

Guaranteed International Tuition Fee Model for Cost Assurance and Tuition Transparency

Presentation to the Budget Committee of Senate: September 10, 2024



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

PRESENTATION OUTLINE


1. Introduction
2. Current International Tuition Model
3. Proposal
4. International tuition fee comparison
5. Rationale to implement this proposal
6. Consultation schedule
7. Approval process and implementation

INTRODUCTION

International students are self-funding – no provincial or federal subsidy for their education and enhanced services.



Pandemic and post-pandemic increases in costs borne by international students for housing and general cost of living have been unpredictable, as have fluctuating inflationary tuition increases.



Recently, the Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSEFS) announced an Education Quality Assurance (EQA) policy and procedures that will come into effect in January 2025. This policy requires institutions to provide tuition transparency and predictability for international students. The proposed model exceeds the requirements.

TRU'S CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TUITION MODEL



Hybrid Flat Fee Model: a flat fee for up to 12 credits and per credit for additional credits, with some exceptions.



International tuition fee is subject to annual increases.

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE TUITION FEE MODEL FROM FALL 2025 ONWARD:



Per Credit Fee Model: Change from a hybrid tuition model to per credit.



International tuition will be guaranteed to not increase for the duration of the student's program of study **plus one year**.



Fall 2025 cohort's tuition fee will be set at an amount that is **guaranteed not to increase**. Continuing students will see inflationary rate increases annually.

2025-26 COHORT — GUARANTEE VS CONTINUING

Undergraduate, assumes 3% annual increase for continuing students

Continuing Student

1

Cost per credit

\$761-\$856

2

Cost per semester
(12 credits)

\$9,127-\$10,272

3

Cost per year
(24 credits)

\$18,253-20,544

4

Cost per undergraduate degree (120 credits)

\$ 96,906

New Student

1

Cost per credit

\$849

2

Cost per semester
(12 credits)

\$ 10,190

3

Cost per year
(24 credits)

\$ 20,379

4

Cost per undergraduate degree (120 credits)

\$ 101,896

International Tuition Five Year BC Comparison

International (UG Business, 30 Credits): 2020/21 – 2024/25

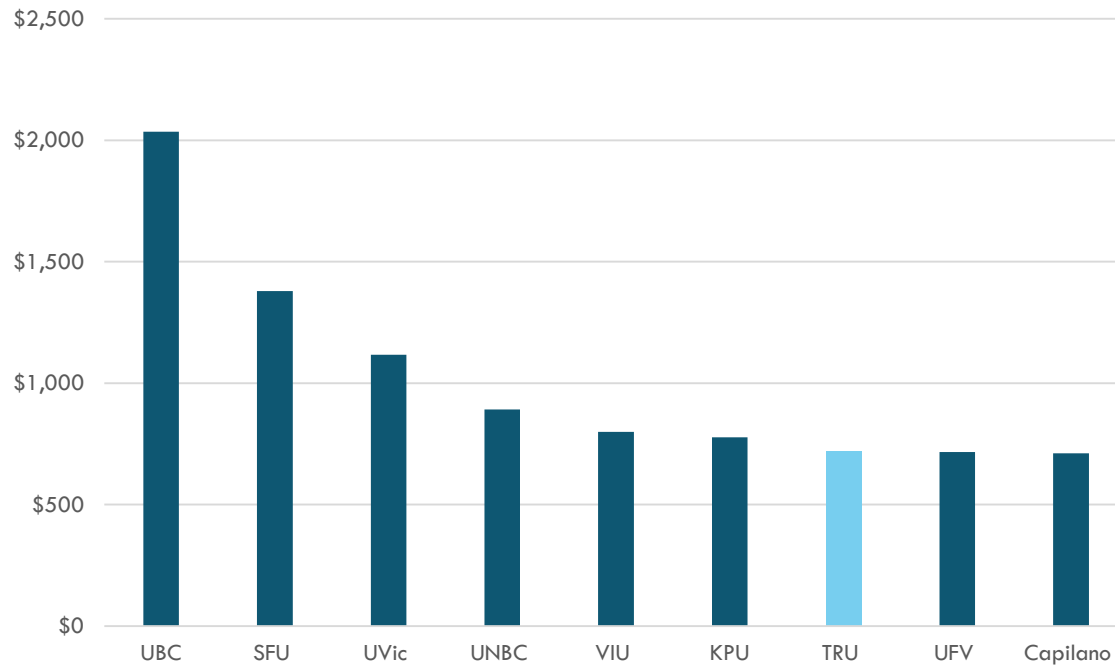
International tuition in BC has increased by 33% on average in past five years.

UBC	\$ 38,052	\$ 61,061	60%
SFU	\$ 28,247	\$ 41,386	47%
Uvic	\$ 24,926	\$ 33,491	34%
UNBC	\$ 21,589	\$ 26,752	24%
VIU	\$ 16,680	\$ 23,993	44%
KPU	\$ 19,741	\$ 23,317	18%
TRU	\$ 17,304	\$ 22,140	28%
UFV	\$ 17,850	\$ 21,840	22%
Capilano	\$ 17,853	\$ 21,323	19%

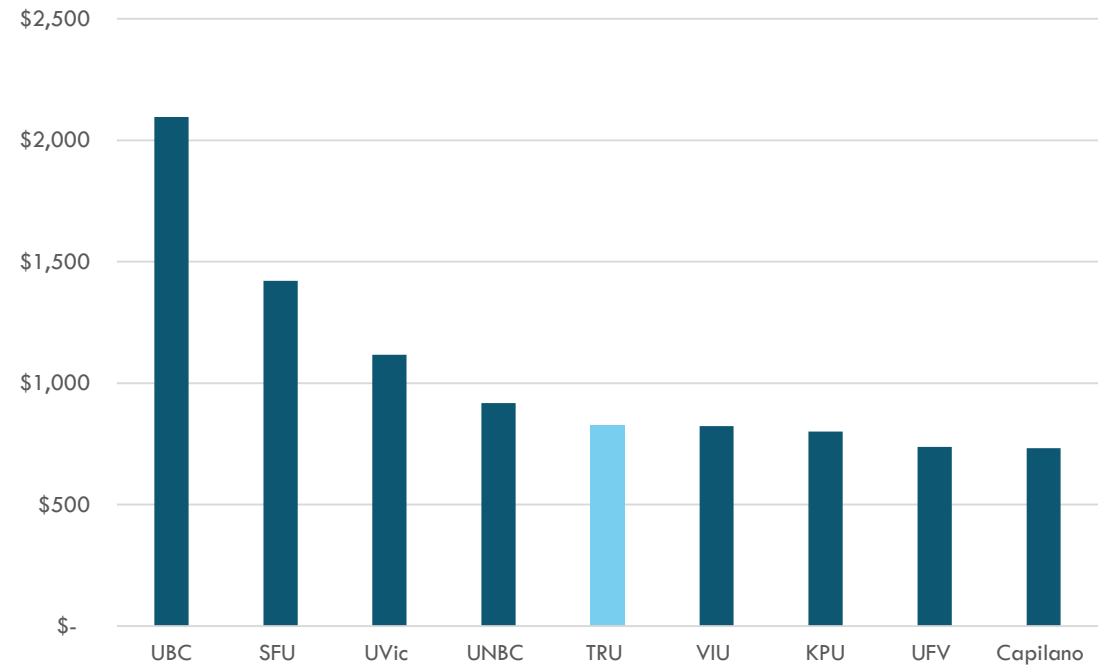
FALL 2024 TO FALL 2025 TUITION COMPARISON

ASSUMES OTHER INSTITUTIONS INCREASE TUITION BY 3%.

2024-25 International Tuition per credit



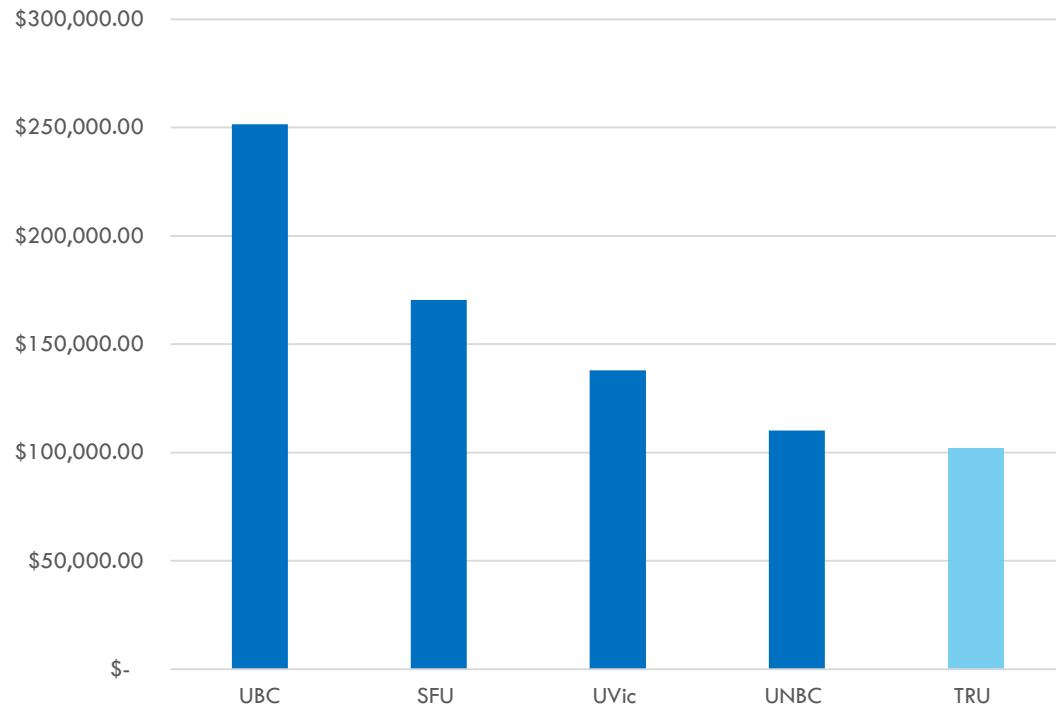
2025-26 International Tuition per credit



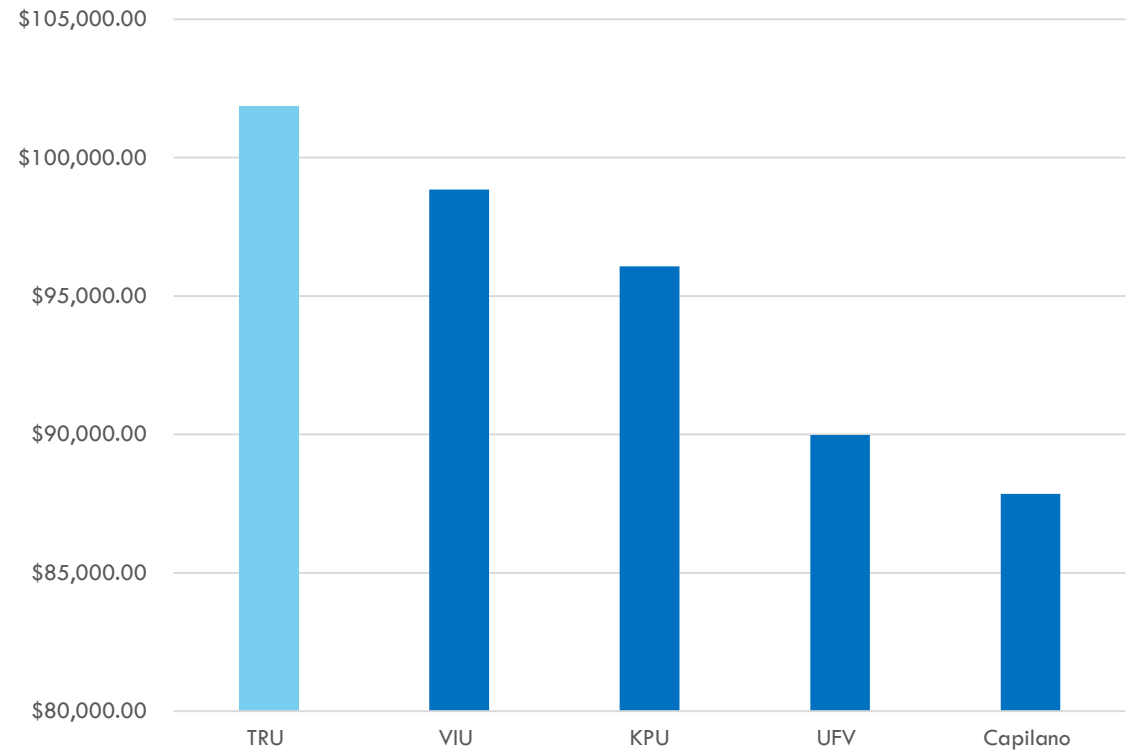
COST OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE (120 CREDITS)

ASSUMES NO INCREASE TO TUITION AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS AFTER 2025-26 ENTRY TO PROGRAM

TRU vs RUCBC

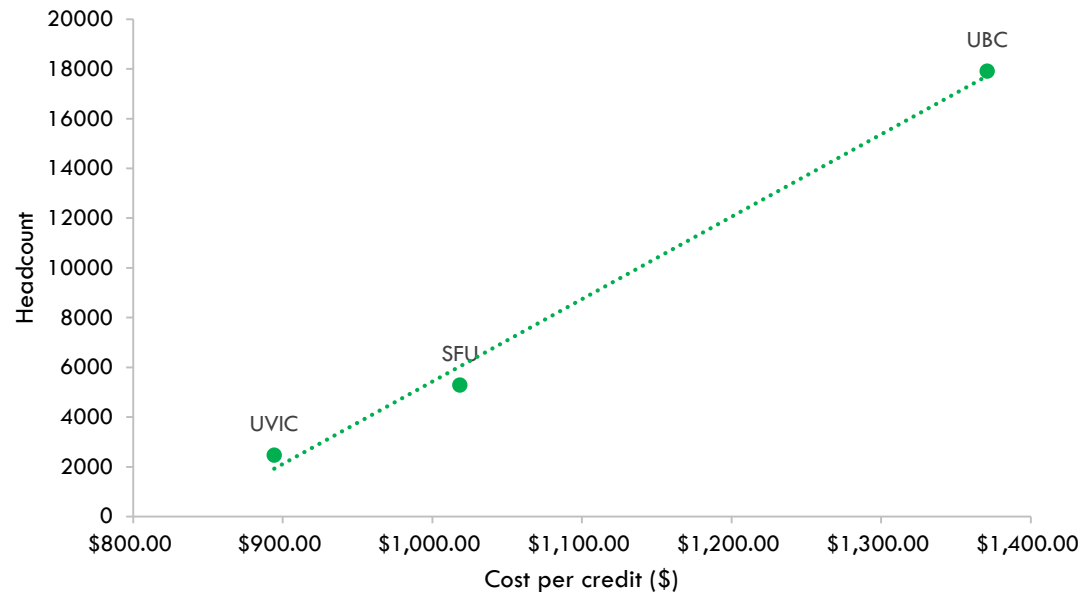


TRU vs Non-RUCBC

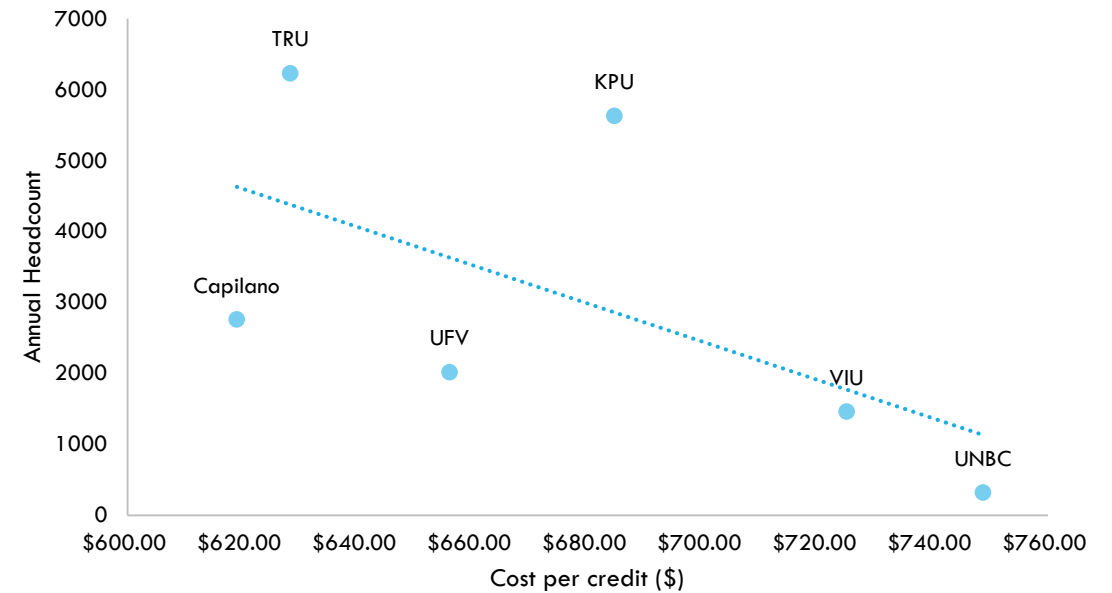


TUITION VS. INTERNATIONAL ENROLMENT 2021

Big 3 PSI Tuition and International Enrolment



Other PSI Tuition and International Enrolment



RATIONALE



Cost Certainty for planning: Assist students and families with financial budgeting and planning. From a student success perspective, TRU World believes offering students certainty in future tuition amounts will reduce stress on students and improve retention.



Increases nationally and provincially expected: TRU's international tuition is 7th out of the 9 public universities in BC that enrol significant numbers of international students. This increase will likely move TRU up one or two positions, comparable to VIU and KPU.



Inflation:

Current inflation is 2.5% and projected to level out at approximately 3%.

ADDITIONAL COSTS OF RECRUITING & SUPPORTING INT'L STUDENTS

Int'l Admissions & Int'l Student Services

- Int'l Admissions
- Int'l Student Advising
- Regulated Int'l Student Immigration Advising Certification
- Accommodation arrangement and airport pickup
- Pre-arrival services
- Int'l student orientation
- Immigration Custodianship service for minors
- Student services for transnational students & incoming exchange (Study Abroad) students

Int'l Marketing & Recruitment

- Marketing Services Representatives
- Int'l recruitment fairs & trips
- Int'l marketing materials & int'l shipping
- Student agent training, management and commission payments
- Scholarships for int'l applicants
- Student recruitment through institutional partners

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

Date	Activity	Status
	Consultations with Deans (individual)	Done
	International Admissions, International Marketing	Done
	Registrar's Office	Done
	Finance	Done
	IT	Done
	TRUSU	Done
	Dean's Council	Done
	VP Admin Finance initial review	Done
August 26	TRU Executive Review	Done
September 10	BCOS NOI	Pending
October 8	BCOS Recommendation	Pending
October 4	Board of Governors Notice of Motion	Pending
December 6	Board of Governors approval	Pending

APPROVAL PROCESS & IMPLEMENTATION



CONCLUSION

(EFFECTIVE FALL 2025)

Per Credit Fee Model: Change from a hybrid tuition model to per credit for all international students.

Tuition for new cohort of international students in Fall 2025 **will be guaranteed not to increase** for the duration of the program of study plus one year.

Continuing international students will receive inflationary increases – 3%.