

Bulletin #5 – originally sent out March 31, 2014

Dear KFA Members,

Your KFA Table Officers have been very busy these last few months working on our campaign “[Standing up for Access at KPU](#).” Bob Davis, Gillian Dearle, Diane Walsh, and I have visited the opposition, independent, and government [MLA's](#) and [MP's](#) in KPU's catchment area to lobby them on the issue of ESL funding and access for domestic students to ESL education. We highlighted the fact that KPU was not accepting applications for domestic students while only accepting International students in our ESL programs.

On two separate occasions we met with Minister of Advanced Education, Amrik Virk: once in Victoria and once in the Lower Mainland. At both meetings we urged the Minister to make up the shortfall in funding which occurred when the Federal Conservative government cut funding to ESL programs in BC post-secondary institutions.

We are pleased to see that the Provincial Government has chosen to do just that--at least for the next academic year--with the recent announcement that that KPU will receive an additional \$558,000 in 2014-15.

However, our work can't stop with this announcement because we need to ensure that ESL funding is in place on an ongoing basis. This ongoing funding is critically important to all of our members, their students, their students' families, and the communities we serve.

We expect that the layoffs of our members in English Language Studies will be rescinded in the near future.

We will continue to keep you updated.

Terri

STANDING UP FOR ACCESS AT KPU

