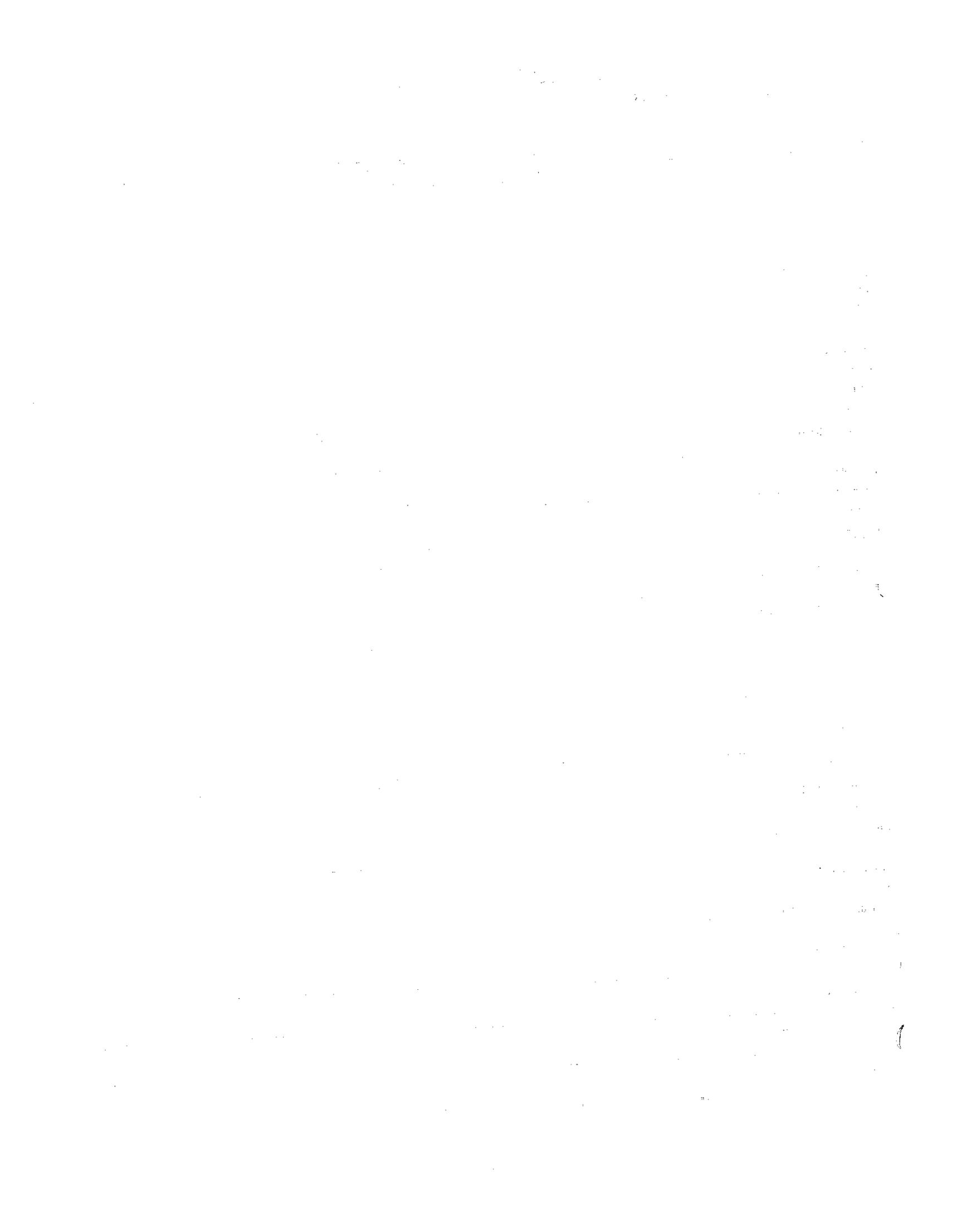


NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING COMMITTEES

Canadian Federation of Students

COMPONENTS	BUDGET	ORG'L DEVELOPMENT	NAT'L EDUCATION	CAMPAIGNS
British Columbia				
Manitoba				
New Brunswick				
Newfoundland-Labrador				
Nova Scotia				
Ontario				
Prince Edward Island				
Quebec				
Saskatchewan				
CAUCUSES				
College & Institute Associations				
Large Institute Associations				
National Aboriginal Caucus				
National Graduate Caucus				
Small University Associations				
CONSTITUENCY GROUPS				
Francophone Students				
International Students				
LGBT* Students				
Part-time/Mature Students				
Student Artists				
Students of Colour				
Students with Disabilities				
Women Students				



CAMPAIGNS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

37th Semi-Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students
Thursday, May 18 to Sunday, May 21, 2000

Coordinators

Jen Anthony Newfoundland and Labrador Representative
Elizabeth Carlyle National Deputy Chairperson
Penny McCall-Howard Nova Scotia Representative

Staff

Michael Temelini Government Relations Coordinator

1. PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

a. Ratification of the Committee Chair(s)

Standing Resolution 1, Section 4, *Committee Chairperson* states that:

As its first order of business each standing committee shall either:

- a. ratify as the committee chairperson(s) the National Executive member(s) appointed to the committee; or
- b. elect a committee chairperson from within its membership.

b. Review of the Committee Agenda

c. Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference

Committee members should be familiar with the responsibilities of the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee as established in the Federation's Standing Resolutions. Standing Resolution 1, Section 3 (a) *Campaigns and Government Relations Committee* states that:

The Campaigns and Government Relations Committee shall:

- i. assess the recent and ongoing national campaigns of the Federation;
- ii. recommend to closing plenary at the semi-annual general meeting a campaigns strategy which includes but is not limited to goals of the strategy;
- iii. implementation of the strategy shall include:
 - research and information compilation to be undertaken
 - contact with government
 - membership mobilisation
 - media strategy
 - coalition work; and
- iv. review and recommend adjustments to the campaign strategy for the remainder of the academic year to the closing plenary of the annual general meeting.

2. PRESENTATION ON WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN

The World Women's March in the Year 2000 Against Poverty and Violence was spearheaded by the *Federation des Femmes du Quebec*, in the spirit of the 1995 march of women in Quebec for "bread and roses" and to exert pressure to implement the recommendations of the 1995 United Nations' conference on women in Beijing.

The March, which was endorsed by the Federation at the November, 1999 18th annual national general meeting, includes a series of pan-Canadian events, culminating in a mass day of action on October 15, 2000.

The Federation occupies a seat on the Pan-Canadian Coordinating Committee of the March. Pam Kapoor, Canadian Coordinator of the World March of Women, will provide an overview of the campaign.

3. REVIEW OF STATUS OF ALTERNATIVE FEDERAL BUDGET

Since May 1996, the Federation has been an active participant in the Alternative Federal Budget (AFB) project. The budget, first released in 1994, was developed by CHOICES, a coalition for social justice based in Winnipeg, and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The annually-released budget document and accompanying workshops throughout the year address priorities such as: debt reduction through a progressive taxation system; eradicating poverty; rebuilding

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Canada's social safety net and national standards while respecting Quebec's autonomy; environmental protection; and full employment.

In the wake of several years of debate within the Steering Committee of the AFB, questions have arisen as to the effectiveness of the project in achieving its two primary goals: promoting economic literacy and participation, and promoting the alternatives proposed in the AFB budget document. All member organisations of the Steering Committee, including the Federation, have committed to participating in the 2000-2001 process, and to developing a renewal strategy for the AFB.

The meeting will discuss the current status and the future direction of the Alternative Federal Budget.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF CAMPAIGN PLANS

a. Review of 1999-2000 Campaign Strategy

An update on the implementation of the 1999-2000 campaign strategy to-date will be provided.

b. Presentation of Draft 2000-2001 Campaign Strategy

Each year the National Executive prepares a draft Campaigns Strategy for discussion. The Campaign Strategy forms the basis for the Federation's campaigns for the year to follow. The Committee will review the document.

5. ADJOURNMENT

World March of Women

in the Year 2000

It's Time for Change!

Demands to the federal government of Canada

February 2000



Contributions

This working document was developed and produced by the Canadian Women's March Committee. The committee wishes to thank the following women for their time and effort in the writing and editing of this document:

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Alexa Conradi, Fédération des femmes du Québec
Sue Genge, Canadian Labour Congress
Norah McMurtry, Women's Inter-Church Council
Nicole Robillard, Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres

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Introduction

It's time for change!

The time for change is now! Women across Canada are joining women around the world to demand that our government respect and promote women's basic human rights. In solidarity with women from 146 countries, we will march against poverty and violence against women in the year 2000. Across Canada, in English, French and many other languages, in many communities and from many cultures and races, women are calling on the Canadian government to radically change its ways of governing, listen to our voices and respond to our demands.

Women's history is a story of struggle. We have repeatedly joined together to fight injustice, poverty, violence and war. Because of this our lives have improved in many ways. The strength and tenacity of women everywhere brought us the right to vote in the earlier part of the past century. In the latter half, women, through feminist organising, struggled for and won state funded maternity benefits. We fought against men's legal right to rape their wives and won. For many years, women said that we have the right to say "no" to sex; after many years of ambiguity, Canadian courts finally recognised this fundamental right. We won the right to control when and if we choose to have children with the decriminalisation of abortion and contraception. Until 1985, Aboriginal women were denied the right to maintain 'Indian status' upon marriage to non-Aboriginal men or non Treaty Indians, when this discriminatory rule, designed to eradicate Aboriginal communities, was removed from Canadian law. More recently, a fifteen-year struggle for pay equity ended when the federal government finally accepted the Human Right's Tribunal's verdict in favour of women in the federal public sector.

These are but a few examples of our strength and of our victories.

Yet, fundamental injustices continue to keep women in a position of inequality. Women's struggle for freedom, safety, quality of life remains difficult, and for many these rights seem unattainable.

We confront a system built upon poverty and violence against women. The challenge is to change it fundamentally.

2000 years of inequality is enough!

For over 2000 years, women around the world have lived under a social system based on male superiority and power, that is patriarchy. Individually and collectively, legally and politically women have been treated unequally. The patriarchal values that historically infused our legal systems view women as unequal, dependent and powerless. Nations that did not mandate the subordination of women, the Mohawk and other Aboriginal nations in Canada for example, were forced to abandon their egalitarian laws and customs and accept the patriarchal rule of law.

For many years, governments in Canada have acknowledged and preserved the right of men to take control of women through the institution of marriage, giving a husband the right to beat and rape his wife. Laws and social practices enforced heterosexuality for most women, and lesbians were subjected to discrimination and repression, sometimes forced to undergo shock treatments and other forms of 'therapy'. Housework, care of children and the elderly has gone unrecognised and unpaid. At work, men have been allowed to shamelessly discriminate, oppress and exploit women; sexual harassment has been the unspoken norm of our working conditions. Public and professional institutions have collaborated in the subordination of women, allowing doctors, clergy and teachers to abuse positions of trust and sexually assault women and girls. Women with disabilities have been particularly vulnerable to sexual assault and abuse both within families and public institutions. Racism

has intensified the oppression of Black women, women of colour and Aboriginal women. Racist biases in services and in the justice system end up protecting abusers and further punishing victims.

Women's inequality is far-reaching

This historical practice of discrimination against women results in ongoing inequality. One out of every six Canadians is poor, 41% of women on their own, under 65 are poor (Statistics Canada 1997, Low Income Persons). We still earn an average of two-thirds of the male wage. When all sources of income are included, we average only 58% of men's annual income. Along with women with disabilities, Aboriginal women (33%), women of colour (28%) and immigrant women (21%) face the highest levels of poverty. Women living alone, over 65 years of age face a poverty rate of 49%, resulting in extreme levels of poverty and dependence.

Women's poverty has been increasing, with the result that one in five children are poor in Canada. Poor children have poor mothers. In fact, 56 % of single parent families headed by women are poor. Women on welfare are forced to live well below the poverty line in all provinces, not receiving enough to afford adequate housing, food and clothes. Increasingly, women are criminalised for taking necessary measures to get extra money to feed our kids. If labelled "welfare frauds" women in Ontario are excluded from welfare benefits for life, condemned to utter destitution. At the same time, violent men are often let off in spite of committing extremely damaging acts of violence against women.

Women are also the prime targets for violence and rape. Indeed, one out of every four women is or has been abused by a spouse in Canada, according to the 1993 Statistics Canada *Violence Against Women* survey. In 1997-1998, 90,792 women and children were admitted to a shelter for battered women. On a typical day, there are 6,115 women and children in shelters. According to the Canadian government's own calculations, it costs 4 billion dollars a year to pay for the medical costs of wife assault. In the last twenty years, 1,485 women were killed by their spouses. The enormous financial consequences of leaving a violent spouse, in the context of government cuts and systemic discrimination, trap many women in abusive homes. The huge consequences of losing a job make women more vulnerable to sexual and racial harassment at work. In addition, 39% of all Canadian women have been sexually assaulted at least once in their lifetime, most often when they were girls.

Government and employers' responses to male violence against women have been far too short-term and have not questioned the sexism, power and misogyny at the core of the problem. They have also neglected to address the power imbalances and increased vulnerability of women from historically disadvantaged communities, who must also deal with systemic racism, exclusionary policies for women with disabilities and culturally inappropriate services. Federal and provincial governments have preferred a tough law and order agenda that punishes a few, but lets most abusers commit their crimes with impunity.

The human rights obligations of the Canadian government

The pervasiveness of violence against women and poverty is in contradiction of the promise held out by the adoption in 1982 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The Charter directed Canadian and provincial governments to respect and promote women's equality rights, in particular our right to life, liberty and security of the person without discrimination.

In 1985, the United Nations announced that the target date for achieving women's equality was the year 2000. In the last decade, the Canadian government has argued for respect for women's human rights on the international scene. The federal and provincial governments have publicly and officially proclaimed their commitment to women's equality and declared their intention to eliminate violence against women. Canada has ratified the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*, the *International Convention on the*

no to violence?

Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, the *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women* as well as the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. In 1994, it voted in favour of the United Nations *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women*. All these international agreements hold the promise of a more equal society, where women's basic security and dignity will be respected. They direct governments to take "all necessary measures" to ensure the promotion of women's human rights. However, current governmental policies sadly betray these international objectives and Canadian promises.

Women Bear the Brunt of Cutbacks

Indeed, in response to the changing global economy, the government has radically altered social policies and programs across Canada. We have experienced cutbacks and the erosion of our social programs in the areas of health care, education, social assistance, childcare, unemployment insurance and social housing. Rape crisis centres, transition houses for women, second language training and specialised services to immigrant communities are some of the essential resources that have been cut.

Creating more free markets, cutting taxes, reducing the size of government, privatising public institutions, deregulating work, removing rules protecting the environment, privatising health care, opening our schools to big corporations – none of these policies benefit women. On the contrary, they force women into non-standard and precarious jobs, push our wages down, erode our health and safety, increase the number of poor, and condemn us all to much more unpaid work in the home. For girls, older women and women with disabilities these policies threaten our autonomy and safety.

In effect, governmental policies are again making us subject to the arbitrary power that men enjoyed over women in the 'private' sphere for centuries. Less public intervention means less support to resist exploitative employers, harassing colleagues, violent partners, abusive doctors, teachers or clergy. Aboriginal women, Black women, women of colour and women with disabilities are disproportionately affected by these policies, since direct and systemic discrimination exacerbate the existing patterns of inequality with which all women are confronted.

note that women in private sphere (business, etc) commit the same oppression

The Canadian government's policies result in increased poverty and violence against women. They create a climate of insecurity, vulnerability and indignity, where sexism and racism are unchecked, where the poor are dispossessed and where Aboriginal nations are condemned to unspeakable degrees of isolation and deprivation. This is a climate in which the human rights of lesbians are still not recognised, where governments have repeatedly resisted in the courts and legislatures any attempt to extend the full protection and benefit of the law to gays and lesbians. Francophones, particularly outside Québec, are still condemned to assimilation and loss of our language, for lack of essential services in French and federal support for women's organisations.

queer/ bi/ trans

Women across Canada demand that the federal government make fundamental changes to its public policy. Government must play an exemplary role in implementing, maintaining and living up to national standards that effectively guarantee the human rights of all women. Québec women support their sisters' demand for national standards. The women's movement in Canada recognises Québec's right to define, control and develop its own programs and policies with full federal compensation, where applicable. We call on the federal government to do likewise.

We will not tolerate poverty and violence against women: it's time for change!

We will no longer tolerate the discriminatory policies of our governments. Governments at all levels have a mandate to protect the public interest, respect and promote basic human rights, ensure women's equality rights and manage society in the best interests of all, not just of the most powerful or wealthy. In the context of a huge budgetary surplus, the federal

government must allocate all necessary resources to end poverty and violence against women.

Section 1

We must protect and promote women's social, economic and cultural rights

The time for change is now! In 1995, the federal government abolished the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) that ensured that all provinces and territories had a welfare system in place which guaranteed that everyone in dire need would receive public support. The cause of need was irrelevant: the main principle was that no one should be condemned to die of hunger in Canada. The government abolished CAP and other important parts of our social safety net, allowing provincial, territorial and local governments to make up their own rules about social service provision. The federal government also drastically reduced the amount of funding that it provides to the provinces, particularly for welfare and social services.

The result has been drastic cuts in welfare rates, exclusion of thousands of men and women from essential financial support, adoption of 'workfare' or forced labour programs, extension of residency requirements and other measures that limit the right to welfare. The times of 'les misérables' have returned: the poor will be condemned to utter destitution by these inhuman policies.

While the fiscal deficit has been eliminated and the government enjoys huge budgetary surpluses, the equality deficit is on the rise. Women and children swell the ranks of the homeless and line up at the doors of food banks. The United Nations' Human Rights Committee and the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have both condemned the Canadian government for its lack of support for the most disadvantaged in our society.

All women who live in Canada have a right to the respect of our fundamental social, economic and cultural rights, as guaranteed in constitutional and international human rights law. We have the right to work freely chosen, to an 'adequate standard of living', to health care and education.

More than twenty years ago, the federal government committed itself to achieving the 'full and progressive realisation' of basic social, economic and cultural rights of all women. It has an obligation to promote and protect these rights. It must ensure that the health, safety and security of women is not eroded by poverty and violence.

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand:

1. That the portion of the federal budget that would have been 'spent' on tax cuts be allocated to health care, social housing, education, early childhood care and development services, welfare and other programs essential to the full and effective realisation of the fundamental human rights of all women.
2. That the federal government increase its transfer payments to the provinces and territories and negotiate agreements with them to ensure that these sums are exclusively devoted to programs and policies that will promote and respect the social, economic and cultural rights of all women, in all communities. ¹
3. That the federal government provide an effective way of guaranteeing a universal and unalienable right to welfare, in all provinces, territories and municipalities. Welfare benefits must meet national standards of adequacy, assistance must be

¹ When you see an asterisk beside a demand, it indicates that the Canadian Women's March demand is made to the federal government of Canada with the understanding that Quebec has the right to determine its own standards, programs and policies in this area.

- provided to every person in need irrespective of the cause without imposing residency or work requirements; workfare programs must be prohibited.*
4. That old-age benefits (Old Age Security, Guaranteed Annual Supplement and Spouse's Allowance) be determined on the basis of each woman's revenue – and not on the basis of family revenue – and they be increased to reach the poverty line, at a minimum.
 5. Universal access to public and free health care, delivered without regard to province of origin or immigration status, full enforcement of the *Canada Health Act*, and respect of our right to the 'highest attainable standard of physical and mental health' in all regions of the country and for all communities, as provided in the *UN Convention on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights*.
 6. Universal access to public and free education at all levels of learning from infancy through adulthood, an increase in adult education and English and French second language programs, with funding for adequate support services for women.
 7. That the federal government allocate an additional 1% of budgetary revenues to meet housing needs in Canada

Section 2

We must recognise, respect and honour women's work

The time for change is now! Every woman has the right to work and to be paid for that work. We have a right to work in a healthy environment that is safe from harassment, where workers are protected against abuse and exploitation. All women have a right to equal pay for work of equal value. Barriers against our participation must be removed, particularly for those of us who belong to communities that have historically been discriminated against. Employment equity programs, universal quality childcare, paid leaves of absence and other measures are necessary to ensure the full participation of women in the workforce. Women need to be able to organise in trade unions, bargain collectively, strike, picket and use other means of pressure to obtain the best working conditions possible. Domestic workers and migrant workers must enjoy the equal protection and benefit of the law.

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand that the federal government:

8. Uphold and protect the right to unionise and to strike in all workplaces under its jurisdiction.
9. Reform the *Employment Insurance Act* to ensure full and fair insurance coverage for all workers and, at a minimum, restore the admissibility criteria and the funding levels in existence prior to 1996. Use the surplus accumulated in the E.I. fund to restore the level of benefits.
10. Strengthen the employment equity legislation and guarantee the right of employees and unions to appeal Human Rights Commission and Tribunal decisions.
11. Adopt proactive, enforceable and appealable legislation on pay equity, with employee and union participation.
12. Develop guidelines on harassment based on sex, race, ethnicity, language, social condition, sexual orientation and disability that could be proposed to all provinces and territories as model guidelines, and that could be used in evaluating provincial compliance with human rights norms.*
13. Provide all work-related and human rights and union protections to domestic workers, regardless of immigration status.*

14. Recognise the foreign accreditations of women, particularly women from Africa, Asia, the Mid-East and Latin America; and provide special funding for professional and linguistic integration programs, as well as for skills-training.*
15. Institute a national minimum wage of \$10 an hour in all areas of federal jurisdiction.
16. Allocate \$2 billion to an early childhood development fund in the year 2000, as a first increment of a five year plan to institute a non-profit, publicly funded and accountable, cross-Canada system of universally accessible early childhood care and education and parent support services.*
17. Develop and legislate a comprehensive range of family leave policies, which do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, including paid and unpaid extended maternity leave, parental, child-care, elder care and dependent care leave.*
18. Sign and follow two important International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions: one on home work and the other on part-time work. The vast majority of workers in these sectors are women and they deserve equal treatment, in pay, health and safety, maternity protection, training, protection against discrimination and the right to organise, which the ILO conventions require.

Section 3

We must respect the human rights of immigrant women

The time for change is now! Canada's immigration policy is constructed on racist and sexist assumptions. The immigration of women has always been discouraged, except when cheap labour was needed. Still today, special rules apply for domestic workers, who must live with employers and wait two years to receive permanent residency. These conditions place women in a vulnerable situation, at risk of economic exploitation and sexual violence.

Most women, even if qualified as 'independent' immigrants, come as "sponsored relatives", usually sponsored by husbands. This regime establishes a situation where men are formally told that they must "take charge" of their wives and provide all the necessities of life. In the context of unequal relations between genders, systemic racism, and the increased poverty of women, the sponsorship regime introduces an imbalance of power, exacerbates immigrant women's dependency and intensifies social and economic disadvantages.

The Canadian government must recognise the specific circumstances of women who immigrate or claim refugee status. In particular, it must acknowledge the rights of women escaping gender persecution and allow refugee status for women escaping repression because they are lesbians. *queer*

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand:

19. That all people who are on Canadian territory have the right to benefit from fundamental social and economic rights, such as health care and social security.
20. Immediate landing and permanent residence for women who immigrate in order to be reunited with a spouse, without having to be subjected to any sponsorship obligations.
21. Abolition of the \$975 'head tax' that is required of all immigrants and refugees.
22. An increase in funding for immigrant and refugee settlement programs (in particular for language training programs and free quality child care services), and monitoring of provincial implementation of these programs.*
23. Recognition and support of the specific needs of Francophone immigrant women living outside of Québec.
24. Inclusion of gender as a ground for claiming refugee status in the *Immigration Act*. *~*
25. That the reform of the *Immigration Act* be based on a critical gender, race and

class analysis and that it seek to ensure the full protection of all women's equality and human rights.

26. Ratification of the *International Convention on the Protection of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families*.
27. Admission of domestic and caregiver workers to Canada as immigrants, not as temporary workers under programs that indenture their labour like the Live-In Caregivers Program.

Section 4

We must support the human rights of Aboriginal women

The time for change is now! Too many Aboriginal women (Indigenous, Métis and Inuit women) have been excluded from decision making at local, regional and national levels. Governments must recognise that Aboriginal women have always played a significant role in the history of Aboriginal people, based on traditional values of equality between men and women. Unless policies and decisions are made with the involvement of Aboriginal women, they will not effectively resolve the severe problems of poverty and violence. Governments must work with the autonomous Aboriginal women's organisations representing all Indigenous, Inuit and Métis people of Canada.

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand that the federal government:

28. Support the human rights of Aboriginal women in their overriding concerns for the well-being of their children, families, communities and nations, concerns that encompass housing, health, education, justice, lands and resources, governance and environment.
29. Make funds available to Aboriginal women's groups to ensure full participation in consultations, self-government talks and initiatives, and all other significant decisions.
30. Integrate a gender equality analysis into all programs, policy and funding concerning Aboriginal peoples, and provide adequate resources to autonomous Aboriginal women's organisations to assist in its development.
31. Amend the *Indian Act* to restore women's traditional rights to pass on Aboriginal heritage.
32. Provide adequate funds to Aboriginal women's groups to develop transition houses and other services in Aboriginal communities, on and off reserves.
33. Fully implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which include comprehensive recommendations on women's equality.

Section 5

We must respect and promote the human rights of lesbians

Despite recent victories recognising same-sex couples, lesbians have not yet achieved legal equality. Because of hatred and prejudice, lesbian mothers can still lose custody of their children, despite overwhelming proof that children in lesbian homes grow up healthy. Lesbians have no right to bring partners to Canada under the *Immigration Act*. The high suicide rate of young lesbians is indicative of the hatred and self-loathing experienced in a country that refuses to denounce homophobia. We continue to face harassment at work and in the community and some of us have experienced the violence of 'gay bashing'. For many lesbians, the overall context of discrimination forces us to be silent and invisible. In

many countries around the world, a woman who enjoys an intimate, physical relationship with another woman can be criminalised, jailed, slashed, flogged, harassed and shunned. A woman's right to sexual autonomy and choice must be respected.

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand that the federal government:

34. Ensure the amendment of federal statutes that continue to discriminate against lesbians, and bring lesbians into full legal equality.
35. Undertake a three year public awareness campaign with the aim of eliminating discrimination against lesbians.
36. Amend the *Immigration Act*, to allow for lesbian spouses to be recognised as "family class" immigrants, and include sexual orientation as a ground for claiming refugee status.
37. Promote and defend the rights of lesbians to be protected under the following international agreements: the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* and the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*.
38. Fund a national meeting where lesbians can discuss and prioritise areas for legislative and public policy reform, and that it consult with lesbian communities on future policy changes.

Section 6

We must eradicate violence against women

The time for change is now! The statistics on violence against women are staggering, yet governments continue to adopt laws and policies as if this reality was not clear. The law and order agenda of the federal government, and the move to the right of many provincial governments has meant an erosion in women's access to safety, advocacy and justice. Most women who have suffered violence at the hand of a man still do not report him to the legal authorities. Those of us who do seek redress in the justice system continue to be isolated. Indeed, our rights to privacy, dignity, safety and equality are jeopardised when we go before the courts. Increasingly, women face civil lawsuits for defamation and criminal counter-charges.

Sexist and racist biases at all levels of the justice system continue to disadvantage us. Men are excused for murdering a woman who "provoked" them, while women, acting in self-defence, are treated harshly by a criminal justice system that refuses to acknowledge the complex dynamics of male violence against women.

The government does not provide adequate resources to prevent, address and remedy crimes of violence against women. Funding is not only necessary for criminal prosecutions, it must also be invested in education, prevention, treatment and compensation for women. Family law reform must take into consideration gender dynamics. It must protect women against the power and control that some men try to exert through custody and access proceedings, matrimonial property division and spousal and child support. Most urgently, adequate and stable funding must be provided to independent, feminist, women controlled services, such as rape crisis centres, transition houses and women's centres. These organisations provide first-line intervention and protection for women. They also serve as advocates, defending women's basic human rights in a variety of institutional settings.

Poor women, women with disabilities, Black women, women of colour, Aboriginal women, and women from other communities that are victims of discrimination, are at greater risk of harm. These women are too often forced to endure abusive situations due to racism in the

justice system and in government services. Systemic racial discrimination, which we confront on a daily basis, compounds the prevalent sexual inequality and increases the likelihood of abuse of power. Governments have an obligation to provide programs that specifically take these factors into account to effectively prevent violence against women in all its forms.

Women must have a voice in shaping the laws and policies that target violence against women. Government must consult with women's organisations in all communities, to examine the ramifications of law reform and participate in the design of all new legislation and policy. It must engage with us in a partnership toward an egalitarian reform of the criminal law.

To end poverty and violence against women, we demand that the federal government:

39. Allocate \$50 million a year to independent and feminist, women controlled groups, such as rape crisis centres, transition houses and women's centres committed to ending violence against women.
40. Create a special 'access to justice' fund, so that women may be informed and represented in all legal proceedings. Special funding must be earmarked for translation, sign language and cultural interpretation services.
41. Engage in family law reform that acknowledges the prevalence of wife-assault, child sexual abuse, and patriarchal gender dynamics, and that does not force women to submit to 'shared parenting' plans, joint custody and mandatory mediation upon divorce.
42. Develop a special plan to identify racist bias in all aspects of the criminal law system and propose ways to effectively eliminate racism from judicial practice, in collaboration with the provinces and in consultation with affected communities.
43. Engage in an egalitarian reform of the Criminal Code. Specifically, we demand that the federal government adopt the following:
 - abolish the defence of provocation
 - abolish mandatory minimum sentences for all crimes, including murder
 - provide sentencing guidelines to ensure that sexist and racist bias, homophobic attitudes, and prejudices against people with disabilities do not interfere in the sentencing process.
 - improve the provisions on self defence to insure a fairer treatment of women who defend themselves against an abusive man.
44. Fund consultations prior to all legislative reform of relevance to women's security and equality rights. These consultations must be of national scope, inclusive and developed in collaboration with federal, provincial and territorial women's equality-seeking organisations.
45. Ensure the protection of the human rights of all women who work in the sex trade and end all trafficking of women.

Section 7

We must support the human rights of women around the world

The time for change is now! Women constitute the vast majority of the poor and disenfranchised on our planet, having little access to land, property and political power. In every corner of the world, we confront male violence and sexist discrimination, with little or no avenue for redress. The plight of women from poor countries is compounded by the structural adjustments policies that have been dictated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and other financial institutions. These policies have eroded the already

women and those from other minority communities do not receive their fair share of funding from the federal government and are often precluded from participating in civil society and the development of our collective social project.

To end violence against women and poverty, we demand that the federal government:

52. Provide funding for legal aid, matching provincial contributions, in all areas where women's human rights may be jeopardised, for example in family law, labour standards, immigration and criminal law.
53. Expand the mandate of the Court Challenges Program so that it can fund test-case litigation on issues of provincial jurisdiction*.
54. Provide core funding for women's groups based on a federal contribution of at least \$2 for every woman and girl child in Canada, to be administered by Status of Women Canada, as outlined in the Fair Share Campaign.
55. Respect and promote the rights of Francophone minorities outside of Québec, recognise the particular vulnerability of Francophone communities, and distribute funds equitably to autonomous women's organisations in the Canada Community Agreements (Ententes Canada Communautés).
56. Amend the *Canadian Human Rights Act* to affirm a positive right to equality for all women, to prohibit discrimination based on social condition, to explicitly guarantee social and economic rights, to set up an accessible procedure for enforcing rights and to provide for systemic remedies against discrimination.
57. Allocate sufficient financial resources to the Canadian Human Rights Commission for the effective promotion and enforcement of women's equality rights and other human rights, and of pay and employment equity laws.
58. Develop and enforce national standards related to the provision of quality, publicly funded abortion services in all regions and communities across Canada.*
59. Live up to its commitment in the Beijing Platform for Action to count women's unpaid work and document this in a separate account.

Women across Canada demand change!

We demand that the Canadian government uphold women's right to life, liberty and security of the person, and promote our equality rights as guaranteed in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and in international agreements.

We demand that the government take all necessary measures to immediately eliminate poverty and violence against women. We will no longer accept the sacrifice of the lives and safety of women.

Women from all regions of the country are joining the World March of Women to end poverty and violence against women. Together we will mobilise to win egalitarian reforms so that all women's human rights are universally respected.

We call on the federal government to respond to our demands. On October 15, 2000 women around the world, in Ottawa and across Canada will demand answers to the issues raised by the World March of Women. We will be on the Hill meeting with Members of Parliament on October 17, calling them to account for the positions that they take in response to our demands.

We will settle for nothing less than equality, liberty and security. For ALL women living in Canada, without discrimination. It's time for change!

The future is ours.

FDI.

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Scott

NATIONAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT RIGHTS COMMITTEE AGENDA

37th Semi-Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students
Thursday, May 18 to Sunday, May 21, 2000

Coordinators

Margaret Bryans
Joy Morris

Francophone Students' Representative
Graduate Students' Representative

Staff

Pam Frache

Campaigns and Government Relations Coordinator—Ontario

1. PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

a. Ratification of the Committee Chair(s)

Standing Resolution 1, Section 4 *Committee Chairperson* states that:

As its first order of business each standing committee shall either:

- a. ratify as the committee chairperson(s) the National Executive member(s) appointed to the committee; or
- b. elect a committee chairperson from within its membership.

b. Review of the Committee Agenda

c. Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference

Committee members should be familiar with the responsibilities of the National Education and Student Rights Committee as established in the Federation's Standing Resolutions. Standing Resolution 1, Section 3 (b) *National Education and Student Rights Committee*, states that the sub-committee "shall review and make recommendations to closing plenary on proposed amendments to the issues policy of the Federation, as proposed by Committee members and member locals on plenary floor."

2. MOTIONS REFERRED FROM OPENING PLENARY

The following motions will likely be referred to the National Education and Student Rights Committee by the opening plenary.

a. Proposal to Endorse Canadian Demands for World March of Women

2000/05:N05 MOTION

Whereas the Federation has endorsed the World March of Women 2000 and is a member of the steering committee for the Canadian coordinating committee; and

Whereas these demands will be presented to the Federal government and the United Nations in October 2000 as the culmination of a year of international organising around women's inequality and systemic discrimination; therefore

Be it resolved that the list of Canadian demands for the World March of Women 2000 be endorsed.

b. Proposal to Adopt Policy on Human Rights

2000/05:N06 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that the "International Issues" and the "Rights" policies excluding those under "Workers' Rights", in the "Related Student Issues" section of the Policy Manual, be repealed;

Be it further resolved that the following policies be adopted:

HUMAN RIGHTS

The Federation declares the following to be undeniable and equal rights of all people everywhere, in accordance with the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

1. the right to the basic necessities of a healthy life, including but not limited to food, water, shelter and medical care;
2. the right to freedom, security and life free from fear and violence;
3. the right to dignity and respect for individual traditions and beliefs;
4. the right to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly;

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5. the right to freely take part in government, either directly or through directly, democratically elected representative, elected through a system of universal suffrage;
6. the right to an adequate income in safe and just working condition, or through social security mechanisms, and the right to own property;
7. the right to an adequate standard of living, including time for rest and leisure;
8. the right to accessible, quality education;
9. the right of access to and quality in any services that may be required due to individual circumstances (e.g. childcare, sign language interpretation, et cetera);
10. the right to protection under the law, including the right to effective remedies, the right to a fair and public trial, and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty;
11. the right to freedom from arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence. The Federation consequently opposes any and all regimes that fail to provide for these basic human rights, and opposes the provision of Canadian bilateral aid to such regimes. In particular, the Federation condemns the use of arbitrary detainment, intimidation and violence in suppression of these rights.

the right to freedom fr. discrimination
Be it further resolved that the following policy be adopted under the heading "Peace":
The Federation acknowledges that atrocities often occur during wars, and supports efforts to recognise that certain acts are not acceptable under any circumstances. In particular, the Federation supports recognition of rape as a war crime.

c. Proposal to Amend the Policy on Student Aid

2000/05:N07 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that the "Student Aid" policy be repealed and replaced with the following:
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. **General Policy**
The Federation supports:
 - a. student financial assistance programmes being universally and equitably accessible to full-time and part-time students;
 - b. student financial assistance programs that are adequate to the needs of all students, including provision for the extra expenses incurred by students with dependants, and by students with disabilities and/or special needs; and
 - c. the public provision of accessible and thorough information on all aspects of student financial assistance programs.
2. **Student Grants**
The Federation believes that student aid should be provided through a full and adequate system of grants. The Federation opposes inadequate substitutes for such a system, including but not limited to:
 - a. privately-funded savings plans for post-secondary education, such as registered education savings plans; and
 - b. merit-based scholarship programmes.
3. **Student Loans**
Preamble: Insofar as the federal and provincial governments have chosen to provide student financial assistance in the form of loans rather than grants, the Federation supports the following policies on student loans.
Policy: The Federation believes that any student loan program should be:
 - a. publicly administered; and
 - b. publicly financed and guaranteed.**Policy:** The Federation supports:
 - a. an interest relief program for those with insufficient financial means, that is available at any time up to the retirement of their debt;
 - b. a debt remission program for student loans that is based on the total amount of debt incurred federally and provincially;
 - c. a debt remission program for student loans that does not include any penalties based on academic performances or time restrictions;
 - d. designation of all publicly-funded institutions as eligible to participate in student loan programmes, regardless of factors such as loan default rate of graduates; and
 - e. zero interest on student loans.**Policy:** The Federation opposes:
 - a. any generation of profits from student loan programs;
 - b. ~~administrative fees on student loans;~~

*how can we distribute?
I don't think programs are good enough
of course diversity etc (comm. ctas etc)*

- AS CEO

that should be there in conf.

high \$ put. w/ elitist structures, ill-descript / class needed contentions need not be for profit.

- c. any measures that penalise student debt holders, due to disruption of classes resulting from labour disputes;
- d. the imposition of measures that serve to restrict access to, or eligibility for, student loans programs, on any basis other than need; and
- e. publicly funded student loans being made available to students at private institutions.

no distinction bet. big buss. & Mrs/Mr. Smiths family school of hairdressing

Be it further resolved that the following sentence be removed from the "Funding Education" section of the policy manual:

"The Federation opposes the promotion of privately funded educational savings plans for post-secondary education such as the Registered Education Savings Plan."

Be it further resolved that the following sentence be removed from the "Funding Education" section of the policy manual:

"The Federation opposes the use of merit-based scholarship programs, such as the Millennium Scholarship Fund to replace a full and adequate system of national grants."

d. Proposal to Amend Policy on Income Contingent Repayment Plans

2000/05:N08 MOTION

Be it resolved that the Income Contingent Repayment Plan policy be repealed and replaced with the following:

INCOME CONTINGENT LOAN REPAYMENT

Preamble: Income Contingent Loan Repayment schemes were devised as a funding mechanism by economist Milton Freeman in the 1950s. This name is used for a wide variety of schemes whereby the level of monthly payments on a loan varies with the income of the debtor. Although on the surface these are attractive schemes that enable people to make payments according to their means, in practice the schemes are quite regressive. The longer the repayment period on the loan is, the more interest accumulates over that time, so people with lower incomes end up paying more in total than those with higher incomes pay, on a loan of the same value. People with low incomes may also be buried under their debt for many years under these schemes. Because the varying loan payment levels are seen as making repayment of a loan more manageable for students after graduation, the schemes are invariably introduced in conjunction with or as a prelude to increases in the levels of tuition and other user fees that result in higher debt upon graduation. This makes the schemes a tool for shifting the costs of education from the society to the individual.

Policy: The Federation opposes income contingent student loan repayment schemes.

e. Proposal to Amend Policy on Authorship

2000/05:N09 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that the policy under the heading 'Authorship' in the Federation's Policy Manual be amended to read:

AUTHORSHIP

Preamble: Creators have come to enjoy particular rights and responsibilities with respect to their intellectual and creative works, including but not limited to:

- the right to academic and public recognition of contributions as creator(s), including but not limited to authorship and citation;
- the right to choose when and how to publish/present intellectual and creative works, including a student's right to the unrestricted fulfilment of academic requirements;
- the right to fair financial compensation where financial compensation can be reasonably expected;
- the right to use and enjoy the intellectual and/or creative work;
- the responsibility to recognise both the immediate and future social implications of their work;
- the responsibility to recognise the broader social context in which intellectual and creative works are created;
- the responsibility to recognise the public contribution to the creation of intellectual and creative works and the public's right to benefit from those works in a timely fashion;
- the responsibility to conduct research in an ethical fashion; and
- the responsibility to inform the participant(s) of any potential consequences of their participation in the research, where applicable and appropriate.

Policy: The Federation recognises that the creation of intellectual and creative works is a result of the initiative, inspiration and work of groups or individuals within a broad social context.

Policy: The Federation recognises the right of students to authorship and ownership of their works produced in the course of their academic study.

i.e. not publishing because of parent stuff.

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Policy: The Federation recognises that students and research assistants are entitled to recognition in proportion to their contribution to research, including but not limited to subsequent papers and materials resulting from such research.

Policy: The Federation calls upon all post-secondary institutions conducting research to adopt policy on authorship that:

- requires all researchers to adhere to appropriate standards of intellectual honesty in the written or spoken presentation of their work and at all times acknowledge in an appropriate manner the contribution made by other researchers to their work; and
- recognises that financial remuneration or use of equipment or space does not constitute a basis for attribution of authorship.

f. Proposal to Amend Policy on World Trade Agreements

2000/05:N10 MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY

Be it resolved that the policy listed under the heading "Free Trade" in the Federation's Policy Manual be removed and replaced with the following:

WORLD TRADE AGREEMENTS

Preamble: Initiatives such as the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (effective January 1, 1989), the North American Free Trade Agreement between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico (effective January 1, 1994), Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (begun in 1989), and the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (defeated in 1998) imperil Canada's public education sector. The Canadian government has put Canada's education sector on the agenda of the World Trade Organisation under the auspices of GATS - the General Agreement on Trade in Services. Under the GATS agreement, countries must grant "national treatment" rights to foreign corporations, including the right to "set up a commercial presence in the export market." If education is included in the GATS agreement, the prior rights of transnational education corporations will be established in the World Trade Organisation. This will result in such consequences as:

- the privatisation of post-secondary education and other social programmes;
- reduction of the role of governments and public services;
- unsustainable economic growth;
- human rights abuses;
- oppression through the deregulation of job standards;
- the loss of jobs in Canada;
- environmental degradation and exploitation of resources; and
- erosion of cultural industries/

Policy: The Federation calls for:

1. the immediate abrogation of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement and of the North American Free Trade Agreement;
2. Canada's withdrawal from Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation and from any future negotiations of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment;
3. reduction of the power of the World Trade Organisation and a review of the World Trade Organisation's impact on development, democracy, environmental rights, education, health, human rights, labour rights, and cultural industries;
4. cessation of the services negotiations in the World Trade Organisation under their current mandate; and
5. the exclusion from any world trade agreements of areas of life that should not be traded on the open market, including but not limited to culture, heritage, the arts, education and health.

Talked to
Lorraine -
after Women's
March

He see
trade area
of the
Americas

and privatization of public

Canada's
the withdrawal of
the OAS from any
negotiations of the Free
Trade Area of the Americas

g. Proposal to Amend Policy on Research and Development

2000/05:N11 MOTION TO REPEAL POLICY

Whereas there are several of policies on the research and development in the Policy Manual that are redundant; therefore

Be it resolved that the following three policies listed under the heading "Research and Development" in the Federation's Policy Manual be repealed:

The Federation believes that the pursuit of basic research is the "raison d'être" of university-based research, and opposes the link between the availability of research funding and applied research on Canadian campuses.

The Federation opposes weapons-directed research and calls for a ban of such research on Canadian campuses.



The Federation believes the Federal government should bear primary responsibility for funding research and development at post-secondary institutions.

2000/05:N12 MOTION TO REPEAL POLICY

Be it resolved that the following policy listed under the heading "Research and Development" in the Federation's Issues Policy Manual be repealed:

The Federation demands of the Federal government that:

1. the gross expenditures on research and development amount to 2.5% of the Gross National Product by the year 2000; and
2. the base budgets of research granting councils be doubled immediately and thereafter indexed to 1.5 times the rate of real growth in the Gross National Product.

Be it further resolved that the following two policies listed under the heading "Research and Development" in the Federation's Policy Manual be repealed:

The Federation believes the Federal government should encourage private sector contributions to a central research and development funding program by incentives such as the matching of private sector grants with federal funds. Funds raised under this program should be equitably distributed to the three granting councils with no stipulation for particular research.

The Federation supports the establishment of a centralised program for funding research and development at post-secondary institutions.

h. Proposal to Amend Policy on Funding Education

2000/05:N13 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that the first two paragraphs of the policy listed under the heading "Funding Education" and the sub-heading "Private Donations and the Funding of Research and Artistic Endeavours" in the Federation's Policy Manual be amended to read:

The Federation has no inherent objection to private-sector donations, but recognises that both public and private funding sources can exercise undue and undesirable influence over research endeavours. The Federation believes that funding sources should not undermine the academic freedom of researchers. The Federation believes that the federal government should bear primary responsibility for the funding of research and artistic endeavours at post-secondary institutions. The Federation opposes the use of donations as a replacement for public funding, believing that private donations should serve to augment public support for research, and public funding should not serve to subsidise private interests.

In addition to directed donations, the Federation supports the establishment of a central programme for funding research and development at post-secondary institutions, and believes that the federal and provincial governments should ensure that there is equitable and sufficient distribution of public and private funding between disciplines and institutions through such a fund. The Federation believes that a percentage of any directed donation should be apportioned to the central fund.

2000/05:N14 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that the following policy listed under the heading "Funding Education" in the Federation's Policy Manual be placed under the heading "Student Aid":

The Federation opposes the use of merit based scholarship programmes, such as the Millennium Scholarship Fund to replace a full and adequate system of national grants.

Be it further resolved that the policy be amended to read:

The Federation opposes the use of merit-based scholarship programmes to replace a full and adequate system of national grants.

i. Proposal to Amend Policy on National Advisory Council on P.S.E. and Research

2000/05:N15 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Be it resolved that, in the policy listed under the heading "National Advisory Council on Post-Secondary Education and Research" in the Federation's Policy Manual, the phrase "meet the needs of the community" in the second point be amended to read "promote the broader public good."

3. ADJOURNMENT

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

37th Semi-Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students
Thursday, May 18 to Sunday, May 21, 2000

Coordinators

Michael Conlon
Anita Zaenker

National Chairperson
Women's Representative

Staff

Todd Buttenham
Rajat Sharan
Lucy Watson

Health Plan Coordinator
Organiser – Newfoundland and Labrador
Internal Coordinator

1. PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

a. Ratification of the Committee Chair(s)

Standing Resolution 1, Section 4 *Committee Chairperson* states that:

As its first order of business each standing committee shall either:

- a. ratify as the committee chairperson(s) the National Executive member(s) appointed to the committee; or
- b. elect a committee chairperson from within its membership.

b. Review of the Committee Agenda

c. Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference

Committee members should be familiar with the responsibilities of the Organisational Development Committee as established in the Federation's Standing Resolutions. Standing Resolution 1, Section 3 (d) *Organisational Development Committee* states that:

The Organisational Development Committee shall:

- i. review and make recommendations to closing plenary on the national structure of the Federation, including:
 - the National Executive;
 - the national staffing;
 - the national office; and
 - all other national structures of the Federation;
- ii. review and make recommendations to closing plenary on the national programmes of the Federation;
- iii. review the development of the 'profile' of the Federation within member local associations;
- iv. review and make recommendations to closing plenary on the national communication tools of the Federation;
- v. review and make recommendations on development of new members;
- vi. review and make recommendations to the closing plenary on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, Standing Resolutions and Operations Policy.

2. REVIEW OF FEDERATION PROGRAMMES

a. International Student Identity Card

An update on the 2000-2001 International Student Identity Card programme will be provided.

b. National Student Health Network

An update on the status of the Federation's health plan network will be provided.

c. Studentsaver Discount Programme

The Committee will review the 2000-2001 Studentsaver programme materials, distribution and promotion.

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3. REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The Federation is best described as 'a partnership of students' unions.' Each member local of this partnership pools resources to undertake work at the provincial and national levels. Just as it is the responsibility of each member local to promote the work that is undertaken at the local or campus level, so too is it the responsibility of the member local to promote the work that is undertaken at the provincial and national levels.

Over the years, member locals have developed means to entrench the profile of the work that it undertakes at the provincial and national levels. The Membership Awareness Strategy, first passed at the May 1997 national general meeting, seeks to formalise practises that member locals can undertake to increase the profile of the work they do at the provincial and national level. The Strategy is divided into a preamble and two main components: Raising Awareness Among Elected Officials and Raising Awareness Among Membership on Campus, each with a checklist of reminders for member locals' convenience.

The Committee will review the Membership Awareness Strategy and discuss the implementation of the various recommendations.

4. MOTIONS REFERRED FROM OPENING PLENARY

The following motions will likely be referred to the Organisational Development Committee by the opening plenary.

a. Proposal Concerning Aboriginal Caucus General Meetings

1999/11:OD-09 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Local 75/Local 26

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 4 a-ii., be amended to read:

- ii. general meetings.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 4 c., be amended to read:

c. Scheduling of Annual General Meetings

- i. the annual general meeting will be held between February 28 and March 31 of each year; and
- ii. at the annual general meeting, in addition to any other business that may occur, the report of the Caucus Executive will be presented.

b. Proposal to Amend the Timing of Elections for the Aboriginal Caucus Chairperson and Aboriginal Representative on the National Executive

1999/11:OD-10 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Local 75/Local 26

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 6 a., be amended to read:

The Chairperson shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the Aboriginal Caucus by the members of the Caucus.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 6 b., be amended to read:

The National Executive Representative shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the Aboriginal Caucus by the members of the Caucus.

c. Proposal for Notice Requirement for Aboriginal Caucus Meetings

1999/11:OD-11 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Local 75/Local 26

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 7 b., be amended to read:

Motions for Federation general meetings shall be received by Caucus members at least six (6) weeks prior to the commencement of the general meeting.

d. Proposal to Require Reports from the Aboriginal National Executive Representative

1999/11:OD-12 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Local 75/Local 26

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 7 d., be amended to include:

- viii. Present a written report at every meeting to the National Executive.

e. Proposal Concerning Prospective Membership

2000/05:N01 MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS

Local 76/

Whereas the current wording in the Bylaws pertaining to prospective membership is unclear and somewhat contradictory; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I, Section 2 b, be amended to read:

b. Prospective Membership

General Description: Prospective membership is a trial membership of limited duration.

- i. A local student association is eligible to apply for prospective membership if it has passed a motion of its executive, council or equivalent representative body to apply for prospective membership in the Federation and its applicable provincial component.
- ii. A local student association's application for prospective membership, once accepted by the Federation, shall constitute a binding contract to pay prospective membership fees, as described in Section 2 b-iii, and conduct a full membership referendum, as described in Section 2 b-v.
- iii. The fee for prospective membership in the Federation shall be five per cent (5%) of the regular Federation membership fee, notwithstanding that the fee may be reduced or waived by a majority vote of a national general meeting or the National Executive.
- iv. A prospective member association shall have full voting rights in Federation national general meetings, but shall not be permitted to designate a proxy to vote on its behalf, and shall have the same access to Federation resources and materials, except the International Student Identity Card, that a full member has.
- v. A prospective member association must hold a referendum on full membership in the Federation, in accordance with Section 5 of this Bylaw, within five (5) months following its acceptance as a prospective member unless an extension is granted by the National Executive of the Federation;
- vi. In the event that the majority of those voting in the referendum support full membership in the Federation, full membership will be granted at the subsequent national general meeting, at which point prospective membership shall cease;
- vii. In the event that the majority of those voting in the referendum oppose full membership in the Federation, prospective membership will immediately cease.
- viii. In the event that the referendum fails to achieve quorum, prospective membership will be automatically extended and another referendum on full membership will be held within the subsequent six (6) months in accordance with Section 5 of this Bylaw.
- ix. In the event that a prospective member fails to conduct a referendum on full membership as required by this Bylaw, the Federation shall have the option to either cancel or extend, by majority vote of a national general meeting, the prospective membership until a referendum on full membership is conducted.

f. Proposal Concerning Voting By Proxy

2000/05:N02 MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS & STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Whereas "proxy" is neither a verb nor something one gives; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II, Section 7 b, be amended to read:

b. Voting by Proxy

A voting member may appoint another member to act as its proxy for all or portions of any national general meeting, subject to the following restrictions:

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- i. A voting member that wishes to appoint a proxy must adopt a motion of its executive, council or other equivalent representative body stating the member appointed to serve as its proxy.
- ii. Written notice, that is signed by a representative of the voting member appointing the proxy and includes the text of the motion described in Section b-i, must be delivered to the National Chairperson of the Federation prior to the commencement of the opening plenary of the general meeting.
- iii. A voting member may serve as proxy for no more than three other members at any national general meeting.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 2, Plenary Rules and Procedures be amended to include the following:

9. Announcement of Proxies

All appointments of proxies will be announced immediately after the first roll call at the commencement of the opening plenary of the general meeting.

g. Proposal Concerning Submission of De-Federation Petition

2000/05:N03 MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS

Whereas the current wording in Bylaw I, Section 3 pertaining to the submission of the petition to de-federate does not clearly indicate when the petition should be submitted; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I, Section 3 a-iii, be amended to read:

- iii. The individual members of the Federation collectively belonging to a member local association will have sole authority to initiate a de-Federation referendum, as described in Article 7 of this Bylaw, by submitting to the National Executive of the Federation a petition, signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the individual members of the association, calling for the referendum.

h. Proposal Concerning Provincial Component Membership Fees

2000/05:N04 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Whereas the work of the Federation, including the implementation of campaigns, membership development work and the coordination of programmes, requires adequate resources; and

Whereas it is necessary to have a minimum provincial membership fee to conduct the work of the Federation; and

Whereas the Standing Resolutions currently do not include provisions for a provincial fee in Alberta; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 31, Saskatchewan Component Fee, be renamed "Provincial Component Fees" and amended to include the following:

Alberta Component

The provincial component fee for full member locals in Alberta shall be \$1.00 per student per semester, or \$2.00 per academic year, per local association individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the local association with respect to the pro-ration of its membership fee.

The provincial component fee shall be allocated for work within the Alberta Component including, but not limited to, membership development, organisational development, campaigns and government relations, and communications. In the event that internal provincial structures do not exist, any expenditures of component funds will be undertaken in consultation with the Alberta representative on the National Executive.

i. Proposal to Convene Annual General Meetings

2000/05:N16 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 4 a, be amended to read:

a. Types of General Meetings

There are three types of general meetings:

- i. annual general meetings;
- ii. regular general meetings; and

- ii. special general meetings.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 4 b, be amended to read:

b. Scheduling of Annual General Meetings

- i. the Caucus will meet once a year in March;
- ii. the meeting will be held hosted by a member of the Caucus; and
- iii. proposals for the subsequent annual general meeting will be accepted at the annual general meeting.

j. Proposal to Conduct Teleconference Meetings

2000/05:N17 MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 17, Section 7 a, be amended to include:

- i. conducting a monthly teleconference meeting;

Be it further resolved that all other items be renumbered accordingly.

5. ADJOURNMENT

