

Bulletin #4 – originally sent out Feb 21, 2014

Hello Faculty Members,

We would like to give you a brief update of the ever-more-complicated situation around the ELST cuts at Kwantlen.

First, a bit of good news: The provincial government announced on Feb 19th that they will give the institutions affected, including Kwantlen, a one-time cash injection to aid in the “transition” period (please see below for details). A second bit of good news is that the two layoffs in the ACP department have been rescinded as it appears there will be the same number of sections offered next year in ACP as were offered this year.

However, the overall situation remains unchanged. There has been a chain of decisions made, and at the end of that chain is the outcome: the denial of access to professionally-designed and professionally-delivered ESL programming for domestic students in the Kwantlen region.

This situation is complex and difficult to grasp in its whole. Please see below a fact sheet summary that we hope will make things more clear.

Fact Sheet for ELST Cuts at Kwantlen

- The Canada-BC Immigration Agreement was cancelled by the Canadian Federal government effective April 1, 2014
- This agreement included transfer funds to cover ESL delivery in public post-secondary institutions in BC
- The provincial government decided to pass on the transfer funding cuts to the public post-secondary institutions in BC and the total cut for BC post-secondary institutions was about \$17M
- \$1.35M in funding for Kwantlen was cut by the BC government and the funding was identified as being for ESL for domestic students (Canadian citizens, permanent residents and refugees)
- Kwantlen administration decided to pass on the whole amount of the cut directly to FA-CA and directly as student section cuts for domestic ESL offerings

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- Offerings in ELST for international students will be maintained and increased
- Revenue from international student enrollments in ELST will not be used to support access for domestic ELST students
- 98 sections have been cut for domestic ESL students--over 1 600 student classroom spaces
- 12 regular faculty members originally were issued layoff notices; 10 in ELST and 2 in ACP
- The 2 layoffs in ACP have been rescinded as the number of sections scheduled to be offered in ACP will be the same next year as this year
- The provincial government announced on Feb. 19th that they will provide “transitional” funding to the institutions to the tune of about \$10.5M
- The funding is one-time funding, not ongoing, and Kwantlen’s share of this will be \$800 000
- KPU admin have announced that the transitional funding will be used to delay the section cuts until the end of August

Though they will be delayed, the cuts will still take place so the situation is not changed

We will keep you informed as the situation unfolds. In the meantime, if you would like to participate in helping change this situation, please contact Kwantlen region (and your own if you live outside the region!) MLAs and MPs and media outlets to let them know what you think on the issue of funding ELST for domestic students. The two attachments to this email are a [contact list](#) for the Kwantlen region and a [sample letter](#). Please feel free to use these as you see fit.

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