**Rationale for Accelerated Programs**

In 2013, even as the Education program was being revised from a one-year to a two-year program, discussion was given to accelerating Honours Concurrent programs from the proposed six years to five years. Based on evidence from other jurisdictions that had extended teacher education programs to six years, concerns at the time centered on the perception that a six-year program would be unattractive to many students. Since the introduction of the current Education Programs in 2015, discussions have continued in an effort to accelerate the programs, leading to the current proposal.

Given that the accreditation of Education Programs requires those programs being four semesters in duration, the acceleration of Concurrent Education programs can only occur in the undergraduate partner degree. Thus, the only changes that are proposed in the Accelerated Programs are for both Pre-Professional Education and partner degree courses to be offered in the Spring/Summer semesters that will allow students to complete their undergraduate programs in three years. Students will not be permitted to accelerate any part of their program in the First Year Fall and Winter semesters, as all the Chairs believe such a move could be counterproductive to student success. The Chairs of the Departments involved in this proposal will be responsible for the selection of those courses, and will inform their Deans of their requirements. The Deans of Social Science and Humanities, Science and Environmental Studies, and Education have all agreed to this funding model, as outlined in the attached memo.

As the program requirements are remaining the same, there is no need for new program codes, but Enrolment Services will be adding new codes to student files to track students who are accelerating. This is important as the Faculty of Education needs to ensure that all program requirements are met before a student enters the Professional Program, and that students receive important information regarding preparing for placements that start in October.

The Education Professional Program is unchanged by this proposal.

Depending on the uptake of these Accelerated Programs, it is envisaged other Concurrent Programs may be accelerated in the future.