



July 13, 2012

Ref: 160418

Peg Orcherton, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
556 Boleskine Rd
Victoria BC V8Z 1E8

Dear Ms. Orcherton:

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2012, regarding your concerns with the changes to the Education Guarantee Program announced on May 1, 2012, and the impact this will have on adult education in the Victoria School District.

The Ministry introduced changes to the Education Guarantee Program to improve completion rates and ensure that funding is focused where it is needed most. The Ministry will continue to fund all courses leading to graduation for adult learners who have not graduated. In addition, the Ministry will continue to fund the core academic courses typically required for entrance into college or university programs to support graduated adults who want to upgrade their skills or credentials.

With respect to holdback, I believe that a move to funding that is partially based on completion increases accountability to taxpayers for the courses that remain in the Education Guarantee, and provides an incentive to school districts to better support course completion.

Since the May 1st announcement, I had many opportunities to read about, listen to and discuss concerns from stakeholders. On June 8, 2012, James Gorman, Deputy Minister of Education, sent a follow-up letter announcing the reinstatement of several courses. A revised list is attached.

The Deputy Minister also announced the development of a formal Education Guarantee review process that will include district and Ministry participants. One of the purposes for the review process is to consider the impact of the new policy on adult education programs and recommend changes based on evidence.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George Abbott
Minister

Attachment: Courses Funded Under the Education Guarantee

Courses Funded Under the Education Guarantee – May 2012

Literacy Foundation Courses	Academic Upgrading Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Level 1/2: Companion-Reading • LF English Level 1/2: Companion-Speaking & Listening • English Level 1: Core • English Level 2: Core • English Level 3/4: Companion - Reading • English Level 3/4: Companion -Writing • English Level 3: Core • English Level 4: Core • English Level 5/6/7: Companion - Writing • English Level 5: Core • English Level 6: Core • English Level 7: Core • Information & Communications Technology • Math Level 1 • Math Level 2 • Math Level 3 • Math Level 4 • Math Level 5 • Math Level 6: Apprenticeship & Workplace • Math Level 6: Math Foundations • Math Level 7: Apprenticeship & Workplace • Math Level 7: Math Foundations • Science: Biology • Science: Chemistry • Science: Physics • Social Studies 	<p>Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Peoples English 12 • Communications 11 • Communications 12 • English 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Français langue première 11 • English 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Français langue première 12 <p>Mathematics 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mathématiques pour les métiers et le milieu de travail 11 • Foundations of Math 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fondements mathématiques 11 • Pré-Calculus 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pré-calcul 11 <p>Mathematics 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mathématiques pour les métiers et le milieu de travail 12 • Foundations of Math 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fondements mathématiques 12 • Pré-Calculus 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pré-calcul 12 • Calculus 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Calcul différentiel et intégral 12 <p>Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Biologie 11 • Biology 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Biologie 12 • Chemistry 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chimie 11 • Chemistry 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chimie 12 • Physics 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physique 11 • Physics 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physique 12

Note: Mathematics 12 courses that are eligible for a limited time due to curriculum change:

- Applications of Mathematics 12
- Essentials of Mathematics 12
- Principles of Mathematics 12