

Janet Hawkins

From: webforms@victoria.ca
Sent: Wednesday, Jul 22, 2015 9:27 AM
To: Council Secretary
Subject: Thank you for your submission - City of Victoria - Address Council Form
Attachments: 2015-07 ABE-Victoria-Power-Point.pptx

Name: Simka Marshall **Date:** July 22, 2015

Address: 3100 Foul Bay Road

I wish to appear at the following Council meeting: July 23, 2015

I represent: CCSS, UVSS, CFS-BC

Topic: Adult basic education

Action you wish Council to take:

Representatives from the Camosun College Student Society, UVic Student Society, and Canadian Federation of Students-BC, wish to give a presentation on the student-led campaign to save adult basic education in BC.

CONTACT INFO:

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Don't Close the Doors

A campaign to save adult basic education

Andrea Eggenberger, Camosun College Student Society
Kenya Rogers, University of Victoria Student Society
Simka Marshall, CFS-British Columbia

July 23, 2015 | City of Victoria



CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS-BRITISH COLUMBIA

What is ABE?

- Three basic categories of students:
 1. those seeking to complete their high school studies
 2. those seeking to upgrade their high school courses
 3. those seeking to improve basic literary or numeracy
- Students with developmental disabilities enrolled in adult special education programs
- English as a second language students



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ABE students

- ABE students are some of our most marginalized groups
 - 58% are women
 - 18% are Indigenous people
 - 20% are parents during their studies
- 55% are employed while studying
- 79% have already graduated from high school
- 70% continue their studies after ABE



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Changes to ABE

- In December 2014: the provincial government announced a \$15 million funding cut
- January 1, 2015: Institutions enabled to charge tuition fees on previously cost-free ABE courses with less than one month's notice to students
 - Fee cap set at \$1600 per semester (\$320/course) for all adult upgrading courses
- May 1, 2015: government will no longer fund school districts for tuition-free upgrading courses for adults who already hold a high school diploma
- May 1, 2015: some increases in grant money for ABE students



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A reversal of government policy:

"We are helping people upgrade their education so they can take advantage of our growing economy and enjoy rewarding careers... by offering free tuition for adult basic education, whether students have graduated from high school or not."

- Minister of Advanced Education Murray Coell, 2007



Ministry of
Advanced Education



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**No reasonable justification
has ever been made for the
reversal of this policy**



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Questions?

www.DontCloseTheDoors.ca

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