 to present

Representative-Local I4 Members

Kari Morgan July 25, 2018 to present

Representative-Local I5 Members

Sheldon Falk July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

vacant May 1 to June 18, 2019

Sajith Saji-Nair June 18, 2019 to present

Representative-Local I6 Members

Monica McCrea July 25 to November 23, 2018

Armor Corrales November 23, 2018 to June 18, 2019

Mandy Wan June 18, 2019 to present

Representative-Local I7 Members

Fillete Umulisa July 25, 2018 to present

Representative-Local 20 Members

Chao Wang July 25, 2018 to June 18, 2019

Parima Sattari June 18, 2019 to present

Secretary-Treasurer

Phoebe Lo Patigdas July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

Sheldon Falk May 1, 2019 to present

Services Coordinator

Telka Pesklevits July 25, 2018 to April 30, 2019

McKenzie Hutchison May 1, 2019 to present

Women Students' Representative

Zahra Hashemi July 25, 2018 to January 10, 2019

vacant January 10 to 13, 2019

Chantelle Spicer January 13, 2019 to present



MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee met on the following dates:

July 25, 2018;
September 22 and 23, 2018
November 23 to 25, 2018;
January 10, 2019;
March 22 to 24, 2019;
June 18, 2019; and
June 21 to 23, 2019.

74th Semi-Annual General Meeting

The 74th semi-annual general meeting was held Wednesday, July 25 to Saturday, July 28, 2018 at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo, BC. Sixty-three delegates from thirteen member local unions participated in the meeting.

The Federation welcomed the Leader of the BC Green Party, Dr. Andrew Weaver to bring greetings. Additionally, the Federation welcomed then-Member of Parliament for Nanaimo-Ladysmith, Sheila Malcomson to speak to delegates.

The Federation also welcomed then-Secretary-Treasurer of the BC Federation of Labour (BCFED), Aaron Ekman to bring greetings on behalf of the BCFED. Lastly, the Federation welcomed Dr. Jaqueline Holler, the President of the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC to speak.

The following workshops, briefings, and seminars were held at the meeting:

- Proportional Representation – an introduction to the concept of proportional representation, with a focus on the Fall 2018 referendum on electoral reform (Fair Voting BC President Dr. Antony Hodgson)
- Trades Training – an overview of issues in trades training and information about the Industry Training Authority, to help delegates understand how to better serve members in trades programs

(Kwantlen Faculty Association President Bob Davis)

- Blanket Exercise – an exercise used as an experiential teaching tool to build awareness and understanding of our shared history as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada (Kairos)
- Student Financial Assistance – a discussion with representatives of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training on challenges and concerns of students in accessing financial aid, as well as, ways to address the current issues in the system (StudentAidBC Executive Director, Kelly McConnan and Director, Policy and Stakeholder Relations, Philip Davidson)
- Renting It Right – an overview of the Tenant Resource & Advocacy Centre (TRAC) as well as their Renting It Right, a course given by TRAC on tenant's practical and legal rights (TRAC lawyer, Zuzana Modrovic)

Former CFS-Ontario activist and current Member Services Officer for the Association of Administrative and Professional Staff at UBC Ashkon Hashemi chaired the plenary sessions.

37th Annual General Meeting

The 37th annual general meeting was held Thursday, January 10 to Sunday, January 13, 2019 at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond, BC. Ninety-five delegates from thirteen students' unions participated in the meeting.

The Federation welcomed the Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, who spoke about her vision for accessible post-secondary education. Additionally, the Federation welcomed Liberal Critic for Advanced Education, Skills and Training, Simon Gibson, who spoke about his vision for post-secondary education in BC.

The Federation also welcomed Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC President George Davison to deliver messages of solidarity from his organisation. The Federation also welcomed Glenn Hansman, President of the BC Teacher's Federation to bring greetings to



delegates. Additionally, Mary Burgess, Executive Director at BCCampus spoke to delegates about her organization and the various ways we can work together on OER initiatives.

The meeting finished with a session from Ivan Coyote, writer, storyteller, and musician, who then took time to meet and talk with delegates following the close of the meeting.

The following workshops, seminars, and panels were held at the meeting:

- Working With Senior Administrators – a panel made up of administrators from various post-secondary institutions to discuss the creation and maintenance of positive relations between the institution and the students' union (President of Vancouver Community College, Peter Nunoda, and Vice President Student Experience at Camosun College, Joan Yates)
- ABC Plan – a briefing in regard to the Poverty Reduction Coalition's ongoing ABC campaign, bringing insight on what makes a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy in the province and how to ensure implementation by government (Poverty Reduction Coalition BC Community Organiser, Trish Garner)
- Pharmacare For All – a briefing of the background, goals, and actions of the Canadian Labour Congress's 'A Plan For Everyone' campaign about a universal prescription drug plan in Canada (Canadian Labour Congress Director of Political Action and Campaigns, Brent Farrington)
- Level the Playing Field – an introduction to the goals and actions of the BC Federation of Labour's Campaign 'Level the Playing Field'

about restoring fairness and balance in legislation that levels the playing field for all workers and ensures opportunities to succeed (BC Federation of Labour Director of Government Relations, Denise Moffat)

- Consent Culture – an introduction to the Students For Consent Culture organisation and their three prong approach in ending sexual violence including advocacy, outreach, and education along with good practices for developing and implementing policies on campus (Students for Consent Culture volunteers, Caitlin Salvino and Connor Spencer)

A "Skills Boot Camp" was held directly preceding registration for the meeting; this session contained workshops on directors' rights and responsibilities, working with staff, and students' union finances for directors who have not attended a skills development weekend.

Former CFS-Ontario activist and current Member Services Officer for the Association of Administrative and Professional Staff at UBC Ashkon Hashemi chaired the plenary sessions.

FEDERATION STAFFING

Federation staff are unionised with CUPE Local 2396. In Winter 2019 the Federation engaged in the collective bargaining process; the new collective agreement was ratified by the Executive Committee and by staff in March 2019.

FINANCES

2018-19 Budget Management

The Federation's budget serves as a set of revenue and expense projections adopted annually by the voting members. The Executive



Committee manages the Federation's spending throughout the year in accordance with these projections.

Revenue is in line with budget projections, and spending has been kept under budget across the majority of expense categories. The exception to this is in the category of meetings and membership education; as a result of increasing size of delegations to general meetings and to Skills Development Symposium, the events have been moved to larger locations and additional costs have been incurred. The 2019-20 budget will be adjusted to reflect these changes in order to ensure the Federation's resources are properly allocated.

Members' Equity

The members' equity currently exceeds \$4.5 million, approximately one-quarter of which is invested in the Federation's wholly-owned office space and other capital assets. The remainder is composed of cash (approximately \$1.1 million), short-term investments (approximately \$900,000), and long-term investments (approximately \$890,000).

The Capital Fund, established in the 2000 fiscal year for the purchase or upgrade of property for the Federation's operations, was depleted for the purchase of the new Federation office space. However, between the purchase and renovation of the property at 245 East Columbia and the sale of the property at 1055 West Broadway, the Federation gained approximately \$175,000, which is recommended to be restricted to begin restocking the Capital Fund.

The Disabled Access Fund, established to enhance the accessibility of the Federation for people with disabilities and/or special needs, stood at \$311,451 at the commencement of the current fiscal year.

The CFS Legal Defense Fund, established to assist member locals and the Federation in the event of legal cases being brought against them related to ongoing membership issues, stood at \$100,000 at the commencement of the fiscal year.

Implementation of Federation Fee Adjustment

In January 1994, the Federation's membership fee was set at \$3.00 per semester, pro-rated for part-time students in accordance with the practice of member local unions regarding the pro-rating of local union fees. At the same meeting, a bylaw was adopted stipulating that, beginning in 1996-97, the Federation fee would be adjusted annually by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year. Based on the provisions of the bylaw, the fee has increased to \$4.67 per semester for the 2018-19 membership year, from \$4.57 in 2017-18.

At the January 2016 general meeting, a resolution was passed amending the Federation's membership fee to be \$8.76, adjusted annually by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year. The existing fee structure remains in effect until such a time as the new fee is implemented at each member local, which must be done no later than December 31, 2019. For those collecting and remitting the adjusted fee, that fee is \$9.04 per semester, and will be \$9.34 per semester for the 2019-20 membership year.

For the 2018-19 year, all member locals except one remitted the adjusted fee. It is expected that all member locals will remit the correct fee in accordance with the timeline laid out in the January 2016 resolution.

Ongoing Membership Fee Issue

Local 9 Membership Fees

For more than a decade, until summer 2009, Federation membership dues paid by individual members at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (formerly Kwantlen University-College) were remitted directly to the Federation through the institution. In summer 2009, the Kwantlen Student Association (KSA) instructed the institution to cease this practice and to instead transfer the Federation's fees to the Association.

Between August 2009 and February 2010, the Federation continued to receive its membership dues on a monthly basis through cheques issued by the Association; however, since remitting



the February 2010 dues, the Association ceased remitting Federation membership dues. Furthermore, the Local did not inform the institution of the CPI adjustment for a number of years. The amount collected on behalf of the Federation is estimated to be \$3.60 per semester, the fee level from 2003.

In January 2013, CFS representatives met with Local 9 representatives to discuss the issue of outstanding membership fees. At the meeting, the Local representatives acknowledged that the Federation fees currently held by the Local must be remitted; furthermore, they acknowledged that the fee being collected since 2003 was an incorrect amount. It was also acknowledged that the difference between the amount remitted and the correct amount based on assessment of the correct fee remains outstanding and is owed by the Local. Accordingly, when fees are received, the Federation applies each fee remittance against the oldest amount owing.

On February 20, 2017, the KSA's legal counsel contacted the CFS and BCFS legal counsels stating that the local was given conflicting direction on where to remit fees for the organisations. The CFS's legal counsel responded by directing the KSA to continue to remit all fees, including the BCFS fees, to the national organisation—a clear violation of the bylaws of both the CFS and BCFS.

In order to bring resolution to the outstanding fee issue, which was being used for legal posturing by both the CFS and KSA, a joint trust account was established in June 2017 to house all the CFS, CFS-S, and BCFS fees until such time as the “confusion” over fee remittance is resolved; those fees being withheld by KPU at the direction of the KSA at that time, as well as all fees collected since, have been deposited into the trust fund by KPU. The monies cannot be accessed by either the BCFS or the CFS except by mutual agreement; however, since the Federation's expulsion from the CFS, an agreement has not been reached by which these or other disputes over monies has been resolved.

As a part of the legal settlement with the KSA reported in the 2018 Executive Committee Report, the KSA agreed to pay the amount

of membership fees in dispute from the time period when they were not remitting the correct amount, as well as interest for that money. This payment was received towards the beginning of the 2018-19 membership year, thus finalising the settlement agreement.

Annual Audit

The audited 2017-18 financial statements were distributed to, and approved by, members at the January 2019 general meeting.

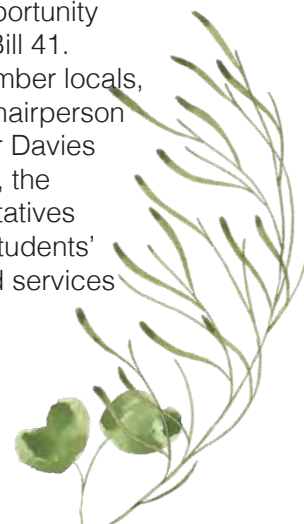
Preparations for the audit of the 2018-19 financial statements will begin upon the close of the fiscal year, with the goal of commencing the formal audit in November.

Threats to Students' Right to Organise

On October 21, 2015, Bill 41—a miscellaneous bill that changes the legislative protection and definition of students' societies fees—was tabled. The bill sought to make amendments to the College and Institute Act and University Act that would define which students' society fees would be mandatory, and which could be opted-out of if a member was to resign their membership. After consultation with member locals and legal counsel, the Federation sent a letter to then-Minister of Advanced Education Andrew Wilkinson outlining concerns with the proposed legislation.

In response to students' societies concerns, government tabled amendments to Bill 41 that made language in the original bill more clear in regards to fee collection. Despite this, the protections for local, provincial, and national fees were to be based on regulations established by government, specifically by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

The Ministry of Advanced Education held a conference call on November 2, 2015 to provide students' union representatives an opportunity to discuss proposed amendments in Bill 41. Representatives from a number of member locals, non-member students' unions, then-Chairperson Marshall and then-Secretary-Treasurer Davies participated in the call. During the call, the Minister assured the student representatives that the regulations would protect all students' society fees, not just the “program and services



fees” that were explicitly listed in the proposed legislation. Throughout the call, the Minister and his staff asserted that consultation would occur between the students’ unions and government before enacting the changes.

After the teleconference, the Federation, along with a number of member local unions, sent letters to Minister Wilkinson to emphasise the importance of protected fees and democratic processes used to manage the rate and collection of fees. The Federation also noted an eagerness to continue working in partnership with government on this issue. The Ministry sent out a request via email to many students’ unions for a breakdown of membership fees, programs, and services, as a part of a consultation process. Member local unions provided this information to the Ministry. Bill 41 with the subsequent amendments was passed in the Legislature in November 2015.

On June 22, 2016 the law firm Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP published an article about the impacts of Bill 41. The opinion stated that fees designated in a student society’s bylaws as a capital or program and service fees would be protected under the new law, but fees related to membership, administration, or operations of the organisation would not be protected. This opinion, shared widely throughout the BC post-secondary sector, re-ignited the concerns of member local unions that the new law would effectively make students’ union dues optional.

Following the publication of the legal opinion, the Federation undertook additional advocacy work with Ministry staff to dispel the incorrect information in the opinion piece, and to confirm that the interpretation listed therein was not in line with the Minister’s intention, as stated on the teleconference meeting of November 2015. Through these communications, the Ministry re-confirmed its intention to create a regulation to accompany the relevant legislation that would clarify the dues collection rights of students’ unions.

In December 2016, the Ministry put forward regulations on students’ union dues collection that further expanded the “program or service fees” definition to include “cultural, educational,

political, recreational, and social activities and events” and “advocacy activities”. Per the regulations, these fees fall into the category that are required to be collected and remitted, regardless of a member’s resignation of their membership in a student society.

Though the December 2016 regulatory decision was a positive development in the protection of student societies’ ability to collect mandatory fees, it does leave student organisations in a more precarious position than in 2015, prior to the passage of Bill 41. Changes to the statutes governing student society fees in 2015 and 2016 replaced legislative protection for dues collection with regulatory protection, where regulatory rules can be changed at the whim of Cabinet rather than requiring an act of the Legislature. This is a significant downgrade in the security of due collection rights for students in BC, and one that the Federation should plan to address in the years to come.





Appendices

APPENDIX I: MEDIA SUMMARY

EARNED MEDIA

The following list outlines the media earned during the reporting period.

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2018/06/30	The Star Vancouver	BCFS leaves CFS
2018/07/02	CBC Radio Vancouver	Proportional Representation
2018/07/02	Coop Radio Vancouver	Proportional Representation
2018/07/10	The Nelson Daily	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/10	The Castlegar Source	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/10	CBC Radio Prince George	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/10	OMNI TV News	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/10	Fairchild Radio Vancouver	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/15	CBC News	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/16	Thinkpol	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/16	Study Travel Network	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/16	Squamish Chief	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/17	Spice! Radio	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/17	Academica Top Ten	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/18	Citizens Forum TV	Proportional Representation
2018/07/19	Radio-NL	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/23	The Phoenix*	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/24	OMNI TV News	Fairness for International Students
2018/07/24	The Interior News	International Student Issues

EARNED MEDIA (CONTINUED)

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2018/08/01	Nelson Coop Radio	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/08	TRU Omega*	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/13	Spice! Radio	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/15	CTV News	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/16	Saanich News	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/16	The Nelson Daily	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/16	Victoria News	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/23	E-know	Fairness for International Students
2018/08/29	The Nexus*	Fairness for International Students
2018/09/04	OkanaganLife	Open Education Resources
2018/09/04	CBC Radio (French)	Open Education Resources
2018/09/04	CBC Radio Vancouver	Open Education Resources
2018/09/04	CBC Radio Van. Island	Open Education Resources
2018/09/04	CBC Radio Interior	Open Education Resources
2018/09/04	The Other Press*	Fairness for International Students
2018/09/04	The Star Vancouver	Open Education Resources
2018/09/07	RadioNL	Open Education Resources
2018/09/09	CKPG News	Open Education Resources
2018/09/10	The Other Press*	Open Education Resources
2018/09/12	TRU Omega*	Open Education Resources
2018/09/14	The Navigator*	Open Education Resources
2018/09/21	CBC Vancouver TV	Municipal Elections
2018/09/25	Radio NL	Municipal Elections
2018/10/21	The Ubyyssey*	Fairness for International Students
2018/10/23	Coast Reporter	Fairness for International Students
2018/10/29	The Other Press*	Elimination of Interest on Student Loans
2018/11/09	The Ubyyssey*	Advocacy Week
2018/11/19	CFOX 1070	Open education resources
2018/12/03	The Ubyyssey*	UBC AMS joining Advocacy Week
2019/01/02	BC Government	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/02	Vancouver Sun	24/7 mental health support



EARNED MEDIA (CONTINUED)

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2019/01/02	Kingston Whig	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/03	The Ubyyssey*	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/03	Richmond Sentinel	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/03	CBC Radio- On The Coast	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/04	Richmond News	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/04	New West Record	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/04	Times Colonist	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/21	The Runner*	24/7 mental health support
2019/01/31	CFJC Today	Student debt
2019/01/31	ArmchairMayor.ca	Student debt
2019/02/19	Trail Times	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Beach Radio Vernon	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Grand Forks Gazette	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Vancouver Sun	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	CBC Radio	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Kamloops This Week	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	100 Mile Free Press	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Columbia Valley Pioneer	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	The Province	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Surrey Now Leader	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/19	Fairchild Radio	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/21	CBC	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/21	The Star Vancouver	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/22	Red FM	Wilkinson comments on student loans
2019/02/22	Creston Valley Advance	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/22	Selkirk Sentinel *	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/23	Powell River Peak	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/02/25	The Tyee	Fairness for International Students
2019/02/26	Nexus*	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest
2019/03/01	The Tyee	Fairness for International Students
2019/03/03	The Phoenix*	BC Budget- elimination of student loan interest



EARNED MEDIA (CONTINUED)

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2019/03/05	PressProgress	Wilkinson comments on student loans
201/03/06	The Nexus*	BC Budget elimination of student loan interest
2019/03/15	Coast Mountain College	BC Budget elimination of student loan interest
2019/03/17	UFV Today	BC Budget elimination of student loan interest
2019/03/17	The Navigator*	BC Budget elimination of student loan interest
2019/03/17	The Navigator*	BC budget – student loan interest
2019/03/17	UFV Today*	BC budget – student loan interest
2019/03/19	The Ubysey*	Federal budget – student loan interest
2019/03/20	Selkirk Sentinel*	Federal budget – student loan interest
2019/03/20	The Globe and Mail	Federal budget – student loan interest
2019/03/23	Martlet*	BC budget – student loan interest
2019/03/28	Fraser Valley News Network	Knockout Interest
2019/03/28	City News 1130	Knockout Interest
2019/03/28	Breakfast Television	Knockout Interest
2019/03/28	CTV	Knockout Interest
2019/03/28	CBC	Knockout Interest
2019/03/29	Selkirk Sentinel*	Fairness for International Students
2019/03/29	Lahoo	Knockout Interest
2019/03/30	Vansky	Knockout Interest
2019/04/02	The Phoenix*	Federal budget – student loan interest
2019/04/04	United Way	Period promise
2019/04/17	BCCampus	OER investment
2019/04/17	Fraser Valley News Network	OER investment
2019/04/17	Victoria Buzz	OER investment
2019/05/03	Singtao	Fairness for International Students
2019/06/03	Vancouver Sun	Sexual assault policy
2019/06/05	Campus Manitoba*	Cascadia open education summit
2019/06/10	The Vancouver Sun	Sexual assault policy investment
2019/06/12	The Omega*	OER investment

* denotes student media



MEDIA RELEASES AND BLOG POSTS

The following list describes news releases issued during the reporting period.

DATE	TITLE
2018/07/09	BCFS releases research document on international students in British Columbia
2018/08/15	Students Launch “Fairness for International Students” Campaign
2018/09/04	Students Fight Back Against Sky-High Textbook Costs
2018/09/19	Students launch municipal election education campaign
2018/10/29	Students lobby government for accessible post-secondary education
2018/11/16	Finance Committee recommends investment in open education resources to improve affordability of post-secondary
2019/02/12	Throne Speech leaves students hopeful for Budget 2019
2019/02/19	Budget 2019 Eliminates Interest on BC Student Loans
2019/03/06	Andrew Wilkinson’s Comments on Student Loan Interest are Out of Line with Public Policy and Public Opinion
2019/03/19	Federal Budget Takes Steps to Ease Burden of Student Debt
2019/03/28	Students Launch Campaign to Knock Out Student Loan Interest
2019/04/11	Ridesharing in BC is Good for Students
2019/04/17	Students Applaud Open Education Resource Funding
2019/07/11	California announces two years free college; Meanwhile, BC tuition fees continue to rise

SOCIAL MEDIA

The “British Columbia Federation of Students” Facebook page exists to promote all campaign and services of the Federation. The page currently has over 9,100 “likes”. The Federation also continues to engage in membership and community outreach through its Twitter and Instagram handle @TheBCFS. Posts made are in support of a wide range of issues including: the elimination of interest on BC student loans, elections, advocacy initiatives, government announcements relevant to post-secondary, public service announcements, and membership development.

Locals, directors, and staff are encouraged to like and/or share the Federation’s social media posts to ensure maximum online reach. Additionally, locals are encouraged to share local media coverage and photos of local initiative and events with the BC office so they can be shared more widely on the Federation’s social media platform.



APPENDIX II: MEETINGS

MEETING: MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION SKILLS, AND TRAINING STAFF WORKING ON THE MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Date: August 7, 2018

Subject: Feedback on the idea of a student hotline that students can access 24/7 from anywhere in BC

MEETING: MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DAN DAVIES, EDUCATION CRITIC (BC LIBERAL PARTY PEACE RIVER NORTH)

Date: August 20, 2018

Subject: Regulation of international students' tuition-fee increases, funding for creation and adoption of more open education resources, elimination of interest on student loans, and up-front needs-based grants in BC.

MEETING: GREEN PARTY OPPOSITION STAFFERS CLAIRE HUME AND STEPHANIE SIDDON

Date: February 6, 2019

Subject: Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy Act

MEETING: MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION SKILLS, AND TRAINING STAFF JAIME EDWARDSON AND LAURIE BRUCKER

Date: May 31, 2019

Subject: BC International Education Strategy Consultation

MEETING: ADVOCACY WEEK

Date: October 29-31, 2018

Subject: Eliminating Interest on Student Loans, Open Education Resources, Sexual Violence Policy Funding

Federation representatives from BC met with members of legislature:

- John Horgan (Premier, BC NDP, Langford-Juan de Fuca)
- Harry Bains (Minister of Labour, BC NDP, Surrey-Newton)
- Katrina Chen (Minister of State for Child Care, BC NDP, Burnaby-Lougheed)
- Judy Darcy (Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, BC NDP, New Westminster)
- Scott Fraser (Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, BC NDP, Mid Island-Pacific Rim)
- Rob Fleming (Minister of Education, BC NDP, Victoria-Swan Lake)
- Claire Trevena (Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, BC NDP, North Island)
- Darryl Plecas (Speaker, Independent, Abbotsford South)
- Dr. Andrew Weaver (Leader of BC Green Party, Oak Bay-Gordon Head)
- Jagrup Brar (BC NDP, Surrey-Fleetwood)
- Garry Begg (BC NDP, Surrey-Guildford)
- Rachna Singh (BC NDP, Surrey-Green Timbers)
- Jinny Sims (Minister of Citizens' Services, BC NDP, Surrey-Panorama)
- Ravi Kahlon (BC NDP, Delta North)
- Katrine Conroy (Minister of Children and Family Development, BC NDP, Kootenay West)
- Michelle Mungall (Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, BC NDP, Nelson-Creston)
- Spencer Chandra Herbert (BC NDP, Vancouver-West End)
- George Chow (Minister of State for Trade, BC NDP, Vancouver-Fraserview)
- Shane Simpson (Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, BC NDP, Vancouver-Hastings)
- Ronna-Rae Leonard (BC NDP, Courtenay-Comox)
- Doug Routley (BC NDP, Nanaimo-North Cowichan)
- Nicholas Simons (BC NDP, Powell River-Sunshine Coast)
- Lisa Beare (Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, BC NDP, Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
- Mike Farnworth (Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, BC NDP, Port Coquitlam)
- Rick Glumac (BC NDP, Port Moody-Coquitlam)
- Selina Robinson (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, BC NDP, Coquitlam-Maillardville)
- Raj Chouhan (BC NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds)
- Anne Kang (BC NDP, Burnaby-Deer Lake)



ADVOCACY WEEK MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

- Janet Routledge (BC NDP, Burnaby North)
- Bowinn Ma (BC NDP, North Vancouver-Lonsdale)
- George Heyman (Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, BC NDP, Vancouver-Fairview)
- Doug Donaldson (Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, BC NDP, Stikine)
- Jennifer Rice (BC NDP, North Coast)
- Lana Popham (Minister of Agriculture, BC NDP, Saanich South)
- Mitzi Dean (BC NDP, Esquimalt-Metchosin)
- Mike Morris (BC Liberal, Prince George-Mackenzie)
- Peter Milobar (BC Liberal, Kamloops-North Thompson)
- John Rustad (BC Liberal, Nechako Lakes)
- Dan Ashton (BC Liberal, Penticton)
- Greg Kylo (BC Liberal, Shuswap)
- Norm Letnick (BC Liberal, Kelowna-Lake Country)
- Steven Thomson (BC Liberal, Kelowna-Mission)
- Linda Larson (BC Liberal, Boundary-Similkameen)
- Doug Clovechok (BC Liberal, Columbia River-Revelstoke)
- Tom Shypitka (BC Liberal, Kootenay East)
- Marvin Hunt (BC Liberal, Surrey-Cloverdale)
- Ian Paton (BC Liberal, Delta South)
- Tracy Redies (BC Liberal, Surrey-White Rock)
- Jane Thornthwaite (BC Liberal, North Vancouver-Seymour)
- Teresa Wat (BC Liberal, Richmond North Centre)
- Dan Davies (BC Liberal, Peace River North)
- Shirley Bond (BC Liberal, Prince George-Valemount)
- Coralee Oakes (BC Liberal, Cariboo North)
- Ellis Ross (BC Liberal, Skeena)
- John Martin (BC Liberal, Chilliwack)
- Laurie Throness (BC Liberal, Chilliwack-Kent)
- Simon Gibson (BC Liberal, Abbotsford-Mission)
- Joan Isaacs (BC Liberal, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain)
- Stephanie Cadieux (BC Liberal, Surrey South)

