

April 27, 2015

Michelle Weslen

To Whom It May Concern;

In regards to the VSB closing down courses, where education is most needed to person(s) that want to finish their education.

I am a student here at VSB and my experiences in finishing my grade 12 has been exceptional. My math and English teachers are the best in teaching the requirements. I need to graduate. The courses are wonderful and meet all my needs. The time-frame is adequate and being in attendance is well timed for my learning experience. Thankyou again.

P.S. I need to be here to learn and graduate.

Thank you Sincerely, Michelle

Michelle Wesley

April 04, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in response to the closing of the Downtown Eastside Education Centre slated for June/2015.

In September/2014, I enrolled into classes here at the downtown centre so I can receive my Grade 12 and hopefully become a graduate. To learn of the possible closing has now put my dreams and goals at a standstill. I receive the best in learning along with the best settings in class, the teachers are excellent in teaching me in my classes. Because of this centre I have set myself for a higher standard and goals after I graduate. All teachers, tutors ^{also} with the courses that are available here at this remarkable teaching facility will be at a loss for people seeking their education or a betterment in life.

Thank you

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

As a tax paying citizen and a student at the VSB Downtown Education Centre I would like to express my grave concerns regarding the proposed closing and or cuts to the VSB Down town adult education center.

I am an educated professional who for medical reasons has had to make a career change as a mature adult.

I am a client at a WorkBC office who has exhausted all of my EI benefits and has taken advantage of many of the programs that they offer. WorkBC does not offer any basic computer classes, so the VSB Basic Computer Skills program is proving to be invaluable in assisting me to be prepared for when I get called in for future employment testing.

To have an accessible dedicated structured program, with a dedicated professional to serve as a teacher and mentor is a tremendous benefit for many reasons.

Firstly, I simply can't afford to pay for computer classes.

Secondly, the structured curriculum, programs and in class environment create a very positive learning environment that greatly promotes learning and success.

Thirdly, I understand that there will be millions of employment opportunities in the Lower Mainland in the next ten years. If the City of Vancouver and the Province of B.C. hope to have a skilled workers to fill these roles it just makes sense to me to invest Canadian Taxpaying dollars into needy local citizens first, and then look at other viable options such as importing immigrant labor.

I do understand that it is a matter of cost. I am at a loss to understand why the VSB, Province of B.C. and the Canadian Federal Government can't or won't work together to ensure the success of the people who are in such need.

Within the various levels of government, I would be curious to know if anyone has explored and followed up on the great potential of various corporate sponsorship programs. Yes it might be an embarrassment for the various levels of government to seek funding through private sources, however program cuts are not about individuals who are employed and have the potential reach their full potential.

Program cuts such as these affect good, hard-working people who really want to succeed and in turn invest back into Vancouver, B.C. and Canada.

Who was it that said; "Never look down on someone unless you are helping them up."?

Thank you for your time and serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Dunn

B. Penelope Post

April 2015

To whom this may Concern:

My name is Penelope Post I am a student at Vancouver School Board Adult Opening Learning Center on Powell Street, it was brought to my attention by a teacher that the Vancouver School Board will be locating this Center. And the funding for the low income students such as myself will be cut.

In hearing that the School Board Committee are considering relocating or cutting funding for this center, I was very frustrated of this news for a lot of reasons however I strongly feel that it will cost more money if this relocation idea will not save money and will hurt not only the students that attend there on the full-time or part-time basics. The community that has benefit from having to opportunity to give the people in this area to get the education and a chance to get a job or to further their education to start feeling good about themselves perhaps giving back to the community. Without this opening learning centre it will not only discourage them to try to improve their skills that they may need to move ahead. But discourage them from trying to make difference in the community.

I have tried to get into Vancouver Community to get my adult Education diploma, but got told that they didn't have a very long and difficult struggle. I have tried get my grade 12 other ways mainly through home schooling and got little or any help when needed to explain things to understand more clearly to me to do the type of work I was doing at the time. I learned about the opening learning program through friend that was attending the Main Street before they had to relocate. Then I went to the Gathering Place met with David it was there it where it clear to all parties involved that it would be more assessable for me to go to Powell center. The reason that the Gathering Place was over loaded and space was very limited ad small.

Which I started at the end of January 2015. I'm doing grade six Math and doing really well I am nearly finished the course. For the first time in a long time I feel that I've accomplished one of many goals which I had set for myself, I do realize that I still have work to do yet, Powell center has allowed me to start. To me now I have just gotten my foot in the door, but now the committee wants to close the door on not only me but others that want to make a difference in their lives and the community as a whole. If you take this away from us then the self-esteem in the students will go down ended up back where they were, With nothing to really to look forward to do will have a bigger impact on a person life style than a person that has a well-paying job and have an reason to get up in the morning, than someone that has nothing or no place to go to and feel good about themselves.

Reconsider your decision on relocating Powell Centre because the students need a place to go and learn new skills. Find work after they received the skills that they need to be off of Welfare all together.

Thank you for your understanding and time.

Yours Truly

Penelope Post

To Whom it may Concur,

My name is Levy Hill. I am currently a student at the DEEC. I am writing today to ask you to reconsider your cuts to the Adult Basic Education (ABE). After reading both the original and revised budget proposals. I am disappointed that an important location in the Downtown Eastside (DRES) is still being closed. After a very careful review of the funding shortfall and the deficit to operate, I have some concerns. First of all is the proposal to increase the "International Student" class size by 50 students. I am for this and maybe even by 100 would be good. By raising the amount of students and also by raising the tuition fees by an additional 15% - 20% they projected increase

in revenue would not only cover
the deficit for ABE but would allow
our schools to teach our adults
who need to increase their education
marks. My question ~~to~~ is "Why our
schools are willing to educate foreign
students for higher Education while
we neglect educating our own?
At this rate all the high paying
educated jobs will be going to
foreign people. These families will
continue to send their ~~for~~ people
to get educated here even with a
higher cost. Why then not use
the projected profits to benefit
our citizens and educate them
with these fees. In conclusion I

am sure that if you just spend
a little time on how to increase
income without decreasing of services
can benefit all.

Sincerely


April 27, 15

My name is Shahrzad Berahmandzadeh, and I'm a student at Downtown East Education Centre (Deec).

I feel that the Vancouver School board is the only way I can finish my education in Vancouver, I used to be in VCC, but when they make it more expensive I couldn't continue there. This school is my last hope?

I'm full time worker and taking care of my family and it's hard to find another place in Downtown or Northshore to go and study there. I want to keep taking classes here. Me and the other students are Canada's future, I only have twenty three years old: life is hard enough why you're making it harder for me. All I want is education please don't close this school.

Shahrzad Berahmandzadeh

My name is Shadi Amoghpey, and I am a student at Downtown East Education Center (DEEC). I feel that the Vancouver School Board should reconsider its decision to close this school. This school serves an important community, and I want to keep taking classes here. If this school closes, there is no other school for me to attend downtown. Why are you making it harder for me to get an education?

Shadi Amoghpey

27 April 2015

My name is Mozghan Babaei, and I am a student at Downtown East Education Center (DEEC). I feel that the Vancouver School Board should reconsider its decision to close this school. This school serves an important community, and I want to keep taking classes here. If this school closes, there is no other school for me to attend downtown. Why are you making it harder for me to get an education.

A stylized handwritten signature, likely of the student Mozghan Babaei, consisting of a large loop and a horizontal stroke.

27. Apr. 2015

Mozghan Babaei

Marr Dorvault

April 27, 2015

I am attending Downtown East Education Centre.

I haven't been in school for the last 40 plus years. I have recently retired from cooking with injuries that doesn't allow me work as a cook. I do enjoy writing and reading where I do need a lot of help.

It would be hard for me to attend a regular school setting.

DEEC has helped me tremendously with Math and English.

It would be hard for me if this school is closed.

Thank You.

M. Dorvault

To whom it may concern

My name is Kay Ko, and I am a student
at Downtown East Education Center

I strongly feel that the Vancouver School Board should
reconsider its decision to close this school.

This school is part of our important community.
, and I really want to be here, keep studying
that I can get my school done,

when I immigrated in Canada, I was so proud of
Vancouver School Board.

It was perfect way to keep studying English
people like me need to know how to speak
, read English.

If this school closes, ~~we~~ It means we can't
communicate with people who speak English.

School must keep going!

Why are you making it hard for me to get
an basic education.

please get things changed.

Sincerely

Kay. Ko

My name is Marie Anne, and I am
a student at Downtown East Education
Centre (DEEC)

I feel that the Vancouver School Board recom-
sider its decision to close this school.
This school serves an important community,
and I want to keep taking class here.
If this school closes, there is no other
school for me to attend downtown.

Why are you making it harder for me
to get an education?

Now I can not reached my goal.
My future is done.

I feel very hopeless if I do not get
my education.

Please help us.

Marie Anne CRANK.

APR 27/2015

My name is Giti Afrasiabi, and I am a student at
Downtown Vancouver East Education Center. (DEEC)

I learned a lot in this school, but I heard this school may will be
closed. I think that the Vancouver school Board should reconsider
this school serves an important community, and I want to keep
taking class here. There is no other school for me to attend downtown,
if this school closes. Hope you are not making it harder for me to get
an education.

Giti - Afrasiabi



APR. 24 2015

My name is JIN LEE KIM, and I'm a one of old woman, who has a dream, about a learning.

My lighthouse of education has been a pile, the school means, I can not be a student.

I work more than a forty hours a week, but I don't have a room for pay tuition fee. I have a dream of learning.

My name is Wbn, and I'm a student at Downtown
East Education Center.

I feel that the Vancouver School Board should
reconsider its decision to close this school. This school
serves an important community, and I want to keep
taking classes here. If this school closes, there
is no other school for me to attend downtown.
Why are you making it harder for me to get an
education?

2015. April, 24th.

Wbn LEE

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my disappointment about closing Downtown East Education Center.

Obviously, it affect me negatively and profoundly, specifically as a new commmer who should face with many challenges.

Needless to say improving language skill is one of my serious concerns. Studing in this Center was a brilliant opportunity for me to learn more and pave my way towards a new, better life and being more helpful for our society. All in all, we will appreciate it if you give us a hand to have this center open.

It is our pleasure to help you to be able to keep the Education Center open.

Best Regards,
Sayed

To Whom it may concern.

Closing this school puts
a great financial strain
on ~~my~~ my budget just for
bus ~~fare~~ fare and travelling
on busses ~~also~~ also can cause
affect my health for I get
anxiety attacks that can
cause me to seizure so
this location is very important
to me.

Thank-you.
Lynda LeRette.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my disappointment about closing Downtown East Education Centre. As an second language student, it will affect me seriously. English is my second language and I am a university graduated student from my back home. Since I work and I have a very limit time and I also need my English 12 to get to the universities, this centre was an excellent opportunity for me with its experienced, helpful teachers and friendly environment. If this school closes, I will not be able to continue my studies. I believe getting education and as the result getting a better job is everyone's right. I just want to ask to keep these centre open for who are trying to get a better education. I know that will be costly, but by charging a resonable fee, I think the school can continue its work and also

its experienced teachers won't lose their job.

As I know there are lots of students who can afford a reasonable fee, so the school will be able to pay for its personnel and its cost.

Thank you for your consideration

Zahra. Sey. Mo

JIMONE BETTIMI

CLOSING THE ADULT EDUCATION . IT WILL HAVE

A BIG IMPACT ON MY LIFE, HERE IN VANCOUVER.

TO UNDERSTAND BETTER ~~THE~~ MY PERSONAL SITUATION,

IS BETTER I SAY SOMETHING ABOUT ME.

I'M ITALIAN AND I CAME IN VANCOUVER 3 YEARS AGO.

THE REASON WHY I MOVE HERE, IS BASICALLY THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY.

RIGHT NOW ECONOMY IS BAD AND POLITICAL MAKE IT WORST, ^{THE THINGS THEY ARE} ~~THEY~~ ONLY CARE ABOUT BANK AND BIG-

CORPORATION, SO BASICALLY ONLY ABOUT ~~THEM~~ ~~AND~~ THEIR OWN BUSINESS.

THIS SITUATION AND THIS INJUSTICES MADE ME MOVE TO A COUNTRY WHERE I WAS THINKING ~~THE~~ ~~THAT~~ IT WAS MORE LOYAL.

IN VANCOUVER I START TO WORK, ~~IF~~ WITHOUT CARING ^{BECAUSE} WHAT KIND OF JOB I WAS DOING, ~~FOR~~ MY GOAL WAS

MAKE MY FUTURE, AND MAYBE ONE DAY MY FAMILY FUTURE
BETTER THAN WHAT I CAN ^{WE} HAVE BACK HOME.

MY ENGLISH IN THE BEGINNING WAS VERY BAD, IT STIL ~~IS~~
BAD BUT THE IMPROVE I HAD IS ~~MOSTLY FOR SCHOOL~~ THANKS TO THE SCHOOL
I'M GOING RIGHT NOW.

~~SO~~ SINCE MY GOAL, AND I GUESS EVERYONE'S GOAL'S IS HAVING A
BETTER FUTURE, ~~AND~~ THIS SCHOOL IS THE KEY TO REACH THAT GOAL.
IT WILL ^{HAVE} ~~BE~~ A VERY ^{BAD} INFLUENCE ON OUR LIFE AND ^{ON} THIS COUNTRY.

~~BECAUSE~~, CANADA LIKE EVERY COUNTRY IS MADE BY PEOPLE NOT BY
DOLLARS BILLS; IN FACT, IF THE GOVERNMENT ~~IS~~ ONLY
THINK ABOUT SCHOOL AS A PROFIT IT WILL BE THE ^{DUMMEST} ~~STUPID~~ ~~WORSE~~
THING, ~~HE~~ ~~CAN~~ HE CAN DO..

GOVERNMENT HAVE TO THINK AT SCHOOL ~~AND~~ AS AN INVESTMENT NOT
A FAST PROFIT, BECAUSE I THINK A COUNTRY WITH EDUCATED
PEOPLE WILL ~~BETTER~~ MAKE MORE MONEY IN THE FUTURE THAN WHAT
GOVERNMENT CAN HAVE NOW TO CLOSING THIS SCHOOL; UNLESS THE
GOAL OF THIS POLITICS IS HAVING NON EDUCATED PEOPLE SO THEY CAN
CONTROL ~~EASIER~~ THEM EASILY.
THE BEST FOR THIS COUNTRY IS HAVING EDUCATED PEOPLE AND
THE LIFE STYLE OF EVERYONE IT WILL BE BETTER AND BETTER

To Whom It Concerns:

I would like to express my concern for the recent disconcerting news of the closure of the adult continuing education center located at 105 Powell Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

As Canadian citizens, it is rather appalling to learn that essential services are perpetually being cut in favor of greedy profit making.

I.e: the soliciting of international students – paying much higher fees and thus being given priority over domestic tax paying Canadian citizens.

Education pays – it does not cost...

Please reconsider the closure of the Education Center – it would be very advantageous and beneficial for Canadian society.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION...

Anonymous student at the learning center,

April 27, 2015

APRIL 26 - 2015

To whom it may concern:

My name is Marko Martin. I am recently taking a course at DEEC. Upon completing this program I would like further continuing on with closer of the school I fear that I will not be able to continue. However the other schools are too far away. This will not help me finding work.

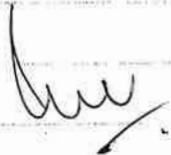
Marko Martin

To Whom It may Concern:

SIDE

I AM THE STUDENT OF DOWNTOWN EAST, my name
IS SHAN LEE. IT IS A BIG IMPACT IF THIS LOCATION
CLOSED DOWN IN THE NEAR FUTURE BECAUSE I WOULD
TAKE MORE TIME TRAVELLING FROM MY HOME. I WISH
I COULD CONTINUE MY STUDIES HERE.

SHAN LEE



April 27, 2015

April 28, 2015

To Whom it may concern:

I AM CURRENTLY TAKING THE BASIC computer course at the ADULT Education CENTRE ~~at~~ 103 Powell ST. So far the lessons have been very valuable. I'm concerned that I won't be able to continue the program into the advance course, if the School is closed. This would be a shame. Please reconsider this closer that will effect my development and many other Canadians here trying to better their skills for a competitive workforce.

James Dickinson

To Whom it MAY CONCERN: APRIL 27/15

Could we please keep
this SCHOOL OPENED, AS
IT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR people to get education
IN AN AREA where folks
CAN BE MARGINALIZED.

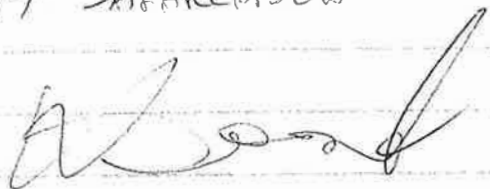
DAVID WOOD
DEEC2 STUDENT.

APR 27 2015

please do not take more money from our classrooms.

As a Canadian citizen and voter. I want to know that our public Adult school is open and I can educate my self so I can have better life too. local people are our future for this country. who would close school any way is not fair.

M. SABALZADEH



To whom it may concern:

My name is Arthur Trigg, I am 66 years young I have many health issues and to say I won't be around for a long time is a understatement. I used to sit at home, watching television feeling sorry for myself and getting sicker and sicker by the minute. By chance I discovered this school less than two blocks from my home I decided to check it out, I applied, and I now attend a computer and a math class I am enjoying myself so much that I don't have any time to feel sorry for myself and believe it or not my health has actually improved. My kidney function has gone from 29% to 47% which means for me not having to be hooked to a machine for up to 4 hours. The news of this school closing gives me a lot I don't know what I'm going to do after June. Traveling is hard on my heart and lungs. I've had heart attacks in the past breathing is difficult if I could be granted one wish it would be to get a high school graduation which was attainable up until I heard the news of the closure I hope you can be openminded and let people like me have hope that another solution.

Arthur Trigg,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Arthur Trigg', with a circular embossed seal or stamp partially visible behind the ink.

April 27, 2015

Dear school board:

Date Apr 27/2015
No.

I was so sad heard Downtown East Education is close. When people came from different country they don't know English. they can't speak and listen English. I'm embarrassed I'm a citizen but I can't speak English and read English and listen English. so we need more Adult Education centres to study English.

I came to Canada for about 9 years. I was hard working at work. When I got shoulder hurt I can't work anymore. If to get a better job. must know English. Adult ~~ing~~ Education are help ~~ed~~ the Adult to learn English. So please don't close the downtown East Education Centres.

Thank you
Shu Qiang Chen.

TRUONG THI HONG ANH.

April / 27 / 2015 .

Dear Sir .

Can you please I don't want to this school
Down town East Centre .

It is comenieme for me to study here ,
pleas don't close .

Thank you so much.

Crnh

April 27/2015

Dear Sir

DOWNTOWN EAST CENTRE Please
don't close this school. My home is
near this school. I hope you can keep this
school continue to open. Thank you for
your attention.

My sincerely,

Goldah Jafari

Alice.

April 27-2015.

Dear Sir.

please, don't close this D.E.E.C.
school, Because I want to learn more
education That is important for us.

April 27, 2015

Dear Sir,

My home close to Downtown East Centre.

I don't want to close this school. It is
convenience for me to study here. Please don't
close this school. I am grateful you very much.

My sincerely,

Lam sui Chu

April 27, 2015

My name is Cecilia Mckay, an English student at Downtown East Education Centre (DEEC). I am very disappointed to hear that the adult basic education at DEEC will be closing this year because of the lack of fundings. I plan to continue my education in order to find job. Adult basic education is my only way to find a better job. If this school closes, I have no where else to go. It would be even harder for me to get an education.

I hope you will reconsider opening the DEEC this year and next year.

Thank you,

Cecilia McKay,
604 722 6935

To whom it may concern,

Down east education center has had major roles within my personal life. It has allowed me to progress through high school but as well as providing me with a brighter future. I feel the need that by closing down the school it would shatter majority of the student's dreams. It would ruin my dreams of ever achieving somewhere in life. I want to be able to provide for my family but as well have a future job. By cutting this school you are putting a stumbling block for me not to accomplish anything. On top of that I feel that we are not looked at as human beings but instead we are just looked at as numbers for you to graph. To me that is just rather cruel & unhuman. Some of the people that have lived in this country for nearly twenty years or more have had to pay taxes to the government just to provide education to the general public. But those people you are within this school that you are trying to cut. So than what may the point be into paying those taxes if they are the ones that are cutting off & not allowed to achieve a better education. This is going to be difficult for future students who cannot make a living. The very sad aspect is we are told to get a better education to make a living but rather forget in the process of how; we tend to cut off people just to reach that level of power. In fact we are literally killing just to make a living but as well as decaying. So I ask you kindly please reconsider about closing the school & remember we are just only humans not numbers.

Thank you

Sincerely , Shirwan Mohammad.

Dear Sir / Madam

Why Deec should be kept open?

Why kill a thousand people?

- Hi, My name is Hamza Abdullahi and I am 23 years old. I was born in Toronto Ontario and have come to B.C for its beauty and its great landscape. I have also come to B.C to have a fresh and new start in life, that starts with getting a high school diploma, as any pillar must have a surface to stand or lean on. So far this has become an issue due to the fact that my Downtown Eastside Education Centre is being closed.
- I haven't much emphasized on what I want to accomplish, through Deec. My ambitions my goals are to obtain a high school ^{diploma} as well as it is a constitutional right. My ambitions my goal are to attend university as well as ^{it is} a constitutional right. My ambitions my goals are to one day become the Prime Minister of Canada and that as well is a constitutional right.
- Without Deec (Downtown Eastside Education Centre) none of this is possible, as hard as it is for me already, I must know keep in the back of my head or worry about the fact that I must look for another adult education centre or about paying future fee's. I am a Canadian and I am proud to say that I am one and I am also proud to say that I didn't come from a poor country.
- Why Deec should be kept open? Why keep a thousand illiterate?, or kill thousand people's dreams?
- Even though Deec may be a small unit or as small as a cell attached to the schooling system in B.C, but what you can not belittle is the fact many people depend on it whether its feeding there families or educating there families.

Thank you very much



Hamza Abdullahi

To whom it may concern,

Closing the Downtown Eastside Education Centre (DEEC) is going to affect my education. My name is Jairo Díaz, I'm 25 years old. I've been living in Vancouver for six months, and I came to DEEC to improve my English. I have a bachelor degree from Mexico, and I need to write and speak a competent English to develop my degree here.

I want to work in Actuarial Sciences in Canada. I want to develop my professional life, and I want to complete a masters degree. DEEC is helping me with these goals.

There are no options without DEEC; it's really necessary for me; it's cheap and very helpful. It'll be hard for me to pay for my courses if the cost increases.

If DEEC is closed, it will affect opportunities for improvement; it will affect education; it will affect culture.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jairo Díaz', is written over several horizontal lines.

Jairo Díaz

Vancouver School Board 1580 W. Broadway

April 27, 2015

To whom it may concern,

I live Downtown area long time ago. I'm studying here because my ex-school Lord Roberts is close for "Adult Education Programs". Finish the Grammar 12 is our right like Canadian. If we expect grow up in this life like society, integrate us like community, we have to understand each other, speaking and writing good English because Canada is a Immigrant's Country and bilingual.

The majority of Programs for Adult Education are close or ~~they~~ are closing now. Downtown East Education Center is a important or maybe the only option for some of us. We want just finish our Grammar 12, we think is "our Right like Canadians".

Thank you very much,

~~too~~

JEAN PIERRE BOUCHER

Vancouver School Board
Downtown Eastside Centre

Apr, 27, 2015

Dear Sir,

When a government allows a lot of people to come to a new country, It should consider the different problems they face with a new society and the first one is the "Language". I'm one of the new students of DEEC. My family and I moved here almost one year ago. To find a job I need to write a resume and a cover letter and I face a lot of weakness in my writing. I decided to continue my education in DEEC, because English is the first language in Vancouver. You know to improve a new language you should go as slow as a turtle, and continuously. It takes a lot of time and budgeting and DEEC is the best choice for me. These days I have received a lot of new experience in writing and it has really worked. But without DEEC my future will be dizzy. If DEEC closes it will put in disorder. If DEEC closes it will destroy my desire for education. ^{my finances}. If DEEC closes it will take away my hope for finding a job. I think the government should provide this atmosphere for new immigrants to overcome the language obstacles like the other challenges that exist.

Thanks you very much Neelam N. DADVAR

Ellen at DEEC

27 April 2015

To whom it may concern

Closing DEEC will have a lot of side effects on my life. I'm Ellen. I just moved to Canada. I have been living in Vancouver for three months. From my very first day here I got aware of DEEC. I started to improve my English by taking English Foundation Course here in DEEC. I passed EF5 and EF6 self-percent and now I'm taking EF7. I feel I have improved alot. However, it's not enough. I need English 12 to go to the university. IF DEEC is killed my education is killed. If my education is killed, my ~~career~~ career is killed. IF my career is killed, I might to leave Canada. Without DEEC, I will have to go to other centers which are really far away from my place, so I will have to waste my time on the way. Besides, these centers will be very crowded, which means I have to be on a long waiting list, or participate in a class too full of students. As you know in those classes the quality of learning will decrease. Without DEEC, my education and future will be affected.

Thank you very much.

 Ellen

Monday, 27th of April 2015

To:

Dear Sir; or Madam,

the last time i was not able to come to the meeting about your decision to close some of the places where V.S.B are Teaching Adults like me who doesn't finish yet theirs high school or, who comes from overseas like me and don't have english as mother tongue.

Let me Tell you that, that's a big mistake because, i think That people really need to have those places open for example as a person with disability, with french as mother tongue, i'm just have 900\$ every month for living and the downtown VSB it is an excellent opportunity for me to learn english for free with my schedule convenient and also close to my place, without any stairs to access that facility witch is a big barrier for me.

I'm really sorry for my english i know that i'm still have to work hard to be able to be fluent like the average of people and i hope i'll finally get my TOEFL to be able to go to university and became a French teacher. So please, don't close that door to me it's one of the last door that i have to be living with dignity and became a good citizen with a lovely family.

Thank you!

Cyrille Bouga Kom

PARK, JUNG EON

As a new immigrant, closing the adult basic education is a huge disappointing, and it will affect my future plan. Most of all, now I have to think about the tuition fee from this coming July. To get a job here, taking a few courses are essential prerequisites for exchanging my license issued from Korea, but now I have to fix my plan with financial issues. I have heard that Canada is a country of immigrants, and actually it is. Also, most immigrants have a high education background, but they cannot get a job because they have the same problem as me. To meet the Canadian education system, we have registered the adult education programs, but now, we cannot do it anymore.

Vancouver School Board

1580 W Broadway Vancouver BC

April 27, 2015

To whom it may concern,

These days, the BC Government has decided to limit the VSB's activities. I think it is awful, and this decision will influence my professional life effectively.

I am a physician. I moved in Vancouver about six months ago. I immigrated here as a skilled worker. I really need to improve my English academically because I hope to work as a physician in the future.

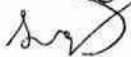
I have attended courses in the VSB for about five months. I could review my previous English knowledge and I could also upgrade my vocabulary and grammar very efficiently. They teach effectively and academically, so I am able to develop my English skills. I am getting my confidence, and so the VSB has helped my motivation a lot.

I have explored through the Internet but I have not found any other courses, like the VSB offers. The VSB courses are academic, sociable, and friendly. I am not able to find any substitution for them.

All in all, I believe Canada has a multicultural society and people need to improve their English language skills properly. In my opinion, the VSB is the best, but when the VSB's activities are limited, all the people lose.

Yours faithfully,

Soheil Saghafi



Vancouver School Board
1580 west Broadway
April, 27, 2015

Dear Sir/madam
to whom it may concern

I am Injeela Abdul Fatah I'm 27 years old. I live in Vancouver since January 2009, and I am a Canadian citizen. I am coming to Downtown East Education center because Lord Robert is closed, and other than that this is closest school to my house. This is the first class that I am taking, and if this school is closed, I won't be able to go to school any more because I am a mom of two kids, and I have a big responsibility. If I goes to any farther school I will waste too much time. Please keep this school open. I think this is very important to be open for adult, and gave them opportunity to learn English.

Thank you for your time

Injeela Abdul Fatah

(Signature)

undoubtedly, immigration could be a big challenge for everyone as a human, and it is physically and mentally demanding. For me as an skilled immigrant, continuing education is vital because it can open the new horizons in front of an immigrant who left her job, position and all her assets behind to find completely new opportunities in life. Thus, education is a key for anyone to achieve the new goals particularly for an immigrant who faces here with various kinds of economy and cultural conflicts. In this journey, Adult Education Centres is the place that the immigrant's dreams come true appropriately with a reasonable prices. Therefore, We all as students in Adult Education Centres, are upset to lose this big chance because this kind of descrimination is painful and disappointing because we feel awkward loneliness in this way. Indeed, closing Adult Education Centres is like losing our home and it is completely shocking new for each of us.

Maryam - Parvati

Dear Sir,

My name is Maryam. I am a student in adult school in DEEC. I am a new comer, so improving my English skill is an essential part for me. I need to find a good job and it depends on my skills. Closing the adult education will have a very bad affect on society, because many uneducated persons or educated persons from other country need to improve their skills. Actually for many people in this situation it is too difficult to pay. Lot Government should help to improve adult education. It has^{an} affect on child life and new generation. we need a better society. Closing the adult education makes a bad result for society.

To Whom may it concern

My name is Annie who came to Vancouver as immigrant 12 years ago. I am studying English 11-12 in Downtown East Education Centre currently and hear that the DEEC will close from July. It would be unbelievable and unpredictable to continue my studies. I ~~deated~~ already graduated University in my back country and full of Education but I could not get a job which needs high English skills; consequently, I decided to study English at DEEC. The regulation of finding a job in B.C required to ~~graduate~~ ^{finish} English 12 even if the immigrants graduated their University for education. The ministry of education and all of jobs in B.C required to people who need to work for English 12 credit; therefore, there is no reason the DEEC continue support people. If it ~~will~~ ^{is} not ~~exist~~ exist any more, ~~that~~ that ~~would~~ would be discrimination.

To whom it may concern:

Hi, I am just an ordinary student from a country that is considered as a "third world country". In the country from which I came from, parents sacrifice with blood, sweat and tears just to send their sons and daughters to school, even if it means they have to eat two meals a day or even one meal a day. This truly is a strange country, it truly is. A country which is considered one of the richest countries in the world, a country which is in abundance, a country that sits up so high in the throne choose to cut one of its education programs. I have a dream, a dream that one day return to the country of my birth and tell stories about this great country and also share the things I've learned. But I guess, if you choose to cut this chance of hope the dream of mine and the dreams of other thousand immigrants and international students like me will be cut off too. I just got here, in high hopes for a better life. Many others like me tried to escape the greed that has taken over the leaders in the country of (mined) mine. I just don't get why this country would do this? Is it because we don't give any profits? Has this country been conquered by greed too?

Scott Kay

To whom this may concern....

I've just heard the news the closing of the Adult Basic Education "wow!" what a shock I'll be able to now study self paced ~~at~~ a different location which is even more inconvenient... Please don't close this Place, I need the Adult Basic Education and the way the teachers are very helpful this is my first time writing and also giving myself a chance to get hands on learning I've already tried the self paced and I find it very difficult. It'll be very great if you can leave everything as is. The closing down will not only effect myself but others too who wanna complete their education. This indeed will effect a great deal of people.

Christine.

To whom it may concern,

It is with my deepest regrets that the school board is making a huge mistake in shutting down, the downtown east side education Centre. This school, is very important not just to myself, but for many others that attend here. If this school is shut down it is forcing all the DEEC students to areas they might not be comfortable attending. This school has successfully helped many students with their dreams of either graduating, upgrading, or ^{gaining} basic skills. It is with serious doubt that I will be tragically disappointed in "The System", once again. This school has helped me grow ~~with~~ as an individual, and I feel bad for those who won't be able to experience it for themselves due to ~~the~~ this closure.

Sincerely, Christine

Leila

Hello,

My name is Leila. I am a student in D.E.E.C. I chose adult school to continue my education, because it was free.

I need to have a job because I need money. I came here to have a better life. I left my country and passed many problems. Now I can't continue my education and all my dreams changed badly.

My little son asks me every day "why they don't let you to continue your education?", and I am ashamed of saying the fact. The fact that I don't have money and I am forced to stop my education.

Karen Abarca

April 27, 2015

To close the adult basic education, definitely it will affect to migrants and low resources people. It is slowing the educational development of us and our children. We have the right to achieve a worthy education, the way how are planning the right of the program's education course. These are discriminating migrants and people can not afford it. It is totally unfair that foreigners people with a university career simply can not get any kind of job, because it is not value their degree. Nowadays even to learn English it will cost a quantity no reachable for many, many people that would not afford it. Therefore

it will impossible continue studying
practically seems as the government's
system is maise for affect
poor people's opportunities. The
intstitutions or educations, and students
should look for our equality
like humanity been and city-
zens.

To whom it may concern

My name is "TAKITO" and I'm a high school drop out from Japan. My last grade in my old country is only Grade 10. Few years ago, I broke my lower back due to a ski accident and ever since I have not been able to work as a automotive mechanic which is my profession. On top all that, I run out of money last December and became a homeless for a month until I've got on the welfare. I've always wanted to do something for other people especially for the underdogs of our society since I've been on the receiving end of all the help and love from the most generous people in the world, Canadians, ever since I came to Canada almost 25 years ago. In order for a person like me, a high school drop out immigrant, to change the career in the midlife, the education is the key to advance to the post secondary education and stop being just a burden of the society. For me to lose a school like the Downtown Eastside Education Center is

almost losing a home the second time [✓] since I've already
love all the teachers and the staff members ^{in my life} at the
school. Once you abolish something in the public system,
it'll be very hard to bring it back to the system in the
future again and even you change your mind later,
it'll usually take hundred times more money and effort.
You, all of the school trustees and the government officials,
are making a foundation of this beautiful country, just
like the Egyptian did 5000 years ago, by investing on
people. I'm almost 100% sure that you [✓] all want to
make Canada "the government of the people, ^{also} for the
people, by the people." So please think about those minority
people's needs and reconsider your decision.

In the end, we all want the same thing, a country
that treats everyone equal no matter where one is from
or what the one's value is. Please Please DO NOT
cut the budget from the Adult Education System.
Thank You Very Much.

04/27/15

Shevalev Alo

To whom it may concern,

Closing the adult basic education will affect all who attend or are planning to attend. In 2012, the ministry of education began charging students tuition with high school diplomas, resulting with a high course dropout rate. Since then the adult education population has decreased 30 per cent. Restricting access to basic education which is also a pathway to employment and further learning is a dangerous policy experiment that will lead to great inequality. The proposed minimal cap of 26 will be almost impossible to achieve, and will only exacerbate the cycle of class cancellations and under-enrolment precipitating the end of youth and adult basic education in Vancouver. I thank you for carrying out this very difficult work in such a careful way, and in that spirit hope that you will reconsider cutting all the youth and adult basic education programs in the Northeast of the city and instead, explore creative possibilities to infuse 21st Century learning in this vibrant but vulnerable

area of the city.

Sincerely,

Alexander Sheraton

To whome it may concern

My name is Diana and I am currently attend the Vancouver School Board (DEEC).

I already finished high school and had a University Degree from my country, where I came from. It is not a secret, that if you want to have the same position, as in your country, you will have to prove your diploma

I would like to improve my English and then go to the college to prove my degree.

Unfortunately, the government cut lots of courses and increase the prices. Also, the DETC is about to close, however, it is the closest location to me. The problem is, that it is a lot of money and the most immigrants, like me can not afford it.

The education is very important for me, and

I want to be a quality specialist and

will have a free education in a close location
for me and my children in future

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

I hope, that these problems will be solve soon
in a good way for Canadian.

Regards,

Diana Kamaeva

From
Crystal
Suriawo

To who it may concern,

It has come to the attention of many students (such as myself) that education centres such as Downtown East Education Centre is closing down.

I have seen the effect of each decision made to cut/close down

schools that support a rather large community of students. Adult

Education is a very important better because it is an opportunity

and a means of education. Institutions like DEEC give those who

are in between educational situations a transition and a chance. There

are immigrants who are expected to learn within B.C., adults who

have lived through hardships and sacrifice wanting to make a change,

and students who just need another opportunity. I have personally

made some bad decisions in my life, but through it all I've

come to realize just how important education is in a society

especially like this. Education is something I can hold to as my

own and it has helped inspire me to do better with my life.

I have learned to value myself more through education and

have been so grateful to be able to complete my high school

education. Soon, I will graduate with a proper dogwood, but it will

not ease what I know. I am aware of your decision to cut places like D.E.E.C. down and it does not sit well with me. In my eyes, you are cutting off chance and opportunity for a vast amount of people. You are unemploying a whole community of real and heart-felt teachers. You are dividing those between educated and non-educated into those who can afford education and those who cannot afford education. There is a sense of misunderstanding in your decisions where there is a very limited perspective, but everyone here is not just a number. Everyone here has a story, everyone here is attached in one way or another and without an education center, it will break. I have felt the hardship, seen those (teachers) who have been laid off, and am now fully aware of the affect of these decisions because of the emotions everyone depicts. It's not only numbers you're crunching in one area and raising in another, but lives, hearts, and homes. We are people, the same people, like you. We have families and responsibilities, as well as our futures. Please do not take that away from us. Sincerely, Crystal S.

To whom it may concern

My name is Laila. I am an

Immigrant from East Africa. I resided here

two years and did finish my high

school in my actual country. My main goal

is to get a good score so that I can

be enrolled to a better college. Therefore I

came back to the US to start as an Adult

Basic Education at DECC which is good.

Closing. Unfortunately, the closing of DECC

is really a great not only me but

a lot of people because we are not going

to achieve what we wanted. I would

like to request the Government to have

a look at our future life, and the teachers

also began with a letter job our

family is going to be a poor tiger

JSB
1580 W Broadway,
Vancouver
April 27/15

To whom it may concern,

If you will D.E.E.C., you kill my education plan.
My name is Amna Elshazly, I am 29 years-old, a
Single mother with no higher education or higher
income. On Income Assistance with almost no
money at this moment, I will make it even
harder for me to pay for schooling and to get
my Gr 12 diploma if D.E.E.C. is cut. My goal
and ambitions are to finish my Gr 12 diploma,
which means I'm one step closer to get my
University degree. That means a job with higher

pay and also working in a field that I love and enjoy, as well as to be able to help my son to be an educated and smart kid. This location is very quiet, it is very nice which makes it very interesting. D.E.E.C should be left open, to ease students with a very busy life styles. It would be a big lose to me if it is closed, as this location is my top location for to me to finish my Gr 12 Diploma & get me started on Post Secondary studies.

—Thank you for your time


Amna Elshazly

Tom Leys
Instructor,
DEEC

Vancouver School Board,
1580 West Broadway
Vancouver

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

There are cuts to education that are harmful, and there are cuts that are downright shameful.

My name is Tom Leys and I have been an instructor with the adult education centres for almost 12 years. I have helped students gain confidence in writing and move on to college and careers. DEEC is providing students with this chance at the moment, and closing DEEC will ruin it.

DEEC is an important school. It works well for its students. It has a collegial atmosphere, and it allows the community, young and old, recent immigrants or first Nations, ESL students or Canadian-born former high school students, to enjoy a chance to move ahead with their lives.

Without DEEC, the opportunity for students to help themselves is killed. With their chances killed, their hopes are killed, and a bit of Canadian culture is killed.

Everybody knows that there is enough money

to keep open a small centre such as this or
Hastings Education Centre. Far from closing DEEC,
the responsibility of a school board with integrity
should be to establish 20 such small schools
throughout the city. It is a huge loss and a
shame to close a school such as DEEC.

Thank you for your time,
Yours truly,

Tom LEYS.

Vancouver School Board
1580 W Broadway

To: Whom it may concern.

There are three reasons I will talk about the DEEC be kept open. First of all, I am an artist and volunteering at an senior center as an art teacher. Sometimes I feels I need to study hard to assimilate with seniors at the senior center. So I want to study more if it is possible. Second of All, I am a Canadian Citizen, so I hope I will be a real Canadian that knows Canada's Society and take a job and bring up my children very well. Third of all, I think DEEC is a good education center which has kind officers and nice teachers. If DEEC closes, I feel it will

be difficult to assimilate to Canadian's
society. There are three reasons why
DEEC should be kept open: for my development
and to become real Canadian.

Thank you very much.

~~Yol~~
Young Ae Cee

VSB
Vancouver School Board
1580 W Broadway

Dear VSB,

I have several reasons why I don't want the Downtown Eastside Education Centre closed in the future. First, the centre's location is good. If I take transport from North Vancouver to go to school, I just need to take ^{the Seabus} ~~transport~~ and then walking about ten minutes. If I take ^{the} bus from North Vancouver to downtown, I just need to walking 20 minutes to ^{arrive at} ~~arrive~~ the school. Secondly, the centre is near the Gastown. That is a tourism town. Our centre. When I finished school or when I walking to the school, I can enjoy the Gastown's atmosphere. ^{There is} Good weather and good views. Although I can not enjoy the restaurant or pub, I still enjoy the feeling. Especially if the weather is good, many people enjoy their meal in the outside of the restaurant. My mood is relaxing. The final reason because the teacher. I know the VSB teachers are excellent, but the downtown eastside education centre ^{has} many teachers. I know them because they taught in Robson

Education Centre before. If the location is closed, I will transfer to Southhill or Main street. That is not mean their teacher is not good, but in my opinion, I need to take time to know the Southhill or Main street new teachers.

~~Have a~~

Thank ~~you~~ your time.

Crystal Bai

April 27th

Taraneh Elmi

To Whom it may concern,

Dear Sir/Madam,

My Name is Tara. I'm a 22 year old NON-graduated Student. Who has decided to come back to School after Six years. Now. I've been a student at D.E.E.C for a full year, I'm here to improve my English. I'm here to be educated, and I'm here for a better future. It's been very unfortunate for me and everyone else here in D.E.E.C that our little, crowded classes are going to be shut down. D.E.E.C. is a great option for many students, because it's very close to downtown.

there are many options to continue
our education, and there are
wonderful teachers who work here.
So, I, as a student want to ask
you to keep D.E.E.C open, and
I want to ask you to give us
a chance for our future.

Thank you for your time
and consideration,

 Tara. E

Name: Sunny Park
Student at DEEC

VSB
Vancouver School Board
1550 W. Broadway

Date: Apr. 27. 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to explain why should the Downtown Eastside Education Centre be kept open continuously because I am a student at DEEC. I have been here in Vancouver six years ago with my family. Before, I leave Korea, I had been a working woman for over fifteen years in the export/import industry. I have a final goal here that I want to get a job in same field. Therefore, I am trying my best to study English hard through the V.S.B. However, I have to study English and finish the English 12 course because all of the companies require a certificate which is

English 12 finished. To get a better job here, I have to have the qualification. This is what they need, even though I had full experience. That's why I choose DEEC as a best English School for me.

First, studying at DEEC is very convenient and comfortable for me because the location is very close to my house. Second, I get confident when I study at DEEC because my teacher is very kind and he has a passion when he teaches English without any discrimination. Third, this center's building is very clean without doubt and has a fresh air even though it is located the downtown eastside. If DEEC is closed, it will break my ambition because I am used to studying with my teacher and all of staff at DEEC and I want to reach my goal studying at DEEC.

Thank you for your time.


Sunny

April 27, 2015

To Whom it may concern
V S B

I am writing this letter to express my position regarding the closing of Adult Educational Centres and, particularly, the Downtown Eastside Educational Centre (DEEC). I am 56-years old woman with a university degree from my original country. My English needs to be improved so I am taking English-7 Class. I have a 19-year old son who is taking an English-12 Course to improve his marks in order to graduate. I came to DEEC the first time when I just moved to Downtown in January 2015. Previously I took different courses in South Hill Centre because I lived close to that centre. The existence of Educational Centres significantly impacts the life of people and the community. I have met lots of people in the Downtown area who want to improve

their written or spoken English
or to take math courses. The
Educational Centre in Downtown
area gives them the option
to change their lives. Some
people at the East Side area
are struggling to survive
and they never would afford
the transportation to different
Centres.

The closing of the Downtown
East Educational Centre could
be critical for the community
of East Side taking out the
hope for a better life from
many people residing in that
area. It definitely would
affect my life and the
life of my son. To be
educated and to live among
educated people is better
than to stay close to
people without the hope
for better life.

Kind regards
Dariusz Bemben

Shirley

7
Ginny. C

Ginny
Downtown East Education Center.

Vancouver School Board
1580 W Broadways

Dear Sir,

To VSB it may concern about closing DEEC.

The DEEC shouldn't close with three reason that is my
~~opinion~~.

opinion. I came to Canada a few years ago. I kept to
learn at Adult Education. I have a school age child.

I worked on weekend. I choiced the school because

Its time of course is fit me. I can take care my child.

Its close my home. I spent half an hour to ^{walk to} go school.

I'm really enjoy going to school learning. I need to
learn English skill and improve my communication skill;

moreover I want to get better job. I think closing

school isn't good decition. If DEEC is closed I can't

continua learning. I need spending more time to go

other school. I can't pick my son from school on time.

The DEEC is closed. It's effect my learning in the
furthering. Keep DEEC open is good for students
who get better life.

To whom it may concern:

Hi, my name is Victoria Delorme. I've attended an adult education centre since February 2015. I feel very strongly that your decision to close this school and those like it are not only wrong but destructive for the community. I made a lot of mistakes as a teenager but dropping out of school at age sixteen has been my most damaging one. I recently had a son and I am trying my best to give him a fulfilling, comfortable childhood, one I was unable to have. The only step I knew to take was towards my education. I made only one phonecall and just like that, the process of completing my education had begun. I am thriving and receiving higher grades than I ever have in previous years. Aside from personal experience, I see how this decision will affect my fellow students and my teachers. I've made friends from different countries that were so saddened and discouraged by the news of the possible foreclosures. One friend was attempting to hold back tears asking our teacher "How will I pay? I cannot afford to." And my teacher, visibly concealing his grief, could not produce an answer. I can see the amount of pressure and stress this causes our teachers. Of course, many people reside their blame with them when the government should be held accountable.

People who have been raised in poverty stricken

areas need these centres if they want a fair chance at life. It's already difficult enough for people to receive a proper education. The government is constantly trying to resolve its issues such as homelessness and addiction. How do you end the neverending cycle of addiction? Obtain an education. How do you fight the system? Through knowledge and education. How do you get a decent, high paying job? Obtain an education. Myself and people of the community are in dire need of an education. Most of us are living paycheck to paycheck, struggling to get by as is. You will indefinitely set us up for failure if you decide to close our schools. In order to have a fair chance at a beautiful life we must have an education. We need to provide for our children and their future children. We need an education in order to build the foundation on which we build our lives and our families lives. Please reconsider. Please take into account all of which you will be taking from us.

Sincerely,

V. Delorme.