



To: Claire Carolan, PhD, Associate Director, UFV Program Development and Quality Assurance Office

From: Allyson Jule, PhD, Dean of Education, Community, and Human Development (FECHD)

**Re: Adult Basic Education Program Review Progress Report**

March 9, 2023

This report reflects the discussion of the External Review's recommendations (dated May 31, 2021) between the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Community, and Human Development and the Head of the Upgrading and University Preparation that occurred in February 2024.

**Recommendation 1: The external review committee recommends that the ABE department engage in the following actions:**

- **continue and expand advocacy for its position as a unit, no matter where it might be relocated.**
- **educate senior management about the department and its usefulness to the institution**
- **disseminate a position paper**
- **increase representation on institutional committees**

Response: The UUP department prepared a summary of the ABE program for the new Dean in July 2022. The position paper is included here as Appendix A. This document could be useful in preparing a presentation to senior leadership meetings to help educate senior management about UUP and the ABE program in particular.

Two more faculty members from UUP have been added to URC and other university committees. The UUP department has a running list of community involvement of all UUP faculty.

**Recommendation 2: Continue and expand efforts concerning Indigenization and EDI**

Response: Since Sept 10, 2021, all department meetings include an EDI report from all UUP members.

Julia Dodge represents UFV for First Peoples ABE Working Group (Articulation).

At the April 29, 2022, FECHD meeting, Lorna Andrews, Indigenization specialist, from TLC addressed the faculty which included members of the UUP faculty. Lorna shared various information including implementing indigenous ways of knowing into curriculum and instruction of proper usage of territory acknowledgements.

**Recommendation 3: Continue to revisit and refine program ILOs and alignment with institutional ILOs**

Response: At the Nov 12, 2021, department meeting, discussions focused on program ILOs and alignment and discussion regarding institutional ILOs. All syllabi were reviewed at this time. With the new ILOs coming into effect this year, more work will be done on all UUP syllabi.

**Recommendation 4: Continue and increase utilization of institutional resources, including using more research and PD funds, more ROSA course releases, more attendance at conferences, etc.**

Response: At the Nov 12, 2021, department meeting, there was a presentation and discussion of inclusive syllabi and Blackboard Ally. At the Jan 14, 2022, department meeting, the following were presented:

- TLC Dulumni Wathugala - overview on “under the hood” services offered by TLC and how to request them.
- Librarian Selena Karli – overview on library faculty services and highlight of “ask away” on site help, clarifications on department allocation budget and how to get books ordered into the library.

At the April 8, 2022, department meeting, Garry Fehr, Associate Vice President of UFV Research, Engagement, and Graduate Studies gave a presentation and answered questions regarding the application process for a ROSA grant. Garry also shared information related to resources available to help in the application and subsequent usage of a ROSA grant.

**Recommendation 5: Continue to participate in Provincial Articulation meetings**

Response: UUP faculty continue attendance and involvement in BC ABE Articulation. Faculty members represent UFV in ABE English, ALF, Computers, Math, and Science working groups.

**Recommendation 6: Gather more data from Institutional Research Office and internally so to enhance entry points for ABE**

Response: Data was collected during the ABE program Review process and is on-going as part of the new SEM plan.

## **Appendix A: ABE Position Paper – prepared for the new Dean, July 2022**

Adult Basic Education programming through the University of the Fraser Valley allows the institution to meet its vision, mission, and values.

**Vision: UFV will be known as a gathering place for learners, leaders, and seekers. We will pursue diverse pathways of scholarship, leading to community connection, reconciliation, and prosperity, locally and beyond.**

(source: <https://www.ufv.ca/about/vision-mission-values/> )

At various rates of engagement, UFV students are served by taking an upgrading course throughout their studies. 25.7% of diploma graduates, for example, and 3.4% of master's degree graduates have a UUP course on their academic record, demonstrating that ABE serves a valuable purpose across the university. (Databook p. 16)

**Mission: Engaging learners, transforming lives, building community.**  
**yoystexw ye totilthet, ayeqet kw'e shxwaylexws, thayt kw'e st'elt'elawtexw**

(source: <https://www.ufv.ca/about/vision-mission-values/> )

The percentage of UFV graduates who have taken at least one UFV UUP ABE course in the past 5 years has risen from 9.9% in 2014/2015 to 16.2% in 2019/2020. A chart with specifics across credentials can be found on page 16 of the databook.

**Values: Integrity | letse o sqwelewele**

**We act honestly and ethically, upholding these values and ensuring our mission is delivered consistently.**

Engagement of students is achieved by prioritizing a welcoming, positive, and inclusive learning environment; using relevant curriculum; embracing diversity; and encouraging interactive learning. ABE courses are designed to create a learning environment that honours the necessary tension between a learning-centred environment and a subject-focused course that adheres to academic rigour and standards.

**Inclusivity | lexwsq'eq'ostexw**

**We welcome everyone, showing consideration and respect for all experiences and ideas.**

ABE programming at UUP provides access to the university. ABE students come from a wide variety of cultural, economic, and the ethnic backgrounds. The wide range of subject areas and levels facilitates learner growth in different areas of learning including literacy, math skills, and mastering procedures as such as found in computer and science labs. The courses help facilitate critical thinking which then fosters an awareness of local and global citizenship and responsibility as well as aid personal and community responsibilities.

**Community | st'elt'elawtexw**

**We cultivate strong relationships, acting as a hub where all kinds of communities — educational, scholarly, local, global, and cultural — connect and grow.**

Program responsiveness to the needs of the community and labour market: UUP staff have regular contact and community committee involvement with community service providers so are aware of community and labour market needs. Developments in offerings of provincial courses (ECP 094 & Comp 091) serve the labour market as well.

UUP maintains longstanding relationships with the communities UFV operates in. Department

members serve on Fraser Valley community committees such as Literacy Now, Mission Service Providers, and the Read Right Society. This range of service and involvement with external organizations reflects the department's commitment to serving UFV, the Fraser Valley community, the province, and various professional and academic associations in the discipline of second language education, and it is carried out equitably (and often collaboratively) among members of the department.

### **Excellence | ey shxweli**

**We pursue our highest standard in everything we do, with determination and heart.**

(values: <https://www.ufv.ca/about/vision-mission-values/> )

ABE programming at UUP Provides students with UFV credential. Not only does it provide students with UFV credential upon completion of their high school studies; it also allows them to start on their university studies while gaining upgrading supports.

While most students in the ABE Program are successful in completing their courses, only a few apply to graduate with their Adult Graduate Diploma with the bulk of students using ABE courses as completion for their specific university program application. (Data Book, p.16)

ABE Graduate numbers have more than doubled in the last five years. 2014-2015 saw 12 graduates and 2019-2020 saw 25. Intermediate level GPAs have risen slightly over the last five years

The UUP department has a commitment to access enabling access to the University as well as a pathway to students to acquire prerequisites for other University programs that might otherwise be very difficult to achieve. The department has members involved in an EDI Faculty Council standing committee as of January 2021. The department is committed to discussing, sharing and promoting EDI values. We recognize that improvement and progress with EDI principles will be an ongoing process. We have a good working relationship with the Indigenous Student Centre, International Education department, Centre for Accessibility, Registration as well as Student Services. Students are supported and/or referred to these different areas of the University as needed.