



April 21, 2004

Our Ref. 49261

Dr. R. Neil Snider, President
Trinity Western University
7600 Glover Rd
Langley BC V2Y 1Y1

Dear Dr. Snider:

The application for exempt status submitted by Trinity Western University (TWU) has now completed all stages in the new degree quality assessment process.

The Degree Quality Assessment Board (the Board) considered the application at its meeting of March 8, 2004, and found that TWU met the exempt status criteria. The Board recommended that TWU be exempt from the Board's degree program review up to and including the master's degree level.

As a result, I am pleased to advise that I have approved TWU for exempt status up to and including the master's degree level.

New baccalaureate and master's degrees proposed by TWU must still be posted on the Post-Secondary Institution Proposal System. After the 30-day notice of intent stage, baccalaureate and master's degree proposals submitted by TWU will proceed directly to my office for decision. The Board will not review TWU's proposals unless I have concerns regarding a particular proposal and have determined that a review is necessary. The conditions for maintaining exempt status have been attached for your reference.

I look forward to receiving future degree program proposals from TWU.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY...

Shirley Bond
Minister

Attachment

pc: Dr. Elsie Froment, Director of Academic Initiatives
Trinity Western University

Attachment 1

Conditions for Maintaining Exempt Status

An institution with exempt status must continue to submit new degree proposals to the Minister for Ministerial consent (approval or Minister's Order in the case of British Columbia public institutions) by posting a Notice of Intent on the Post-Secondary Institution Proposal System. The documentation the institution used for its internal program approval process, or a link to the website where this information is available, must be attached to the application on Post-Secondary Institution Proposal System. Applications by British Columbia public institutions with exempt status are subject to peer review during the 30-day Notice of Intent period.

The Minister reserves the right to require any exempt institution's degree proposal to be reviewed by the board if the Minister believes a review is necessary or if:

- a. the request represents a significant departure from programs historically offered by the institution, or is inconsistent with the institution's mission;
- b. the quality of the institution's degree offerings has fallen into disrepute; or,
- c. the financial stability of the institution is in doubt.

If an institution's application for exempt status is approved, the institution's exempt status will not normally require renewal or reapplication.

The Minister reserves the right to revoke, suspend or amend an institution's exempt status. The Minister shall request a review by the board for recommendation on the revocation, suspension or amendment of exempt status of an institution; if the Minister believes a review is necessary, or if:

- a. the Minister has referred more than two programs to the board for review within a two-year period;
- b. the institution has failed to comply with any terms and conditions or any legislative obligation; or
- c. the institution no longer appears to meet the criteria for exempt status.