

To: Board of Education

From:

Funding for Programs at Provincial Correctional Centres

13.

Category: Educational Programs

Motion #:	13 : A202413	Sponsor:	Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Meeting:	AGM 2024	Action:	<i>not specified</i>
Category:		Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2024: Meeting with Ministry staff re: motion
Disposition:	<i>not specified</i>		

Motion as Adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the BCSTA request the Minister of Education and Child Care and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General provide an update on the review of the funding and resources, and next steps in supporting learners in our provincial correctional centres.

Motion as Presented:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the BCSTA request the Minister of Education and Child Care and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General provide an update on the review of the funding and resources, and next steps in supporting learners in our provincial correctional centres.

Rationale:

A similar motion was submitted to the cancelled 2020 BCSTA AGM and subsequently passed by the October 2020 BCSTA Provincial Council. Both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General have agreed to the need for the funding; however, progress seems to have stalled.

Work toward establishing sustainable and comprehensive funding for the much-needed adult graduation education programs in our correctional facilities began while the system was experiencing and recovering from the COVID pandemic. Then Minister of Education, Jennifer Whiteside, and Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, were both in agreement that our most vulnerable and at-risk benefit from participation in education and that experiencing academic success has a significant positive impact on future outcomes. The intrinsic value of supporting adults of all backgrounds in their journey to complete school was recognized.

On March 29, 2022 Minister Farnworth stated that work continued on “the funding model review to examine the funding and resources required to support vulnerable learners with life-altering educational opportunities.”

Securing funding to districts for the 2024/25 school year would provide educators with the necessary resources to design effective, sustainable programs and continue encouraging inmate participation.