

51 Semi-Annual National General Meeting **Assemblée générale nationale semestrielle**

Canadian Federation of Students • Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE REPORT

November 22, 2006 to May 23, 2007

RAPPORT DE L'EXÉCUTIF NATIONAL

du 22 novembre 2006 au 23 mai 2007

Letter to the Members



Dear Members,

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the report detailing the work of the National Executive and the Federation over the past six months.

Since we last met in November, our student movement has accomplished much, thanks in particular to an immensely successful national campaign culminating in the Day of Action in February. Thousands of students from coast to coast participated in actions and demonstrations in their communities, urging the federal and provincial governments to reinvest in post-secondary education, reduce tuition fees, and create a national system of need-based grants.

Our message was heard loud and clear on Parliament Hill and by policy-makers across the country. This year's federal budget provides for the largest increase to funding for post-secondary education in more than a decade. Provincially, tuition fee freezes were extended in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Newfoundland and Labrador, a tuition fee freeze was introduced in Nova Scotia, and a tuition fee reduction was adopted in Prince Edward Island.

It is as important as ever to keep up this momentum and remain united in the face of external pressures and opposition, against those who oppose affordable, public education and a vocal and united student movement. With a federal election on the horizon and long-standing tuition fee freezes in jeopardy, students must be prepared to work even harder in order to both preserve our hard-won victories and realise new ones.

Our Federation is well-positioned to take on the work that lies ahead; our commitment to our goals and solidarity remains resolute.

We look forward to building an even stronger student movement in the coming months.

In solidarity,

The National Executive

May 2007

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Campaigns and Government Relations

Campaigns and Government Relations

Day of Action Organising

The May 2006 semi-annual general meeting resolved to employ the strategy of a national Day of Action in the campaign for reduced fees, increased federal funding, and better student financial aid. Two months later, the National Executive selected February 7, 2007 as the focal point for the year-long campaign. The campaign implementation was generally divided into two phases: popular education and mobilisation. Accordingly, the first wave of materials was designed to convey information about the state of access to post-secondary education, taking the form of a handbill, three poster designs (funding, tuition fees, and student debt), and a website. First wave materials were launched in September and October 2006.

The second wave of materials was circulated very early in 2007. A second handbill, three new poster designs, and a door-hanger were developed with an overt call to action for February 7. The campaign website was updated to put more emphasis on the February 7 mobilisation and eventually housed a flash animated video. The video aired on MuchMusic and was featured as paid advertising on the online network, Facebook, in the week leading up to February 7.

Substantial media coverage was generated as a result of the mobilisation. In every region of the country, print and broadcast media covered the Day of Action. Coverage was almost exclusively sympathetic, although university presidents in Quebec garnered

attention by holding a press conference on February 7 calling for higher fees and deeper student debt. According to media monitoring services, the Day of Action was cited approximately 605 times (294 Broadcast, 311 Print) on February 7 and 8.

A list of campaign endorsers is appended to this report.

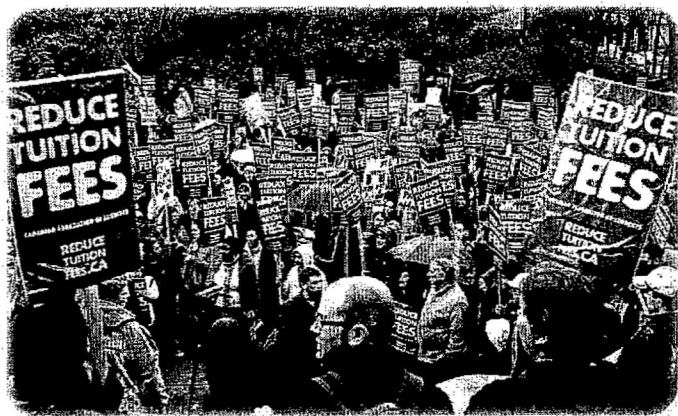
British Columbia

In the fall, member local activists in BC focused on local actions to draw attention to the primary issues of the campaign, including writing letters to local Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), phoning provincial ministers, and holding media-friendly community events.

A number of member locals held "cake and calling" events, providing free cake to members who telephoned MLAs, calling for a tuition fee reduction and the elimination of fees for adult basic education. Cellular phones were provided for these events by Studentphones.

In December, 20,000 holiday greeting cards were distributed to member locals, to be signed by students. The greeting cards were addressed to local MLAs, the Minister of Advanced Education, Minister of Finance, and the Premier of BC, and featured a message requesting the government take action on the Federation's campaign demands. The greeting cards, and accompanying materials, enabled local activists to continue to build momentum on the campaign over the holiday period, which is often a dormant period for organising.

In January, the Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia Component produced a petition calling on the BC government to reduce tuition fees by 10% a year for the next two years and eliminate tuition fees charged for adult basic education. Member locals gathered signatures on the petition throughout January and early February, using petition-signing as an organising tool to raise awareness about the Day of Action and to generate commitment to the campaign.



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In early 2007, radio ads were produced and run in most areas of the province, profiling common stories of student debt and restricted access to post-secondary education, and the importance of participating in the Day of Action in order to address the lack of access to BC's post-secondary education system.

Many member locals held lead-up events in late January and early February. Members of Locals 23, 73, and 76 camped out on campus to draw attention to the Day of Action and the issues facing students. A number of other member locals held cook-outs and soup kitchens.

In addition to the materials produced centrally, the Federation produced a number of BC-specific materials: a petition; regional broadsheets with information about successful past actions, tuition fees and student debt in BC, personal stories of student debt; a poster promoting events in the region; multi-coloured "I'll be there Feb. 7" buttons; campus and community newspaper advertisements; and water bottles promoting the Day of Action.

Member locals produced a number of locally-specific materials for distribution. These included t-shirts, toques, leaflets, and posters. Some member locals created "debt walls" constructed from pictures of students displaying their high levels of student debt.

Events on February 7 received strong media coverage. A prolonged public discussion was sparked in the media in Kamloops following the very successful rally held at Thompson Rivers University. The Vancouver rally generated prominent front page coverage in both major free daily papers. All major provincial and community media outlets attended the rallies in Vancouver and Victoria, and the Federation was able to generate good coverage on television newscasts in the evening.

The Federation distributed its petition to coalition partners for dissemination to their members, and continues to receive completed petitions from organisations throughout the province. Member locals are continuing to gather signatures throughout

the spring, summer, and early fall to be presented to government in the fall.

Alberta

A coalition of member and non-member Alberta students' unions was developed to coordinate Day of Action activities in the province.

Member locals resolved that, in addition to post-secondary education funding issues, it was important to address the issues of youth poverty and the affordable housing crisis in Alberta.

Materials were produced with the tag-line "Student Poverty is Twisted". Materials included posters, postcards, small buttons, and business card-style materials. The business cards were an invaluable tool for spreading information to areas that might not have been targeted by other methods of promotion and facilitated follow-up with individuals prior to and following the Day of Action. Finally, to increase support among faculty members, politicians, and members of the press, a communications package was created that included information about the Federation, National Day of Action activities, and campaign issues.

In Calgary, Day of Action activities were held at the Alberta College of Art and Design, where the administration had granted academic amnesty, allowing all students from the college to participate in the day's events without academic penalties. Events began with Alderperson Joe Ceci reading the City of Calgary's proclamation of February 7 as the "Student Day of Action." Throughout the day, students participated in a panel discussion, a rally, workshops, and a screening of the film "My Student Loan". There was also a performance art show between the rally and the workshops. Attendance reached 300 students at points during the day.

In Edmonton, the University of Alberta Students' Union held a well-attended rally that featured high-profile guest speakers, including Avi Lewis.

The Alberta Day of Action petition was slated to be read in the Legislature in April by the Post-Secondary

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Education Critic from the Alberta Liberal Caucus; however, it was rejected on the grounds that it did not inform its signatories that the information they provided on the petition would be made available to those who read the petition. A new petition has been created with an information disclaimer. The goal for this petition is 2,000 signatures.

A follow-up Day of Action juried art show commenting on student debt and poverty is planned for summer 2007.

Saskatchewan

Leading up to the Day of Action, Saskatchewan member locals received letters of support from student societies, faculty and sessional lecturers associations, community groups, and labour unions.

In Saskatoon, the Day of Action included a keynote address from the Chair of the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association and student representatives. The rally opened with a dramatic presentation involving students with high amounts of debt being sentenced to the guillotine, symbolising the grim future facing debt-burdened students. The rally ended with students and faculty marching to university president Peter McKinnon's office to deliver mock coupons for tuition fee reductions. The Day of Action was a great success, with a large turnout of university students, high school students, faculty members, and community members.

In Regina, students from Local 9 dragged a ball and chain around campus to symbolise their student debt burden in the days leading up to the Day of Action. The Day of Action rally in the main meeting area was very well attended and included live music, free food and a keynote address from the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President.

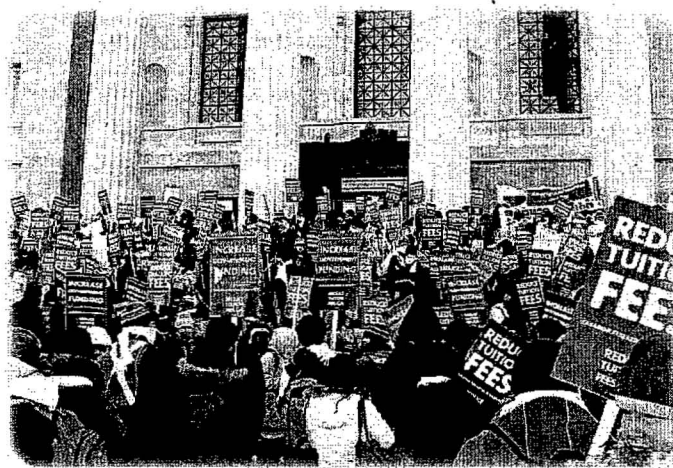
Manitoba

The Federation coordinated the design and production of Manitoba-specific campaign materials

for the lead up to the Day of Action, including posters, handbills, stickers, vinyl banners, and "I'll Be At the Day of Action" buttons. Member locals produced the following materials: t-shirts; posters featuring campaign endorsements by well-known Winnipeggers Glen Murray, Chandra Mayor, and Fred Penner; and white scarves. The toques produced by the Federation in Ontario were also distributed.

In early January, the Federation sent packages of campaign materials and requests for donations and letters of support to coalition partners across the province. A number of labour unions and social justice organisations responded, and several donations were received.

Member locals organised a variety of lead-up events on campus. All member locals focused their mobilising efforts on the petition drive, classroom presentations, and tabling. During the weeks leading up to the Day of Action, local campaigners collected nearly 4,500 petition signatures. Locals 8 and 103 incorporated National Day of Action promotions into their winter programming weeks. Locals 8 and 37 held "freezing for the freeze" events where students slept outdoors in quinzees, enduring extremely cold weather.



Media events were held to generate awareness about the National Day of Action and support for the tuition fee freeze and funding for universities and colleges. The first was an action at the Manitoba

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Legislature at which students submitted a Christmas wish list that included a tuition fee reduction and increased government funding. On January 18, press conferences were held at the University of Winnipeg and Brandon University to release the results of the campus consultations and provincial polling conducted in the fall semester.

The final lead up action took place at the Manitoba Legislature on February 1. A bake sale was held for universities and colleges to raise awareness about the need for funding increases and to underline how unreasonable it is to expect students to pay higher fees.

The Winnipeg rally was held at the Manitoba legislature. February 7 was one of the coldest days of the winter, with temperatures dipping to -35 degrees Celsius in Winnipeg and -36 degrees Celsius in Brandon. Despite the bitter cold, nearly 700 students attended the Day of Action rally in Winnipeg. Petitions were photocopied and taped into giant rolls, which were then unfurled and presented at the rally to Minister of Advanced Education Diane McGifford.

Safety concerns over weather conditions in Brandon forced the event to move indoors to the students' centre. In addition to student speakers, Brandon University President Louis Visentin and a faculty representative addressed the rally.

Ontario

Petition drives among Ontario member locals were underway during fall orientation on campuses as a lead up to the Day of Action. In total, over 50,000 signatures were collected and submitted to members of the Ontario Legislative Assembly.

Building on the expertise that the Federation has developed in the area of coordinating bulk purchasing of 2006-2007 orientation and promotional materials, coordination of the purchase of toques of common design for the February 7 Day of Action was undertaken. The Canadian Federation of Students Ontario coordinated this project for all participating locals throughout Canada.



The Federation produced posters for campaign supporters to display in prominent location such as residence room and office windows and doors. The goal of these materials was to generate a general sense of support for reducing tuition fees on campuses and a "buzz" about the Day of Action.

The Federation commissioned a 15-minute video to be used in lead-up events for the Day of Action. The video, entitled "Higher Tuition Fees, Higher Student Debt: The McGuinty Reaching Higher Plan", reviewed the Reaching Higher framework for higher tuition fees and the campaign to oppose it. The film included interviews from Canadian economist Hugh MacKenzie, as well as Federation representatives, faculty members, college, university and high school students and their parents. The film will be reworked and re-launched in advance of the October 2007 Ontario Election. A 60 second trailer was also developed for use in places such as closed circuit television in students' union establishments, trailer advertisements in theatres, public service announcements, and class talks.

On November 30, Federation locals across the province participated in a coordinated "fax jam" campaign. During this action, member locals collected signed petition sheets which were faxed from central, publicly located, fax machines. In total, nearly 3,500 faxes were sent on a single day. Following this, uncoordinated follow up fax actions were conducted by many Ontario member locals.

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Winter camp-outs were organised at Algoma University, Laurentian University, Ryerson University, York University (at the Keele and Glendon campuses), and the University of Toronto. During the actions, students camped outside in tents for up to one week to raise support for the campaign by demonstrating students' commitment to the cause. In each case, significant media attention was generated and awareness of the Day of Action and its goals were increased.

On January 19, a Federation representative participated in an invite-only pre-budget town hall consultation session with Finance Minister Greg Sorbara. At the same time, delegates to the Ontario general meeting participated in a demonstration and information picket outside of the consultation session handing out materials promoting the economic arguments in favour of a reduction of tuition fees. The action generated significant media attention and explicit recognition by the Minister.

On February 7, thousands of Ontario students converged in two main rally points: Toronto and Ottawa. Other regional or local actions were organised in Guelph, Thunder Bay, and Windsor. Nearly 5,000 students and supporters participated in each of the two central convergences. In Toronto, buses of students travelled from as far away as Barrie, Guelph, Mississauga, Orillia, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie, and Sudbury to join the downtown march and rally at the Queen's Park Legislature. Significant radio, television and print media attention was generated throughout the province and the coverage was overwhelmingly positive.

Among other follow-up events, member locals in Toronto resolved to maintain pressure on the Minister. To mark the one-year anniversary of the "Reaching

Higher" plan for tuition fee increases, a rally was held outside the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities under the banner "Student Day of Noise and Anger". At noon on Thursday, March 8, students delivered over 5,000 "Pink Slips" to Minister Chris Bentley, declaring him to be "fired for failing students". A sustained two-minute sound-off with noise makers and megaphones served as a visible and audible demonstration of students' frustration at the government's Reaching Higher plan. Collecting Pink Slips also doubled as a pledge drive, collecting contact information of students who vowed to vote for candidates in the upcoming Ontario and federal elections who promise to reduce tuition fees and reinvest in post-secondary education.



Québec

Preparations in Québec began in early fall with distribution of materials emphasising the importance of working in solidarity with other students and coalition partners.

In January, local activists held events at Concordia University and McGill University wearing summer clothing in cold winter temperatures, drawing attention to the need for maintaining and expanding the tuition fee freeze in Québec. The media attention generated as a result helped to demonstrate the level of commitment that students had for the campaign.

The Federation created a Montreal coalition, inviting non-member students' unions from across the city to participate in the planning for the Day of Action. Organising meetings were well-attended by representatives from all Montréal students' unions. Among non-members, the most active participation came from the Fédération des associations étudiantes du campus de l'université de Montréal.

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In addition to the materials produced centrally, the Federation also produced province-specific leaflets and posters. Some member locals created "debt walls", constructed from "mug shots" of members displaying their high levels of student debt. The Federation also participated in the bulk buying of campaign toques produced by the Federation in Ontario. The toques were distributed to member locals in lead-up to and during the Day of Action.

The Federation's events received significant media coverage and served to effectively counter a public relations campaign launched by several university administrators calling for massive tuition fee increases.

New Brunswick

On the Day of Action in Fredericton, over 100 undergraduate, graduate, and high school students rallied outside of the University of New Brunswick Student Union Building. Students from both UNB and Saint Thomas University spoke at the rally, condemning high tuition fees and reduced access to post-secondary education. Students then marched to the offices of Saint Thomas University President Daniel O'Brien and University of New Brunswick President John McLaughlin to deliver "10% Off Tuition Fees" vouchers.

The rally concluded at the provincial legislature where students demanded increased funding to reverse the rising cost of tuition fees in the province. The rally and march received positive media coverage by local media outlets.

Nova Scotia

Member locals in Nova Scotia began organising for the Day of Action in the fall demanding the Premier keep his promise to reduce tuition fees. As tuition fees became due in January, many member locals had Mac and Cheese cookouts, or free lunches. Member locals held weekly "Pizza and Propaganda" parties at which students were invited to discuss ideas for the Day of Action while making banners, puppets, Day of Action countdown calendars, and other materials promoting the Day of Action. These events were very

successful at getting students involved and informed about the campaign.

Toques were produced provincially and distributed during lead up events. Bookmarks that prominently featured ReduceTuitionFees.ca were distributed to campus book stores, libraries, and independent bookstores.



On February 1, students faxed thousands of letters to the Premier's constituency office, caucus office, and the office of the Department of Education. Member locals "celebrated" the Premier's one-year anniversary in office with anniversary parties across the province to kick-off of the Week of Action in Nova Scotia.

Local 95 produced a wall of debt, made up of the signatures and debt loads of individual members. The wall spanned more than 15 feet across and was mailed to the Premier.

On February 7, rallies were held on campus at Cape Breton University, Dalhousie University, University of King's College, Mount Saint Vincent University, NSCAD University, and the Halifax campus of Université Ste. Anne. Students from St. Francis Xavier University travelled to Halifax and joined the rally at the University of King's College.

In Halifax, more than 500 students gathered at Victoria Park and marched to the provincial legislature. Leonard Preyra, Post-Secondary Education Critic for the New Democratic Party, and Leo Glavine, Education Critic for the Liberal Party

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addressed the rally, along with speakers from the Post-Secondary Education Coalition.

In Sydney, approximately 150 students rallied on campus in the Courtyard, and then blocked traffic on the Sydney-Glace Bay Highway.

Events on February 7 received considerable media coverage across the province. Both the Halifax and the Cape Breton rally were featured prominently in the evening news, and on the front page of all daily newspapers. One related event captivated Halifax media for days following the Day of Action.

During the rally, the Minister of Education commented to the media that student debt was often caused by students' "lifestyle choices", a remark that sparked prolonged discussions of the government's attitude towards students in the evening news and the newspaper editorial pages.

Prince Edward Island

In lieu of participating in the February 7 Day of Action, Local 70 helped organise a "Tuition Fee Rally" that was held on March 15, 2007. The 2007 provincial budget, released April 10, introduced a 10% tuition fee reduction for all undergraduate students. However, the fee reduction is to be followed by regulation permitting 2% fee increases in subsequent years. Tuition fees for graduate studies were not directly addressed by the budget, but are expected to increase by as much as 4% in the upcoming year. The provincial budget also boosted university funding and increased the Prince Edward Island Student Award from \$1,200 to \$2,000.



Newfoundland and Labrador

Member locals at Memorial University (Locals 35, 36 45, and 100), petitioned the University Senate in early December to guarantee academic amnesty to all students wishing to participate in the Day of Action events on February 7. The Senate voted unanimously to allow all Memorial University students to participate in the action without fear of reprimand.

In addition to materials produced nationally, member locals in Newfoundland and Labrador made use of province-specific Day of Action materials including: a leaflet with the "Top Ten Reasons to Eliminate Tuition Fees"; a petition calling on the provincial government to continue to reduce tuition fees until they were

eliminated; and a poster illustrating the dramatic inverse relation between provincial government funding for post-secondary education and tuition fee levels. To assist member locals' Day of Action organising, the Federation also produced black t-shirts portraying the province's Day of Action mascot, the "Tuition Fee Eliminator" (a caricatured robot) and Valentine's Day postcards with the message "I Choo-Choo-Choose You to Reduce Tuition Fees" addressed to Premier Danny Williams. Both proved extremely popular on all campuses.

All member locals participated in a petition drive, collecting 2000 signatures in total. At some campuses of the College of the North Atlantic, Local 46 representatives were successful in getting 100% of the student body, along with most faculty and staff, to sign the petition. Member locals sent all petitions to the provincial office, where they were taped together and presented to Premier Danny Williams at the Day of Action rally in St. John's.

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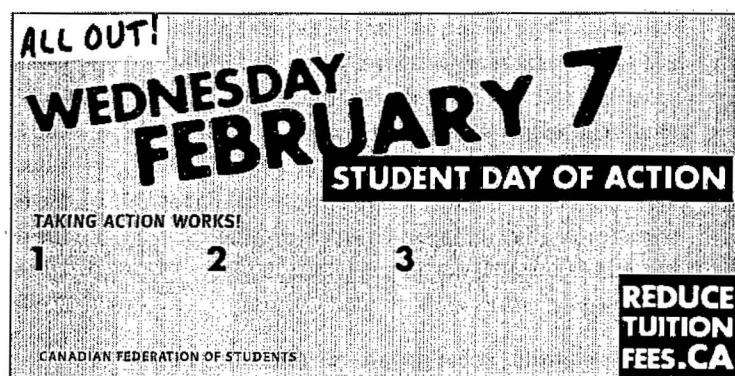
On January 30, Premier Williams was the guest on CBC Radio's weekly call-in show. Post-secondary education dominated the discussion, with student callers occupying the majority of the airtime, which resulted in the Premier agreeing to meet with Federation representatives prior to the provincial budget. As follow-up to the show, Federation representatives were invited as guests to the program on February 6 to talk about the Day of Action and students' demands for the gradual elimination of tuition fees and a system of needs-based grants. Many community members called to support the goals of the campaign, and as a result of the interest generated from the show, CBC Television produced a series on student debt in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Locals 35, 46 and 100 set up "debt walls" to provide hundreds of students with the opportunity to post their student debt stories, attracting a considerable amount of local media attention. The "walls" were subsequently used as backdrops for the St. John's Day of Action rally at the Newfoundland and Labrador legislature.

The Federation coordinated a "Fax-Off" at Local 46 campuses, which began the week leading up to the Day of Action and culminated on February 7. Canadian Federation of Students-Newfoundland and Labrador produced two template letters—one addressed to Newfoundland and Labrador Members of Parliament and one to members of the provincial House of Assembly—calling for increased funding for post-secondary education, reduced tuition fees, and improved student financial assistance. Throughout the week, students signed the letters, which were then faxed to MHA and MP offices.

In St. John's, two marches, one beginning at the Memorial University campus and another at a campus of College of the North Atlantic, converged at the Newfoundland and Labrador legislature in a rally. In addition to representatives from the Federation and Locals 35 and 46, Newfoundland and Labrador Minister of Education Joan Burke was scheduled to

speak. However, the Federation received a call from the Premier's office after the rally began, requesting that he be permitted to address the approximately 500 student demonstrators.



In his impromptu speech, the Premier announced that the provincial government was committed to having the most accessible post-secondary institutions in all of Canada.

In Corner Brook, students from Local 36 marched to Premier Danny Williams' constituency office and presented his staff with an oversized cheque for \$0. The cheque represented the student debt of Premier Williams' generation (who attended post-secondary education when the province abolished tuition fees), providing a stark counterpoint to the debt of today's students.

By the middle of February, the campaign had generated so much momentum and public support that the elimination of tuition fees was a policy endorsed by both the editorial board of the province's major daily paper and the only province-wide radio station.

As a follow-up to the Day of Action, Premier Danny Williams requested that Newfoundland and Labrador Education Minister Joan Burke hold a roundtable session with Federation members to discuss and to propose around possible student financial aid policy changes in preparation for the 2007–2008 provincial budget.

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At the roundtable member local representatives were presented with eight policy options being considered for implementation by the provincial government, including needs-based grants, an enhanced debt relief program, and tax credit incentives. The consensus reached between students and government representatives by the end of the session was to establish needs-based grants and a reduced interest rate on student loans, to accompany the legislated tuition fee freeze. In the Federation's meeting with the Premier weeks later, he confirmed that the roundtable discussion would provide the guidance for the ongoing provincial budget discussions.

When the provincial budget was released on April 26, in addition to extending the tuition fee freeze and increasing funding for the universities and colleges, the budget introduced needs-based grants and a reduction of the interest rate on student loans to the prime rate.



Opposition Parties' Involvement with Day of Action

Liberal Party of Canada

On January 30, the Federation met with Member of Parliament and former Deputy Opposition Whip Raymond Simard (Lib., St. Boniface). Simard was given a thorough overview of the goals and objectives

of the Federation's national campaign, including the February 7 Day of Action. Simard responded well to the campaign's goals, and committed to trying to arrange a theme day on post-secondary education in the House of Commons on February 7, during which Liberal Members of Parliament would make member statements and ask questions related to post-secondary education. As promised, both Simard and Liberal Deputy Leader Michael Ignatieff asked a question in the House of Commons, while other Members of Parliament made statements about the rallies happening across the country. Several Liberal Members of Parliament attended the rally on Parliament Hill, and Human Resources and Social Development Critic Michael Savage spoke at the demonstration.

More recently, the Federation met with Simard on March 28 to thank him for his participation in the Day of Action and to discuss the next federal election. The Federation presented Simard with analysis of the 2006 Liberal election platform, as well as a number of recommendations for platform ideas for the next federal election. Simard was open to the ideas presented, and committed to following up with other Members of the Liberal Caucus helping to develop platform ideas. Efforts to continue talking with Liberal Members of Parliament about platform ideas before the next federal election are ongoing.

New Democratic Party of Canada

As outlined later in this report, New Democratic Party (NDP) Post-Secondary Education Critic and Member of Parliament (Victoria) Denise Savoie tabled a private member's bill on February 5. The bill proposes to implement a federal Post-Secondary Education Act, modeled closely on the Federation's policy. Savoie's bill helped draw attention to the Day of Action among education reporters and campus media.

On the Day of Action, NDP Leader Jack Layton spoke at the Federation's rally on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Layton used the opportunity to pledge support for the Federation's campaigns, and vowed to gather all-party support for Savoie's bill. The following week, Layton called the national office to congratulate

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the Federation on impressive demonstrations on February 7.

Student Financial Assistance

Selection Of The Canada Student Loans Program Service Provider

After the chartered banks ceased lending and disbursing government-guaranteed student loans in 2000, the Government of Canada resumed the role of lender; however, opted to contract out administration of the loans. In 2000, following an extensive bidding process in which the Federation provided substantive input, two contracts were awarded. Since March 2001, Edulinx Canada Corporation has been administering and managing the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) for loans to students studying at public institutions, while BDP Business Data Service has been administering loans to students studying at private institutions. Those contracts are set to expire in 2007.

In February 2006, the federal government issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the outsourcing of service provision for the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP). After several requests for extensions

by contract bidders, the final closing date for proposals was established as June 7, 2006.

On Friday, December 23 it was revealed that Resolve Corporation was awarded the new CSLP contract. At the time, the only public notice of this major government decision was a news release by one of the losing bidders (and current service provider), Edulinx. Throughout the bidding process, the Federation sought channels by which to provide input; however, all attempts were ignored by the current government. The Federation has since expressed its

frustration with the closed nature of the selection process to CSLP officials. It remains unclear why an announcement of this magnitude was made in such an inappropriate way.

Resolve Corporation is a Canadian-owned company that was until recently part of BDP. The fact that Resolve is Canadian-owned could potentially remedy concerns that the USA PATRIOT Act made students' personal information vulnerable to seizure by the United States of America government. However, the transition to a

new service provider could potentially cause serious service problems. Millions of records must be turned over from Edulinx to the Government of Canada and then to Resolve Corporation, meaning that providing uninterrupted service to students during the transition will be the single most difficult challenge

Resolve

Attention Business and Financial Editors:

Resolve wins exclusive \$270M contract with Canadian government to manage the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP)

TSX Trading Symbol: RBO.UN
Website: www.resolve.com

TORONTO, Ont. (Dec. 22, 2006) – Resolve, a Canadian leader in business process outsourcing (BPO), announced today that it has been awarded a five year, \$270M contract to provide end-to-end servicing for the Canada Student Loans Program on behalf of Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC), one of Canada's largest government departments.

"This is a very significant contract – the largest in our 35 year outsourcing history – and reinforces our position as a leading BPO organization, and the premier provider of student loan servicing solutions in Canada," said Lawrence Zimmering, president and CEO of Resolve. "Resolve's continued ability to win large contracts for integrated solutions clearly demonstrates that Resolve is successfully executing on its growth strategy. We're seeing growing interest from major players in the industry for solutions such as this, which offer an end-to-end servicing platform from a single partner."

The Canada Student Loans Program is the cornerstone of the Government of Canada's commitment to accessible education. Since 1964, the CSLP has been helping students to achieve their lifelong learning goals and overcome financial barriers to acquiring a post-secondary education. The Canada Student Loans Program has assisted over 3.4 million students with \$21 billion in loans since the CSLP was founded.

Resolve, who has been servicing a portion of this program since 2002, has been named the exclusive partner for CSLP following a rigorous government tender process to consolidate program suppliers. Resolve will service a direct loan portfolio of \$6.8 billion, with approximately 1.6 million borrowers in repayment. Building on decades of outsourcing experience in back office financial and administrative solutions, Resolve will provide end-to-end loan processing services, managing the full loan process from origination through to repayment. Resolve expects to begin delivering services to HRSDC under this contract in Q2 2008 using its transaction processing and contact centre facilities across Canada.

About Resolve

Resolve is a progressive business process outsourcing (BPO) firm, providing services to over 1000 blue-chip businesses and governments across North America. Resolve delivers essential business functions to its clients on an outsourced basis, enabling them

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for the CSLP in the next year. According to Edulinx officials, the transition will begin in March 2008 and be complete by June 2008.

National Advisory Group On Student Financial Assistance

The National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance (NAGSFA) is composed of government representatives and organisations representing students, administrators, institutional financial aid staff, and faculty members. The NAGSFA usually meets semi-annually to discuss policy changes to the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP).

On March 7, the Federation participated in a meeting of the National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance (NAGSFA), the first meeting in two years. During the intervening period, CSLP officials had questioned whether the NAGSFA was still worthwhile. Both the Federation and other NAGSFA members were emphatic about the need for the NAGSFA to continue. In response, CSLP officials developed new terms of reference that revised its mandate. The new terms for NAGSFA include an emphasis on collectively advancing a "culture of saving" among Canadians that aims to increase the amount families save for post-secondary education. Both the Canadian Association of University Teachers and the Federation expressed that this goal was not shared by their respective organisations, nor should it be a guiding principle for the CSLP, a social program with the mandate to improve access to post-secondary education.

Another disconcerting structural change to the NAGSFA is the inclusion of Millennium Scholarship Foundation (MSF) representatives. At the March 7 meeting, MSF officials were quick to insert themselves on the agenda to exaggerate the effectiveness of their program. The Federation and the Canadian Association of University Teachers were forced to repeatedly correct the record about the Foundation's operational failings and ethical concerns.

The March 7 NAGSFA meeting began with the selection of a co-chair to convene the meeting with CSLP Director General Rosaline Frith. Canadian

Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators President Suzanne Brunette was the sole nominee for the 2007-2008 position. The Federation did not object to her appointment.

CSLP officials provided an update about the status of various commitments made in the 2006 federal budget. It was reported that, the textbook tax credit and the complete tax exemption on grants and fellowships were "in force". The relaxed parental contribution thresholds will become effective in August 2007.

CSLP officials also provided an update on the amendments to the student loan bankruptcy prohibition passed by Parliament in November 2005. According to a document presented at the meeting, although the amendment to reduce the prohibition to seven years received royal assent, the Senate subcommittee that approved the law had requested to review it again. Meeting attendees were also told that there was also a possibility that the Department of Human Resources and Social Development would propose amendments to help make it easier for those with previous bankruptcies to apply for a hardship hearing after five years, or a discharge after seven years.

It was clear from the discussion at the NAGSFA meeting that the CSLP could be on the verge of significant change. Documents were presented that described the Auditor General's operational review of both the CSLP and the MSF. Regrettably, these operational reviews were not as comprehensive as "value for dollar" investigations undertaken by the Auditor General, made famous by the federal sponsorship program.

CSLP officials also made it clear that the 2007 federal budget's promise to review the CSLP will take shape in the coming months, despite the uncertain future of the current minority Parliament.

Statistics Canada Study on University Participation

On February 8, Statistics Canada published a study entitled *Why are youth from lower-income families less likely to attend university?* Data in the report suggested that academic preparedness of high school graduates, not the cost of post-secondary education, is the primary barrier to participation in post-secondary education. Although the report hints at tuition fees being a possible factor, the focus was overwhelmingly on academic achievement. The report's conclusion rests on the fact that children from lower-income families attained, on average, a lower academic standing in high school.

The Federation wrote to the author highlighting possible interrelationships among the variables that were not considered nor discussed in the study. Concern was raised about how financial considerations might result in some parents failing to encourage their children to make the academic commitment needed to pursue university education. The Federation recommended a follow-up analysis be conducted that explores the interrelationships between the cost of post-secondary education, working during school, and academic preparedness of students from low-income backgrounds.

2007 Federal Budget

The Federation was invited to participate in the pre-budget consultations for the 2007 federal budget. A brief was submitted in September 2006 and the Federation appeared to testify at the Standing Committee on Finance in October. The Federation was subsequently invited to another consultation with the Minister of Finance in February at which a brief presentation was made about the Federation's

expectations for the federal budget, including the need for increased federal funding through a dedicated transfer and a national system of needs-based grants to replace the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Minister Flaherty seemed interested in the Federation's concerns about the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Of note was the presentation made by the Canadian Medical Association that also called for an increase in funding for post-secondary education, as well as a focus on reducing the amount of debt carried by medical students.

The Federation participated in the stakeholders' advanced reading of the budget, tabled on March 19. The budget was thin on spending that would help improve the affordability and quality of post-

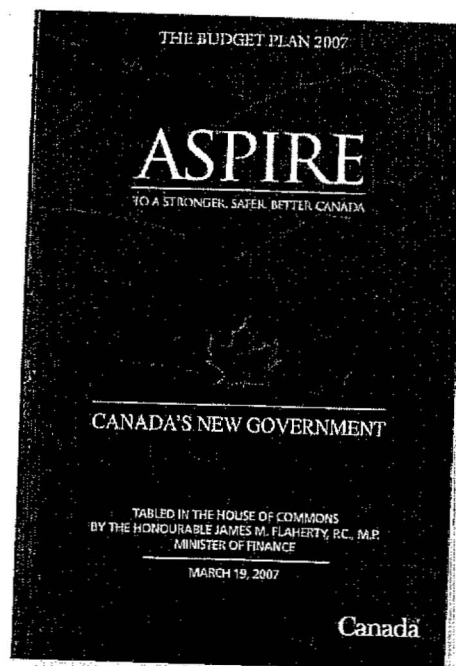
secondary education.

The only highlight was an \$800 million cash infusion for the Canada Social Transfer (CST), but it will not be available until 2008. The federal tax cuts introduced in 2006 and 2007 could easily put the government into deficit by 2008, setting the stage for funding cuts, which would threaten the \$800 million. A federal election in 2007 could also jeopardise the new CST funding.

The amount of funding allocated in this budget still falls far short of funding needed to simply return federal commitments to

1992 levels. Despite an election promise, there was no dedicated transfer for post-secondary education created in the budget.

The 2007 federal budget contained no new funding for student financial aid, despite the urgent need to replace the Millennium Scholarship Foundation with a more effective grants program. Aboriginal students, who have not seen an increase to the key



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Aboriginal student aid programs in many years, were also ignored in this budget. Unfortunately, the most significant increase to non-repayable assistance came through an increase in the number of merit-based Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS), up from 4,000 to 5,000 scholarships in total. However, the budget allocated the new scholarships in an asymmetrical fashion, favouring students in the sciences and engineering. One of the strengths of the CGS prior to the 2007 increase was that its awards mirrored the composition of Canada's graduate student population: 55% social science, 35% science, and 10% medical science. This announcement will change that representative distribution.

The budget contained some new funding for university research, but almost all concentrated in research areas that are commercialisation intensive or closely linked to the private sector.

Alternative Federal Budget

Since 1996, the Federation has been an active participant in the Alternative Federal Budget (AFB) project. First released in 1994, the Budget was developed by CHOICES, a social justice coalition based in Winnipeg, and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The budget document addresses social priorities, including: reducing government debt through a progressive taxation system; rebuilding Canada's social safety net; protecting the environment; and achieving full employment.

As in previous years, the Federation was invited to write the chapter on post-secondary education and research. The 2007 chapter focused on the need to increase federal funding for post-secondary education through a dedicated transfer for post-secondary education. The Federation also highlighted the pressing need for a Post-Secondary Education Act to re-assert the federal government's role in elevating the affordability and quality of Canadian post-secondary education. At the Federation's request, the AFB re-allocates over \$2 billion from tax credits and savings schemes into needs-based grants, a proposal that would provide a grant to over 300,000 students.

The 2007 Alternative Federal Budget was launched on March 15 and garnered decent broadcast news coverage. During March, April, and May, the Federation's website featured a graphic link to the AFB.

Meeting with Minister of Human Resources and Social Development's Office

On May 4, the Federation met with Brooke Pigott, Policy Advisor to the Minister of Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD), Monte Solberg. The Federation discussed the review of the Canada Student Loan Program announced in the 2007 federal budget for the third time. Specifically, the Federation was seeking a clearer sense of the time-line for the process. Pigott asserted that stakeholders would be involved with the process, and committed to following up with the Federation about a specific timeline.

The Federation also briefed Pigott about the impending expiration of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and alternatives to its renewal, such as augmenting the existing Canada Access Grant or establishing a system of need-based grants. Pigott said that the Department was conducting a review of the Foundation, and was interested in feedback from the Federation about the effectiveness of the Foundation. The Federation agreed to remain in touch with the Minister's office to play a role in the ongoing CSLP and Millennium Scholarship Foundation program reviews.

Meeting with Human Resources and Social Development Opposition Critic Mike Savage

On April 17, the Federation met with Member of Parliament and Opposition Critic for Human Resources and Social Development Mike Savage (Lib., Dartmouth-Coal Harbour). The meeting focused on the Liberal's plans for post-secondary education in

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the next federal election. Savage was provided with a thorough overview of the Federation's analysis of the 2006 Liberal election platform, and was responsive to the Federation's recommendation of increasing federal funding at the same time as increasing student financial assistance. The meeting also discussed Bill C-284, an expansion of the Canada Access Grants, and the Federation's support of the bill.

Meeting with Canada Student Loans Program Director General

The Federation met with Rosaline Frith, Director General of the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) on January 24.

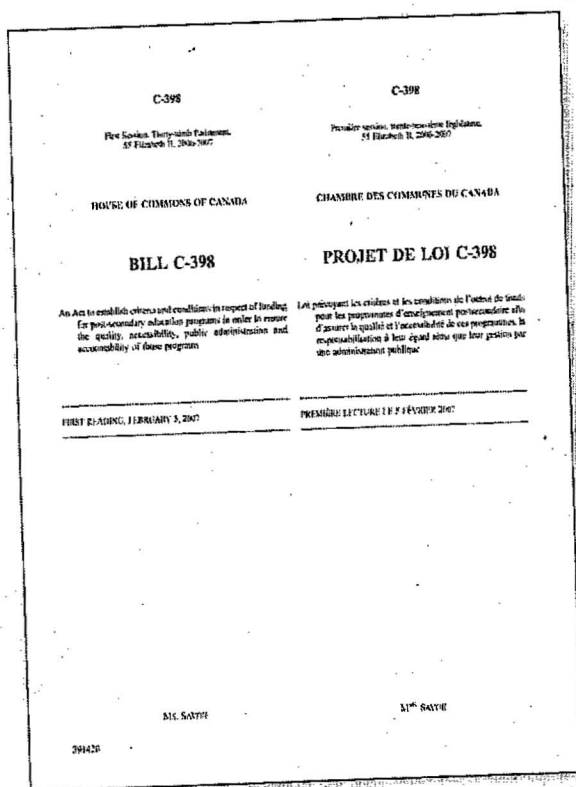
The Federation discussed a wide range of issues with Frith, including concerns with the under-use of Interest Relief and the need for an independent Ombudsperson that students could call with concerns ranging from collection agent behaviour to disputes about lost documentation. Although receptive to some of the ideas proposed, Frith noted that there was already an "escalation group" that was responsible for handling complaints from students, and that there would be no need for an Ombudsperson.

The Federation argued that CSLP employees are, by definition, accountable to the federal government (the lender) and not an objective body.

Frith was receptive to the Federation's concern about the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act's* student loan prohibition, and said that her department also believed the *Act* needed to be changed to reduce the discharge restriction period. The Federation also raised the appointment of Resolve Corporation as the new CSLP provider. Frith was not open to discussing the decision to exclude students from the service provider selection process.

Pending Private Members' Bills

The Federation has been following and participating in Committee hearings about the following private members' bills. In the current minority Parliament, there is a much better chance that private members' bills can be adopted.



Canada Access Grants

On May 15, 2006, Member of Parliament Geoff Regan (Lib., Halifax West) tabled private members bill C-284, *An Act to amend the Canada Student Financial Assistance Act (Canada access grants)*. The bill proposes to re-assert the grant commitments made in the 2005 Economic and Fiscal Update by the previous Liberal government. Regan's bill proposes to extend eligibility for Canada Access Grants to low-income students for up to four years of study. Although support for low-income students is needed, this bill suggests

that the federal Liberals may be influenced by Bob Rae's narrow focus on a small number of low-income families rather than a more comprehensive vision for financial assistance.

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The bill has passed Second Reading and is now being examined at the Standing Committee on Human Resources. The Federation is scheduled to appear as a witness before the Committee on May 29, 2007.

Tax Credits For Rural Post-Graduate Employment

On April 6, 2006, Member of Parliament Robert Bouchard (BQ, Chicoutimi—Le Fjord) tabled private members bill C-207, *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (tax credit for new graduates working in designated regions)*. This bill proposes to give an \$8,000 tax credit to university or college graduates who settle in designated rural regions.

Bill C-207 passed Second Reading on May 8, 2006 and will now proceed to a debate in the Finance Committee. The Federation has applied to appear before the Committee to present on the bill.

Post-Secondary Education Act

On February 5, Member of Parliament Denise Savoie (NDP, Victoria) tabled private members bill C-398, *An Act to establish criteria and conditions in respect of funding for post-secondary education programs in order to ensure the quality, accessibility, public administration and accountability of those programs*. Although the bill is less comprehensive than a similar draft prepared by the Canadian Association of University Teachers and endorsed by the Federation, the bill still forces debate on the role of the federal government.

This bill is awaiting Second Reading in the House of Commons. The national office will monitor the progress of this bill, and remain in regular contact with Savoie's office.

Canada Student Loan Lender Change

On May 6, 2006, Member of Parliament Peter Stoffer (NDP, Sackville—Eastern Shore) tabled private members bill C-309, *An Act to amend the Business Development Bank of Canada Act and the Canada Student Loans Act (student loan system)*. The bill proposes to make the Business Development Bank of

Canada the lender for Canada Student Loans, setting the interest rate at inflation. The bill also proposes to give graduates with pre-2000 Canada Student Loans the option of converting their risk-shared and guaranteed loans to this regime.

This bill is awaiting Second Reading in the House of Commons. The national office will monitor the progress of this bill and meet with policy-makers to encourage its adoption.

Student Loan Bankruptcy Prohibition

On April 26, 2006, Member of Parliament Alexa McDonough (NDP, Halifax) tabled private members bill C-228, *An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (student loans)*. The bill proposes to reduce the student loan bankruptcy prohibition from ten to two years. There is an update on the status of previous legislation that addressed the prohibition in this report under the section "National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance".

This bill is awaiting Second Reading in the House of Commons. The national office will monitor the progress of this bill and meet with policy-makers to encourage its adoption.

Bill C-31, An Act to Amend the Canada Elections Act

In fall 2006, the federal government introduced a bill to amend the *Canada Elections Act*. Among other changes, the bill proposes to increase the amount of data on individual voters given to political parties and increase the burden of proof for identification on voting day.

The Federation has identified several concerns with the effect the bill will have on the ease with which students can vote, especially those who study elsewhere from their permanent address. The bill will force all voters to provide either one piece of photo identification with a current address; or two pieces of identification, one of which must have a current address. For students living in residence or those who have moved frequently, a new procedure that

demands identification with their non-permanent address will likely prove very difficult.

Another avenue for voting day registration will be curtailed by the passage of bill C-31. Under the current law, a voter with sufficient identification can vouch for the identity of other voters in their electoral district. Bill C-31 limits the vouching process such that a voter may only vouch for the identity of one other voter. This amendment will make it impossible for university or college residence staff to vouch for groups of students living on campus.

The Federation was invited to testify before both the House of Commons and Senate Committees reviewing the bill. Despite objections from the Federation and privacy experts, the bill passed the House of Commons on February 20, at which point the Senate began examining Bill C-31. On May 16, the Federation testified before the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee. During the first panel, recently appointed Chief Electoral Officer Marc Mayrand testified to the committee. In addition to suggesting that Elections Canada could not guarantee the security of personal information delivered to political parties proposed in bill C-31, Mayrand specifically acknowledged the challenges of university and college residences. Despite Mayrand's comments, neither the current nor the proposed amendments make specific accommodations for students living on campus, thus any efforts to enumerate students is left to the discretion of the local returning officer. This lack of guidance from the Canada Elections Act has led to inaction in past federal elections on behalf of both Elections Canada and local returning officers.

On the next panel of witnesses, both the Federation and a committee witness from the British Columbian Public Interest Advocacy Centre outlined concerns that under the proposed bill, providing prescribed identification was disproportionately burdensome for those with transient addresses, including

students. The other witness noted that the bill would ensure that those serving in federal prisons would have greater access to the ballot box than law-abiding low-income groups. Senators were considerably more responsive to the concerns about disenfranchisement than were most members of the House of Commons committee (only the NDP opposed the bill at third reading). More witnesses will be heard by the Senate committee in May, during which time the Federation will be lobbying for amendments that are more responsive to the reality of being a student.

Canada Summer Jobs

The Summer Career Placement Program is responsible for the creation of over 45,000 student jobs annually by subsidising a portion of the wage for employers. In September 2006, the Conservative government cut \$55 million from the Summer Career Placement program, or approximately 50% of its annual budget. At the time, the Federation made these program cuts a focal point of its lobbying. In polling conducted in the months following the cuts, fewer than 20% of respondents agreed with cutting summer job funding.

CFS - Campaigns & Lobbying: Canada Summer Jobs Letter to MPs

http://petition.web.ca/home/cfs/cfs/petition.shtml?x=83

CFS - Canadian Federation of Students

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Campaigns & Lobbying

Lobbying

Canada Summer Jobs Letter to MPs

Write your MP to tell them how you feel about not getting your funding from the Canada Summer Jobs program!

IMPORTANT: Feel free to edit the letter to describe your specific circumstances, but at least choose one of the "reduced" or "not approved" phrases in the first paragraph.

campaign information:

About You

note: * indicates required field

Name *

E-mail *

Address *

City Province Postal code *

Your Message

Subject * Canada Summer Jobs Letter to MPs

Destinations *

- To: My Federal MP
- Cc: Monte Solberg
- Bcc: National Office

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In March, the federal government re-branded and re-launched the program as “Canada Summer Jobs” with almost 90% of its funding restored (\$85.9 million). The new program also overhauled the application process, removing the stipulation that every riding, regardless of circumstance, receives employer subsidies. The eligibility criteria now give priority to rural regions, and those with high levels of unemployment or crime, as well as to students facing systemic barriers to participation in the labour force, jobs that provide career-related training, and employers with “social, community, health, or environmental mandates”. The new eligibility criteria should be more objective and fair, since it removed the authority of Members of Parliament’s offices to assign summer job employer subsidies. As with the previous program, there is still an age restriction (15 to 30 year-olds) and students must have studied full-time in the previous academic year and “intend” on resuming full-time studies the following September to be eligible for a Canada Summer Job.

In May, the Federation was contacted by numerous community organisations who, despite receiving funding in previous years, were mysteriously denied student job subsidies for summer 2007. For example, Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) in Newfoundland and Labrador—which has received as many as thirty student placements in years past—received no funding for 2007.

In addition to contacting federal opposition parties for support, the Federation has set up a website for non-profit employers to fax their Members of Parliament and Minister of Human Resources and Social Development Monte Solberg.

Public Opinion Polling

Twice yearly, the Federation conducts national public opinion polling. Since fall 2006, the Federation and the Canadian Association of University Teachers have polled jointly using the firm Decima.

The most recent round of polling was completed on April 13. Results show that post-secondary education has dipped slightly as a top priority for government

action in the minds of Canadians, likely because the environment is polling nearly equivalent to health care. Nevertheless, Day of Action campaigning paid off as, in response to a question about how governments should invest new post-secondary funding, “reducing tuition fees” was more popular than the sum of all other responses. In addition, students still rank highest on a list of who Canadians trust the most on university and college funding policy issues.

Following up on a question asked in fall 2006, respondents were asked if they would prefer the government to forgo the second percentile Goods and Services Tax cut to reduce tuition fees instead. A strong majority of Canadians in every region indicated that they thought that the value of a GST cut could be better spent reducing tuition fees.

A question was also submitted to Decima to test Canadians’ confidence in the quality of the universities and colleges in their respective provinces. In recent months, university and college presidents have been making wildly inaccurate statements about the effect that frozen tuition fees have had on institutional quality. Despite this aggressive campaign, a majority of respondents in every region rated their public post-secondary institutions as high quality.

Advisory Committee on International Students and Immigration

The Federation holds the only student seat on the Advisory Committee on International Students and Immigration (ACISI). The ACISI meets twice yearly and provides Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) with recommendations on policy pertaining to international students. Participation on the Advisory Committee allows the Federation to ensure that the student perspective is considered when regulations pertaining to the internationalisation of education are being discussed. Additionally, membership on the ACISI helps the Federation keep informed of developments in federal immigration policy,

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regulations, and programs, as well as developments in domestic regulations surrounding international students.

The Federation participated in the most recent ACISI meeting on April 19, 2007. Concerns were expressed by Committee members, including the Federation, that processing times for the off-campus work permits must be reduced in order for the program to remain effective. The Federation also expressed disappointment with Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development policies regarding immigration standards for international students. Specifically, concern was expressed about the notion that international student graduates were "stealing Canadian graduates' jobs" has been institutionalised within departmental policy. Meeting participants were also told that the ACISI would soon be initiating a random survey of one thousand international students to evaluate the off-campus work permit program and the post-graduate employment program. The Federation will be assisting the ACISI to coordinate with international student offices and students' unions on campus to ensure that the data collected is reflective of the climate currently faced by international students.

Trade and Investment Research Project

The Trade and Investment Research Project (TIRP) is a consortium of organisations that meet quarterly to review international trade agreements and the global literature devoted to analyzing them. The Project is one of the world's key sources for research critical of international trade agreements. It has funded research focussing on the effect of trade agreements in a range of sectors, including healthcare, postal services, and primary and secondary education. These reports have prompted a formal response from governments and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Project operates under the auspices of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and is composed of approximately 25 members, including the Federation. In June 2006, several TIRP members

formed a subcommittee to focus more closely on the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) negotiations of the WTO.

The fourth World Trade Organisation ministerial conference held in Doha, Qatar in 2001, jump-started an accelerated agenda for GATS negotiations. Expanded negotiations were to generate a sweeping deal by 2007 that covered financial, engineering, architectural, legal, construction, audio-visual, environmental, telecommunications, and energy service sectors. The Doha Round temporarily collapsed in spring 2006 when no agreement on agricultural subsidies could be reached, but in early February 2007, the WTO announced that the Doha Round had resumed.

Prior to the collapse of formal talks, New Zealand introduced a proposal to negotiate liberalisation in education services in the Doha Round. At a TIRP meeting on February 28, the Federation was informed that the original 2007 deadline would likely remain a target for agreements in at least a few sectors. There is cause for concern among public education advocates because New Zealand's interest in liberalising trade in education is supported by some countries. At a meeting of the GATS subcommittee on May 7, it was noted that if the current negotiations fail to come to an agreement, efforts will turn to achieving deals through bilateral negotiations (side deals between two countries). The Federation will continue to monitor the progress of these talks and will seek meetings with trade officials in the coming months to elaborate on the Federation's position.

In March 2005, the federal government entered into the Security and Prosperity Partnership with Mexico and the United States of America. The agreement aims to integrate domestic policies in areas such as immigration and agriculture to allegedly increase trade, as well as to create a continent-wide agreement on trade in energy resources. A SPP fact sheet put together by the TIRP partner organisation, Common Frontiers, highlights how the leaders of the three countries created the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC), made up of 30 CEOs from the largest companies of the three countries,

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to give business interests privileged access to SPP negotiations.

A major component of the SPP negotiations is the plan to increase trade in energy and to build a transportation corridor linking the three countries. This would mean a significant development of the Alberta tar sands, having significant negative environmental impacts. In addition, because existing North American free trade agreements provide for proportional access to energy resources, Canadian domestic energy supplies would also be under additional pressures during times of shortage.

Renewal of the Copyright Act

Background

The federal *Copyright Act* has been under review in light of the effects of new digital technology. The review of the *Act* was undertaken largely as a result of the increased availability of copyrighted works on the Internet.

Through the Canadian Recording Industry Association (CRIA), large movie and music labels have conducted an aggressive campaign to protect their profit interests by lobbying for increased restrictions and surveillance of Internet activities with the use of technological protection measures (TPMs). As part of its campaign to win new restrictive measures to curb access to the Internet, CRIA has targeted students as culprits of unlawful file-sharing. The Federation has been opposing revisions to the *Act* that overly favour the interests of the recording industry. The Federation argues that the Internet offers new opportunities to share public knowledge, and thus any revisions to copyright legislation need to ensure reasonable access to the Internet for educational purposes. It is expected that new legislation will be introduced no earlier than fall 2007.

Copyright Forum

As part of its campaign activities, the Federation participates in the Copyright Forum, a network of national organisations concerned about educational

issues with respect to copyright law. Members include the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada (AUCC), the Council of Ministers of Education Canada (CMEC), the Canadian Libraries Association, the Canadian Teachers' Federation, and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries. Although all groups at the Forum have an interest in copyright law that protects the use of copyrighted materials for educational purposes, the Forum is not unanimous on its approach. Some organisations, like the AUCC and CMEC, are cautious to push for expansions to limited reproduction rights—a.k.a. "fair dealing"—and have been calling for specific exceptions that would protect universities and schools from liability or increasing costs. The Federation has joined the Canadian Libraries Association and others in calling for the expansion of fair dealing so that the general public can enjoy user rights more broadly.

On March 9, the Federation participated in a Forum meeting at the AUCC's office. Forum participants agreed that there had not been much progress since the last meeting, and that Industry Minister Maxime Bernier still seemed singularly focused on the deregulation of the telecommunications industry.

When the Conservative government does turn its attention to the *Copyright Act*, there is concern that the government's perspective will be informed by a desire to ratify the World Intellectual Property Organization treaty. The educational community opposes ratification of the WIPO treaty because of its bias in-favour of protecting large industry's intellectual property rights and restricting public access to information. For example, the WIPO treaty would require Canada to implement "technological protection measures" that would restrict access to digital information and infringe on fair dealing rights in Canada. As a result, Forum members discussed the possibility of lobbying the government to abandon WIPO and push for a "made in Canada" approach to balanced copyright legislation. Otherwise, ground that had been won on fair dealing in the draft bill C-60 in the previous Parliament could be lost.

A representative from the Canadian School Boards Association discussed a case that is the subject of a legal challenge in Ontario. The Minister and the school boards are challenging the five-fold increase of a copyright fee applied to textbooks. If they lose, the fee per book will increase from \$2.44 to \$12.00. A fee increase such as this could set a precedent for renegotiating copyright fees currently applied to university and college textbooks.

Creators Copyright Coalition

The Creators Copyright Coalition (CCC) is an alliance of national associations, unions and collectives representing artists that promotes the copyright interests of Canadian creators such as writers and musicians. The Federation and the CCC have been critical of Canadian copyright legislation and agree on the need to reduce the power wielded by corporate distributors, yet, there is an historical division between the CCC's vision for restrictive protections for copyright owners and the educational community's need for reasonable access to their works for educational purposes. The Federation's work on copyright issues resulted in the CCC inviting the Federation to discussions in an attempt to find common ground.

The Federation attended meetings of the CCC on November 28, February 27, April 4, and May 2. During the earlier meetings, participants discussed possible changes to the *Copyright Act*. Coalition members were disappointed by the fact that much opposition to the *Copyright Act* were focused on the user as opposed to the rights of the creator. This sentiment illustrates the division between the Federation—which has lobbied for increased access for students—who are the users of copyrighted material—and the CCC, which seeks to reduce access for users and increase creators' rights at all costs..

Discussion in the new year focused primarily on lobbying strategies for changes to the *Copyright Act*. There was discussion on the status of copyright reform at the federal government level and it was generally agreed that it would likely be stalled until after an election.

The CCC is currently completing a submission to the federal government that includes proposals for more restrictions on the distribution of digital works, more protections for creators, and tightened restrictions on the Internet distribution of copyrighted materials. The CCC wants the *Copyright Act* to reaffirm that the Act's main objective is to protect the moral and economic rights of creators. Like the Federation, the CCC is lobbying for a fair dealing provision to be incorporated into the *Act*. The Federation will continue to work with creators' organisations such as the CCC to encourage the consideration of the rights of copyright users in the education context.

Support for Whistleblowers

The Case of Christopher Radziminski

Since 2004, the Federation has been supporting the efforts of a former University of Toronto graduate student, Christopher Radziminski, who has been attempting to expose research misconduct in drinking

The Commercialisation Quiz

Has your industry sponsor:

- ...asked you to alter the text of journal submissions?
- ...insisted on delaying publication of your research until after a patent was filed?
- ...threatened to withdraw funding for a research project that didn't yield "favourable" results?

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, but are wary of confronting your industry sponsor, faculty supervisor or university administration, we want to know.

The National Graduate Council of the Canadian Federation of Students is leading a campaign to help "blow the whistle" on inappropriate corporate interference in university research. Contact us to learn more about how others have dealt with this situation.

Visit www.cfs-fcee.ca/whistleblowers for more information.

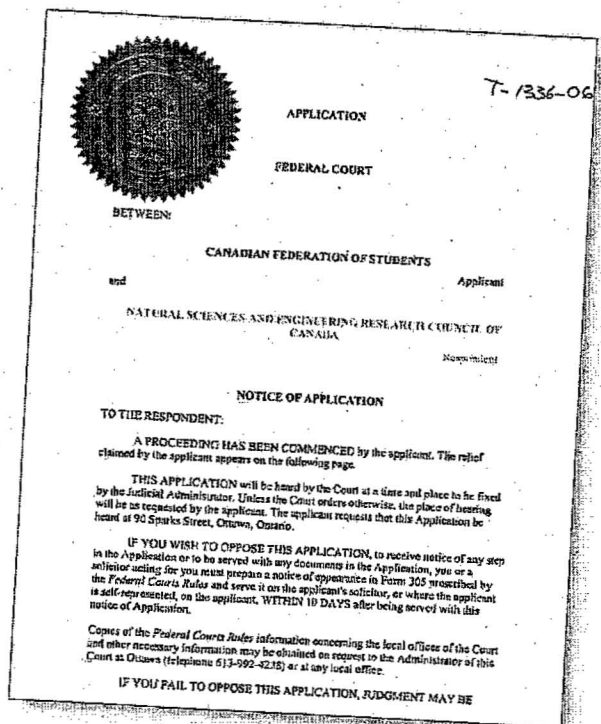
WHISTLEBLOWERS
We can't let the truth, public research, lie in the shadows.

www.cfs-fcee.ca/whistleblowers

Campaigns and Government Relations

water research. Radziminski, who received public funds from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for his Master's work, alleges that his supervisors published major sections of his thesis in two journal articles without his knowledge or consent and that they manipulated his research results. Having received threats of a defamation suit from the University after attempting to contact the journals, Radziminski sought support from the Federation.

The Federation has made complaints with the University of Toronto, the two journals in question, Indiana University, and the NSERC. The University of Toronto has consistently refused to follow its formal procedures for responding to Radziminski's complaints. In contrast, Indiana University undertook a formal inquiry into Radziminski's allegations in spring 2006. At the conclusion of the investigation, Indiana University confirmed that the supervisor under investigation had engaged in wrongdoing with respect to both publications. Formal letters of apology were written to Radziminski and the other students listed as authors on the articles and were copied to both journals.



In July 2006, the Federation filed an application with the Federal Court for a judicial review of the NSERC's decision. It is expected that a hearing will occur in summer or fall 2007.

Canadian Consortium for Research

The Consortium brings together over 600,000 researchers, students and practitioners from fifteen national organisations, including the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Canadian Association of Graduate Studies, the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, and various scientific societies. Every year, the Consortium prepares a brief to the House of Commons Finance Committee. The 2007 submission was similar to previous submissions, primarily because little has been done to restore core federal transfers for post-secondary education. The funding imbalance between the social sciences and the humanities remains a priority for the Consortium.

At recent meetings, members have expressed concern that the 2007 federal budget pledged to transfer non-regulatory government research to the private sector. It was agreed that government scientists were already constrained by a lean research infrastructure, and a further reduction of basic science conducted by government in the public interest would be a negative policy development. Meeting participants were also wary of the other research priorities laid out in the federal budget, namely the narrowly-defined parameters for the increase to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council budget and the lack of specific initiatives to study climate change. Some Consortium members noted that the impending federal Science and Technology Strategy announcement would clarify the federal government's vision for university research.

The meeting also resolved to continue requesting meetings with Conservative MPs and policy-makers, even though most attempts in the fall and winter were unsuccessful.

Campaigns and Government Relations

The Federation has volunteered to re-build the CCR website using the Federation's Website Service, and the new site should be launched in summer 2007.

Public Education Network

The Public Education Network (PEN) is composed of the Federation, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the Canadian Labour Congress, Québec labour and teachers' groups, the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, and the Canadian Teachers' Federation. The Network provides a forum to exchange research and organising updates with partners in the education sector.

On December 12, the Federation participated in a PEN meeting in Montréal. Each organisation provided an overview of recent activities and discussed the current political climate in Ottawa and, in particular, the federal government's ongoing disregard of the role of national organisations in policy consultations. Meeting participants also expressed concern of the federal government's ongoing fixation on measuring output and performance indicators in post-secondary education. The group expressed concern about the lack of meaningful consultation with stakeholder groups on post-secondary education, as evidenced by the refusal of the Minister of Human Resources and Social Development to meet with any representative organisation in the sector. PEN members agreed to write a joint letter to then Minister of Human Resources and Social Development Diane Finley, requesting a meeting with the Network as a whole.

PEN members met in Ottawa on January 31 to discuss performance indicators and accountability within post-secondary education. Each organisation shared information about its response to the federal government's focus on program accountability measures, and the group resolved that the government's preoccupation with initiatives such as performance indicators was disconcerting, particularly if institutions' scores determined the level of public funding they received. The issue of accountability was also discussed as a concern for national research granting councils, as an increase

in government-defined outputs (such as quantity of commercialisation contracts) could lead to even more federal funding being diverted to a narrow set of market-driven priorities at the expense of basic research.

The most recent meeting of the PEN occurred on April 5 in Montréal. Representatives gave updates on campaigns and lobbying, and in particular, their responses to the 2007 federal budget. David Robinson of the Canadian Association of University Teachers provided a thorough update on current negotiations of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), and recent developments for post-secondary education. He said that most countries were no longer interested in discussing post-secondary education, but that one recent trend that was cause for concern was the appetite within the OECD for standardised testing in post-secondary education. Currently the OECD administers the PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) with 15 year-olds across member countries as a means of comparing and evaluating the effectiveness of programs and curricula within and between countries. The Canadian Teachers Federation voiced their long-held opposition to standardised testing, doubting that the goal of the tests is to improve learning for all students. According to Robinson, there was a desire among members of the OECD to create a PISA for higher education. Opponents say that the results of standardised tests would be linked to accreditation and funding at the institutional or program level. Presently, a state-legislated standardised exit exam already exists in the United States and an institution risks losing accreditation if students perform poorly.

The meeting also focused on preparations for the next federal election, and ways that Network members could work together during the campaign, including holding joint town-hall election forums and candidate debates. It was agreed that Network members should share information about campaign strategies and platform analysis prior to and throughout the campaign period.

Campaigns and Government Relations

Canadian Council on Learning

The Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) is an independent, non-profit corporation funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada. Its mandate is to conduct research and become a resource on education issues across Canada.

The Federation was invited to participate in a teleconference call on December 5 prior to the release of a CCL study on post-secondary education in Canada. During the call, authors of the report, *Canadian Post-Secondary Education: A Positive Record—An Uncertain Future*, explained that post-secondary education policy must be sensitive to labour shortages in sectors such as the skilled trades and health care. The report also suggested that post-secondary education could be more accessible by being more responsive to students, especially those from under-represented groups. The report found that information on post-secondary education in Canada, is scattered and inconsistent, making assessment of the system difficult. The Council's recommendations included articulating well-defined goals and objectives for post-secondary education; developing clear indicators and measures to assess performance; and establishing national mechanisms to ensure that the goals are achieved and tied to priorities such as access, quality, mobility, and responsiveness.

Human Resources and Social Development Knowledge Conference

On December 5, Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) held the "Knowledge Conference" in Gatineau, Quebec. The Federation and other post-secondary education stakeholder groups were invited, although the majority of participants were HRSD bureaucrats. Conference sessions were intended to take stock of the research and data currently collected and generated on issues related to learning, early social development, and the labour market, and in doing so, identify key areas where data was lacking. Some sessions focused on the exclusion of minority groups from the labour market and

from access to training programs; the usefulness of training and literacy programs in early development; and effective monitoring and reporting of the health and well-being of Canadians.

Although there were many concurrent workshops, the theme of the conference was assessing data availability and gaining an understanding of barriers to labour market participation. The only discussion about barriers to post-secondary education was the challenges to increasing literacy and learning in early childhood development, particularly among new immigrants and Aboriginal Peoples.

The Canadian Research Integrity Committee

The Canadian Research Integrity Committee (CRIC) is a newly formed coalition of academic institutions, research granting councils, and other academic organisations in the research community.

In January 2007, the Federation was invited to a workshop called "Research Integrity: Towards a Canadian Approach" that sought to begin a dialogue with stakeholders about research misconduct in Canada, identify principles for a Canadian approach, and develop a consensus on the policies that the Government of Canada should adopt. Various speakers outlined Canada's current system and compared this to the processes in place in other countries for addressing research misconduct. The presentations about Canada's system of maintaining research integrity all highlighted the lack of an open and coherent system. Some participants argued that Canada will require a national approach because regional level policies would lack credibility if researchers could "shop" around to other provinces for different standards.

The Federation raised concerns about the inadequate protection for graduate students who witness research misconduct as well as the lack of consistency in the processes dealing with research misconduct. The length of time it takes for an investigation to occur, the loss of access to data, and the damage to a researcher's reputation were

Campaigns and Government Relations

The policy does not define “sexual intercourse” and thus prevents gay men in a long-term monogamous relationships from ever donating blood, while allowing donations from women and straight men who engage in high risk behaviours after only one year. The main argument against the controversial policy is that Canadian Blood Services is identifying supposed high-risk groups of people rather than high-risk activities and, in so doing, is engaging in unfair discrimination and eliminating many safe donors. Further, by focusing on groups rather than behaviours, CBS is potentially accepting donations from large numbers of HIV-infected individuals every year.

The Federation has developed awareness materials for distribution at member locals. The materials profile hypothetical individuals who have healthy blood, but are banned from donating it because of the discriminatory policy.



Canadian Federation of Students • Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

Solidarity Work

Background

It has been long-standing practice of the Federation to work in coalition with other groups and organisations on issues of interest and concern to students. Over the last six months, environmental issues, students' rights, poverty, equity and childcare, as well as international cooperation in the student movement have been priorities for the Federation's coalition work.



Sierra Youth Coalition

The Sierra Youth Coalition (SYC) is the youth arm of the Sierra Club of Canada, an environmental protection organisation. SYC works to integrate sustainability into all aspects of the economy and individual's lifestyles. It hosts a sustainable campuses conference each year, which focuses on ways that students can help to affect change on their campuses in favour of more sustainable post-secondary institutions.

At the November 2006 national general meeting, Federation members resolved to work with the SYC on a campaign called "Students' Unions for Sustainability". The goal of the campaign is to institutionalise sustainability on campus, and for member locals to commit the resources necessary to do so.

The Federation is currently working with the SYC to facilitate a workshop at the next Sustainable Campuses Conference, scheduled for September 2007 at the University of Western Ontario.

Youth Summit on Climate Change

Youth Action Montreal is a non-profit coalition of students with a mandate to get youth involved in environmental policy-making. The group aims to bring together non-governmental organisations, government, researchers, students, and the general public in Montreal to work on environmental sustainability.

On March 22, Youth Action Montreal held a conference titled Youth Summit on Climate Change: Less Talk, More Action that brought together many high-profile speakers. Of note were conference masters of ceremonies Sarah Harmer and Sam Roberts and keynote addresses delivered by Dr. David Suzuki and former US Vice-President Al Gore. The Federation provided remarks on the importance of youth engagement within the student movement and its influence on public policy. The over 5,000 students and other community members in attendance were encouraged by speakers to take action to stop climate change and to encourage local politicians to prioritise the environment.

International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group

Formed in 2002, the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (ICLMG) serves as a venue for activist, faith-based, civil liberties, and social justice organisations to exchange information about the impact on human rights of Canadian security legislation and to collectively respond to threats to civil liberties. The Group has 32 members including the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Canadian Bar Association, Amnesty International, and the Canadian Arab Federation. The Federation joined the ICLMG in April 2004.

The Federation attended the Group's General Assembly on January 19, 2007 in Ottawa. An update

was provided about the ICLMG's various interventions in pending human rights cases in Canada. ICLMG was an intervener in Mahar Arar's inquiry and has currently achieved intervener status on inquiries into other wrongful "renditions" of men of Middle Eastern descent.

It is clear that the Group and its coordinator continue to play a pivotal role in challenging the ongoing restriction of civil liberties in Canada, enacted following the criminal destruction of the World Trade Centre in New York on September 11, 2001. Group members are involved in activities ranging from presenting at conferences, to lobbying the government on airline passenger screening programs, to being involved in the review of the Anti-Terrorism Act.

Also at the meeting, some members of the Group noted that the appointment of Marlene Jennings as the new Liberal Party Justice Critic could be a positive development. Jennings has a history on the Montreal Police Services Board, and is thought to be less hawkish on issues of police powers, which would bode well for gaining her support in the campaign to roll back special powers granted to the RCMP and CSIS in Canadian anti-terror legislation.

Maquila Solidarity Network

The Maquila Solidarity Network is the secretariat of the Ethical Trading Action Group (ETAG) in Canada. ETAG is a coalition of faith, labour, and non-governmental organisations, including the Federation, who advocate for government policies, voluntary codes of conduct and purchasing policies that promote humane labour practices based on accepted international labour standards. The ETAG promotes public access to information on where and under what conditions clothes, shoes, and other consumer products are made, as well as transparency in the monitoring and verification of company compliance with international labour standards and local laws.

In December 2006, the Ethical Trading Action Group (ETAG) published its transparency ranking of 30 major apparel brands and retailers based on the information

they provide to the public on their efforts to address labour rights in their global supply chains.

On January 23, 2007, the Federation attended the organisation's 2007 planning meeting at which meeting participants set the main goals for the year. Groups resolved to work towards securing commitments from 15 of Canada's top 30 retailers to produce at least 20 percent of their products meeting fair trade standards.

Common Frontiers

Common Frontiers is a working group of labour, human rights, environmental, ecumenical, economic and development, and social justice organisations, that meets monthly to advocate for alternatives to the economic integration of the Americas through a combination of research, analysis, and action. The Federation joined Common Frontiers in January 2001 and has participated on the Steering Committee since that time.

In each meeting there were updates on the current status of the Doha round of General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) talks.

On January 15, meeting participants discussed how to engage with Mexican political activists on a call for a North American solidarity campaign on fair wages. A Canadian Labour Congress representative reported on a minimum wage campaign request from Mexican labour activists to Canadian unions.

At the February 5 meeting, the Group received report backs from the World Social Forum and the World Trade Organization (WTO) meetings. Of particular note was a report that the WTO Doha Round of trade negotiations would most likely expire due to their deadline of July 2007. Questions were raised as to what the election of more Democrats to the United States Congress would mean for trade as Democrats championed free trade under President Clinton. The Group will be closely watching the US' foreign affairs policies.

Council of Canadians

The Council of Canadians is the largest citizens' organisation in Canada, with chapters in every province. The Council works to protect Canadian independence by promoting progressive policies on fair trade, clean water, energy security, public health care, and socio-economic concerns.

On March 31 and April 1, the Council of Canadians hosted a conference titled *Integrate This!: Challenging the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America*. Attendees heard from speakers about the dangers of economic and military integration with the United States. On the second day, participants broke into discussion groups to discuss community organising against the free trade agenda at the upcoming SPP meeting in Montebello, Québec on August 21, 2007. Attendance on both days was high, and virtually every major labour union and national social justice organisation was represented.

The Federation presented a workshop on the issue of trade and post-secondary education and facilitated a break-out group.

Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada

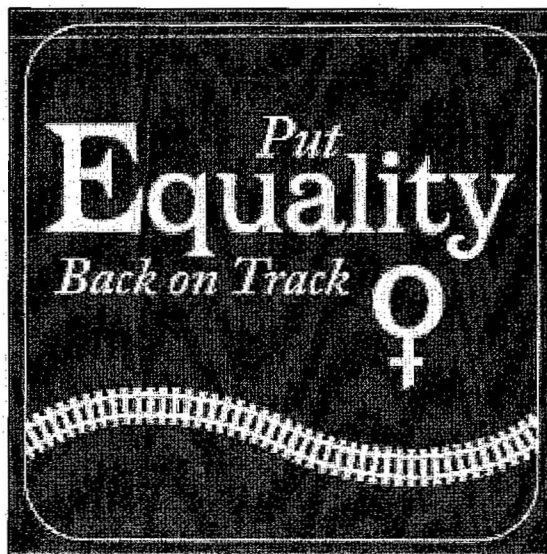
The Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada (CCAAC) promotes high-quality, publicly-funded, and universally accessible childcare. The Federation represents students on the CCAAC Council of Advocates, a coalition of supporting organisations that includes the Canadian Labour Congress, the Canadian Association for Community Living, and the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

On February 19, the Federation attended the Association's campaign planning meeting, followed by its annual general meeting. Meeting participants provided updates on campaign and lobbying efforts across the country. The group discussed strategies for the Code Blue for Child Care Campaign, a campaign to protect the existing federal-provincial child care agreements, build a foundation for a national system, and provide income support for low-income families.

Meeting participants also discussed the 2007 federal budget, which announced the federal government's plan to spend \$1.5 billion on a new flat tax child benefit. The cost of the government's Universal Childcare Allowance is estimated to be \$2.46 billion in 2007–2008. A total of just under \$4 billion in the 2008 fiscal year will be paid out directly to individuals. The CCAAC has shown that, if the money was directed to childcare services, it would be almost enough to completely fund a universal child care system for all three to five year-old children in Canada.

Women's Equality Coalition

Since the federal government's September 2006 cuts to women's equality programs, over 30 women's and social justice organisations have been working together to share strategies and to develop common campaigns to oppose the cuts. The coalition meets irregularly, but has a very active listserv for discussion. The coalition has developed a website (www.womensequality.ca), and the Federation is a member of the coalition.



For International Women's Day, March 8, the coalition developed several different materials called "Put Equality Back on Track", which featured a summary of the most severe cuts made by the federal government

to women's programs. In particular, the Conservative cuts to Status of Women Canada, the abolition of the Court Challenges Program, the opposition to the New Democratic Party's pay equity private member's legislation, and the opposition to establish a national framework for a non-profit child care system were all highlighted in campaign materials. Materials were distributed to member locals in March.

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

The Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA) is a coalition of over 50 women's equality and human rights groups across Canada whose mandate is to further women's equality in Canada by pressing for domestic implementation of international human rights treaties and agreements, such as the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

On March 9 and 10, the Federation attended a consultation held by FAFIA on the progress made to date by the federal government on the goals outlined in the CEDAW. Consultation organisers noted that 2006 marked the 25th anniversary of Canada's commitment to the CEDAW, and that Canada lags behind many other nations in making advancements to the status of women. Workshops focused on assessing the current state of women's standards of living in Canada and abroad. Panellists noted that over the last decade, the number of women living in poverty had increased. The federal government cuts to Status of Women funding and other women's advocacy initiatives were discussed as a step backwards in terms of the CEDAW. Other discussions focused on creating a joint plan and report to put forward regarding the status of the CEDAW.

Canadian University Queer Services Conference

The second annual Canadian University Queer Services Conference was held from January 12 to 14 at the University of Manitoba. The Federation gave the keynote address. The purpose of the conference was to bring together campus associations that provide services for Queer students and to identify common challenges and develop national strategies and initiatives. Topics of discussion included homophobia, queer bashing, positive spaces on campus, and other issues affecting Queer students. Over 30 delegates from campus service associations, students' unions and other campus groups attended the conference. Delegates resolved to hold the next conference at McGill University in 2008.

Anti-Poverty Organising

National Anti-Poverty Organization

The National Anti-Poverty Organization (NAPO) is an organisation that represents the interests of low-income people in Canada to ensure their concerns are reflected in federal policy and decision-making. The NAPO works to defend the human and economic rights of low-income people, and to facilitate the inclusion of low-income people in decision and policy-making within their local and regional communities.

At the February 19 meeting of the NAPO steering committee, the Federation helped to develop a strategy for student engagement in the Organization's Living Wage Campaign. The Living Wage Campaign was started by the NAPO in 1981 with the goal of raising the minimum wage to a level at which individuals could live above the poverty line.

Make Poverty History

The Make Poverty History campaign was launched in 2005 to act as the Canadian chapter of the Global Call to Action Against World Poverty, an international initiative to eliminate poverty. The campaign's goals include securing increased federal funding for international aid, fair trade rules, cancelling debts



for the poorest nations, and ending child poverty in Canada.

The Federation is a member of the campaign's national Steering Committee. Members of the steering committee include the Canadian Labour Congress, Engineers Without Borders, the National Anti-Poverty Organization, World University Services of Canada, and a number of other social justice organisations.

The Federation attended the most recent steering committee meeting on April 3. At the meeting, Make Poverty History launched its "I'm Voting to End Poverty" campaign. The campaign will be active in forty-five key ridings in the next federal election where the elected candidates margin of victory was less than five percent. The goal of the campaign will be to get local chapters of Make Poverty History to lobby candidates to make commitments to end poverty.

The Federation has been working with Make Poverty History to develop a campus kit similar to those distributed in the fall of 2006 for students' unions

interested in holding Make Poverty History events on campus.

Campaign 2000

Campaign 2000 is a Canada-wide coalition working to build Canadian awareness and support for the 1989 all-party House of Commons resolution to end child poverty in Canada by the year 2000. Campaign 2000 was established in 1991 out of concern for the lack of progress in addressing child poverty. Every year, Campaign 2000 releases an annual report that, among other things, includes information on rising student debt in Canada and the need for a national strategy to reduce tuition fees. The Federation has been a member of Campaign 2000 since 2001.

On April 4, the Federation attended a Campaign 2000 steering committee meeting. The focus of the discussion was on the federal government's fiscal and taxation policies as they relate to child and family poverty. The meeting analysed the 2007 federal budget and developed a strategy to ensure that the elimination of poverty was a government priority. The meeting was, in part, an examination of whether Campaign 2000 was adequately responding to the trend towards greater government emphasis of taxation policy as a replacement for programs that promote social equality and poverty reduction. Members agreed to continue to share information about upcoming campaigns and lobby activities undertaken by each organisation.

8 Goals for a Better World Campaign

At the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000, 189 countries, including Canada, pledged in writing to reduce poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women.

This pledge generated the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), eight objectives placing human well-being and development at the forefront of the global agenda.

In Canada, the youth wing of the MDG campaign, under the title of the 8 Goals for a Better World

Campaign, unites youth from across the country to share materials and campaign ideas.

The campaign's main goal is to raise awareness about poverty, hunger, health, education, environmental sustainability, and equality.

At the campaign's first steering committee meeting in January, the Federation worked with other youth organisations, including Engineers Without Borders, Journalists for Human Rights, World University Service of Canada, Oxfam, la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, and Rights and Democracy, to develop a strategy for advancing the campaign.

The Federation has been working with the Committee to develop a campus kit for students' unions that may be interested in holding Millennium campaign events on their campuses or in their communities.



Communications

Website

The Federation's use of websites has grown considerably over the past few years. The Federation has moved from having a simple site, with general organisational information, news updates and some of the Federation's more popular research documents, to a comprehensive "web presence". The Federation now has several national websites, ranging from VoteEducation.ca, used for disseminating information during federal and provincial elections, to isic.cfs-fcee.ca, used for issuing International Student Identity Cards and verifying student status for Studentphones purchases.

All of the Federation's websites, databases and email accounts are now hosted on the Federation's server with the exception of the StudentSaver database. Quotes are being sought for transferring the Studentsaver database and redesigning the Studentsaver website. The existing database and online search interface have been in place since 2002. The National Executive hopes to have the project completed by August 2007.

At the previous meeting of the Aboriginal Students' Caucus, the development of a website was identified as a priority for the coming year.

Students' Union Directory

The first edition of the Students' Union Directory was published nearly 30 years ago by the Association of Student Councils (Canada), the predecessor organisation of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services. The Federation assumed responsibility for publishing the Directory in 1982 and has published it every year since.

The Directory contains contact information for nearly 300 students' unions, Federation national and provincial offices, campus organisations, Travel CUTS offices, and some government departments of importance to students' unions.

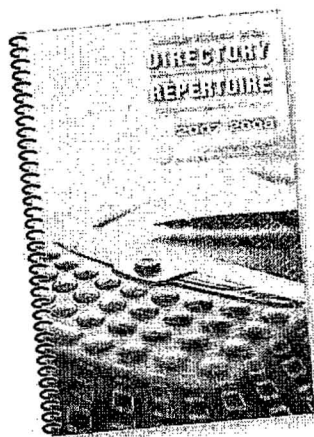
Each year, the Federation publishes the Directory by compiling information from students' unions. In an effort to make it easier for students' unions to submit listings and to reduce the amount of data entry required, last year the Federation developed a secure online database so that students' unions could submit and edit their information electronically. The database contains all information from previous years so that students' unions logging on need only update changes in their information. Last year, the majority of students' unions provided their information

online; however, many failed to submit information by the established deadlines resulting in additional resources being expended to contact these unions.

In mid-April, the Federation mailed information surveys and information about the online database to students' unions. Individual emails were sent to each students' union providing each with a unique username and password, as well as directions on how to submit information online. The deadline for submissions was May 18.

As of the deadline, fewer than 150 students' unions out of more than 290 included in the Directory had submitted complete or partial information, with roughly two-thirds of those completed online. The total number of submissions by the deadline is relatively unchanged this year compared to the previous year, when the number of submissions by the deadline had improved by 30%. As many students' unions failed to provide their information on time, the deadline has been extended to May 30.

Collecting data from students' unions that do not respond to the survey request continues to require significant resources and time from the Federation. As students' unions become more familiar with the online system, it is expected that the initial response rate will continue to improve. Smaller students' unions and those at CEGEPs continue to be particularly delinquent in submitting their information, likely due to fewer internal resources.



Technical difficulties with the database experienced by students' unions last year, many of which were due to university or college security preventing access to the site, have been corrected. With the exception of a couple of temporary difficulties, the site appears to be functioning much better this year.

In addition to entering information online, this year students' unions are also able to place orders for directories online. The Federation highly subsidises the price of the Directory for members every year and attempts to defray some of the costs of the publication by selling to non-member students' unions, community groups, and government departments.

The National Executive determines the number of books to be printed each year based on orders placed in the spring; member locals that have not already done so are encouraged to place orders as soon as possible.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, it is anticipated that the Federation will be on schedule to deliver the Directory by mid-August.

As previously reported, the Federation contracts a significant amount of the production work to Chaos Consulting, a communications company. The National Executive is exploring the feasibility of moving the production of the Directory entirely in-house for the 2008-2009 year, in order to reduce costs.

2007-2008 Member Local Communications Kit

The Member Local Communications Kit, produced and distributed each spring to member locals, is a DVD containing Federation logos, campaign materials, photos, information about Federation campaigns and services, and research on post-secondary education issues. The material in the Kit is provided for use by member locals in their local communications, including handbooks/dayplanners, newsletters, websites, campaign materials, and other promotional materials.

The 2007-2008 version of the Communications Kits was produced in the spring and distributed to member locals with delegate binders at the May 2007 national general meeting. Amongst other things, this year's kit contains high resolution photos of Day of Action rallies from across Canada.



Services

Students' Union Website Seervice

Background

Over the years, member locals' use of the internet as a tool to communicate with students has grown in importance. However, online communications can be costly if undertaken independently by a students' union. Website and email hosting, email listservs, domain name registration, data backup, design, and content management all require significant resources and technical knowledge.

At the May 2004 national general meeting, the membership identified the design and hosting of high-quality local websites as a service that could be provided at a lower cost through the Federation. The goal of the Students' Union Website Service, similar to that of the common handbook and dayplanner project, is to provide better quality services that meet the needs of students at affordable prices so that all member locals, regardless of size, can improve communications with their membership.

Development

In July 2005, the Federation conducted a selection process and subsequently contracted a web design firm to develop the Website Service for students' unions. The firm was instructed to develop a service that would be comprehensive, customisable to local students' unions needs, and accessible through an interface that any member local representative or staff member could navigate.

Feedback from member locals has provided valuable direction for ongoing improvements to the Service. A best practises framework for organising the content of a website has been circulated to member locals. An online help manual has been built and is currently being populated with content.

CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The homepage editor and the display of sections have been enhanced and, in late February, a new calendar module was made available, allowing member locals to display a calendar on their websites. This calendar

automatically collects all the event listings posted on the website and displays summaries of those events in an easy-to-navigate format.

Feedback has prompted the Federation to add different content types, such as: online polls, Really Simple Syndication, and search functionality. This work is slated to be completed during the summer. "Rich text" editing features will also be added to the content

management system, providing users with an easy to use interface that will allow for more advanced formatting of website content.

INTEGRATION WITH FEDERATION CAMPAIGNS AND SERVICES

The capability for member locals to "feed" provincial and national news releases into their sites automatically will be completed over the next few months. The National Executive has also undertaken work to make provincial and national campaigns and services images available for use on local websites via the content management system.

In preparation for the National Student Day of Action, promotional images were prepared to promote reducetuitionfees.ca as well as other provincial and



national campaigns and services. These images were formatted so that they could be uploaded as ads on member local websites via the content management system.

EMAIL

Email usage on the server has been very high. Accordingly, over the past month, modifications have been made to the way the server handles email, ensuring that all email has continued to flow smoothly. The Federation is exploring the setup of a self-managing mass email system for national, provincial, and local use.

Participation

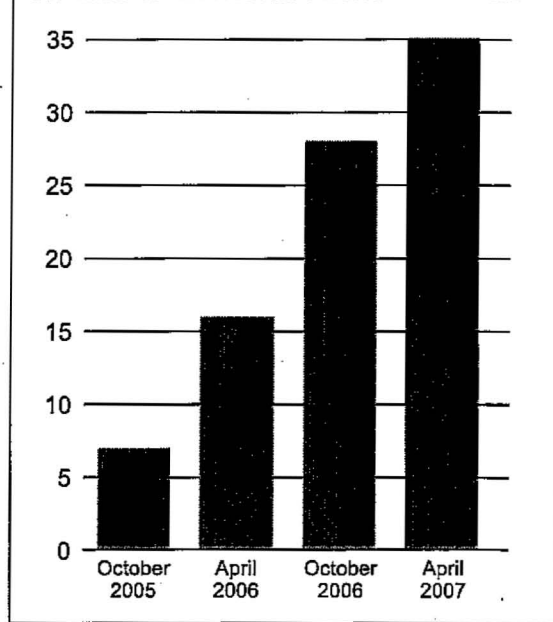
To subscribe to the Service, a member local representative simply needs to visit the website www.cfsadmin.org, choose from one of 29 templates, pick a hosting package that best suits their needs, select any available domain name, and submit an online request to activate an account.

Thirty-five member locals have signed onto the Students' Union Website Service since its inception and have websites that are either online or in development. Since the November 2006 national general meeting, seven more member locals have signed up for the Website Service. Of these seven, four already have their websites online. The Federation is also hosting websites and/or email hosting for CFS-British Columbia, CFS-Manitoba, CFS-Ontario, CFS-Québec and CFS Newfoundland and Labrador. In total, the Federation is now managing more than 150 domain names and hosting accounts.

STUDENTS' UNION WEBSITE SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS WITH SITES CURRENTLY ONLINE:

- Local 4-Selkirk Students' Association
- Local 8-University of Winnipeg Students' Association
- Local 11-King's Students' Union
- Local 13-College of New Caledonia Students' Union
- Local 15-Thompson Rivers University Students' Union
- Local 18-Douglas Students' Union

Students' Union Website Service subscribers



- Local 24-Ryerson Students' Union
- Local 28-Atkinson Students' Association
- Local 30-Laurentian University Students' General Assembly
- Local 33-Emily Carr Students' Union
- Local 35-Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union
- Local 36-Grenfell College Student Union
- Local 37-Brandon University Students' Union
- Local 61-Malaspina Students' Union
- Local 66-Northwest Community College Students' Union
- Local 67-University of New Brunswick Graduate Student Association
- Local 68-York Federation of Students
- Local 69-Association générale des étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne
- Local 71-Trent Central Student Association

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Local 73/76-Students' Unions of Vancouver
Community College

Local 78-Carleton University Graduate Students'
Association

Local 84-York University Graduate Students'
Association

Local 88-Association des étudiantes et étudiants
francophones Université Laurentienne

Local 98-University of Toronto Students' Union

Local 100-Graduate Students' Union of the Memorial
University of Newfoundland

Local 103-University of Manitoba Students' Union

Local 104-Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-
Time Students

Local 105-Continuing Education Students' Association
of Ryerson

STUDENTS' UNION WEBSITE SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS WITH SITES CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT:

Local 27-Queen's University Society of Graduate and
Professional Students

Local 46-College of the North Atlantic Students' Union

Local 72-North Island Students' Union

Local 82-Algoma University Students' Union

Local 85-Saint Paul University Students' Association

Local 93-Glendon College Students' Union

Local 104-Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-
Time Students (French Site)

STUDENTS' UNION WEBSITE SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS WHO HOST THEIR WEBSITES ON THE SERVER:

Local 92-Student Association of George Brown
College

Local 96-University of Manitoba Graduate Students'
Association

Security & Data Protection

PASSWORDS FOR EMAIL ACCOUNTS

During the month of February, two incidents occurred in which email addresses hosted on the Federation's server were compromised by automated spam software because the email accounts had been given passwords that were easy to guess and/or crack. As a result, some users had their sent email messages returned with notices stating that the messages were undeliverable.

In an effort to prevent email users from selecting easy to guess passwords, an email was sent informing all Website Service users of the importance of having secure, hard to guess passwords, and encouraging them to conduct a review of the passwords currently in use. Additionally, new software has been installed on the Federation's website server that will check the integrity of passwords as they are created. If a password is found to be insecure, it will now be rejected.

DATA BACKUP

The entire contents of the server is backed up nightly, both within the current hosting facility and at a separate, off-site backup facility that specialises in providing this service. This backup regime is in place to maintain duplicated copies of all data being stored on the server. The duplicate copies would be used in the unlikely event that the server's hard drives fail.

2007-2008 Handbook Project

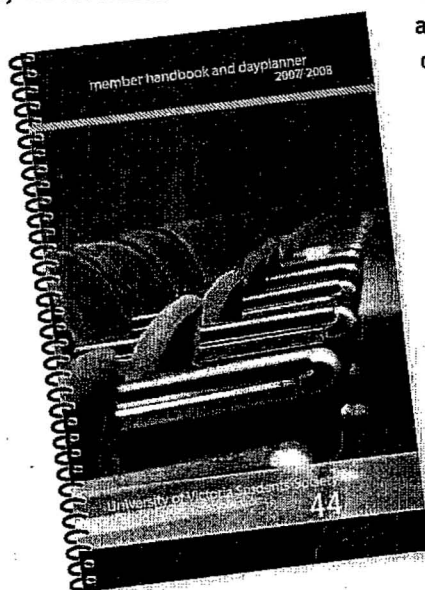
The handbook service is entering its seventh year as a national service of the Federation after starting as a project of the Canadian Federation of Students-BC in the late 1990s. The handbook service was initiated primarily to reduce the cost of producing handbooks, particularly for small member locals. It was also viewed as means of improving the overall content and design of the publications.

The volume of books produced allows for better quality paper, colour pages, and fewer advertisements, while achieving savings in writing and editing, design, printing and binding. These economies of scale have enabled some students' unions to eliminate or reduce local advertising from their handbook. This flexibility has proven to be a particularly attractive feature of the service.

Each handbook consists of a unique local section, provincial and national sections, and calendar and time management pages. Participating students' unions provide local content in text format and images that are then formatted by the Federation to be consistent with the overall design of the handbook.

For 2007-2008, 61 handbooks will be produced, including 57 member locals and two non-member students' unions in ten provinces. All member locals in British Columbia with the exception of Local 5-Capilano Students' Union and Local 23-Simon Fraser Students' Society are participating in the service. In Ontario, Local 47-University of Western Ontario Graduate Students' Society has rejoined the project and the Organization of Part-time University Students (University of Windsor) and Local 93-Gendon College Students' Union have joined the project for the first time. In addition, prospective member local Dawson College Students' Union has joined the project.

The number of handbooks projected to be printed for 2007-2008 has decreased in comparison to previous years. Approximately 304,445 handbooks will be printed in comparison to 315,805 in 2006-2007. The loss of Local 23-Simon Fraser Students' Society and Local 34-Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union accounts for much of this decrease.



Once again, the Studentsaver card and a listing of regional discounts will be integrated into the handbook. A 16-page signature with the listing of discounts will be added to the back of each handbook produced for member locals in British Columbia, Alberta, Québec and Atlantic Canada. In the case of Ontario, a 32-page signature will be added. A divider with the Studentsaver card affixed will be placed at the front of the section.

In an effort to achieve cost savings, the Manitoba discounts will be incorporated into the provincial section of the handbook. This allows for the printing of the provincial section in colour and, as a result, only the Studentsaver Card divider will be bound into the back of each book.

After six years of fine-tuning, the handbook required little modification to its base design for 2007-2008. Feedback from the 2006-2007 handbooks indicated that member locals and individual members were pleased with the calendar design and with the presentation of information in the local, provincial and national sections.

For 2007-2008, all of the enhancements that were introduced in previous handbooks will be included such

as: full colour pages in the national section of the handbook, full bleeds throughout the handbook, and tear-off corners on the calendar pages. All handbooks will feature an introductory page that allows the individual to record contact information in the event the handbook is misplaced.

The handbooks will include the die-cut sticker page that was first introduced in 2006-2007. The sticker page will be inserted as the first page in the handbook. The stickers have been designed to be attached to specific dividers or months in the calendar, to act as easy reference tabs. Stickers for exams and the week of action were also incorporated

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on the sticker page. Member local unions also had the opportunity to produce the local section in full colour at an additional cost and to produce banner advertisements in the calendar section of the handbook. Member locals also have the option of purchasing plastic rulers to distribute with the books.

Once again, the Federation worked with Campus Plus to sell advertising in the 2007–2008 handbooks. Campus Plus agreed to work to sell the front inside cover, back inside and outside cover, and three dividers. To-date advertisements have been sold to Aliant, the Certified General Accountants' Association of Canada and Pizza Pizza.

In addition, the National Executive has assumed more responsibility for pursuing advertisements for the handbook in order to offset some of the costs associated with producing the book. To-date an advertisement has been sold to Canadian Tire.

For the first time since the inception of the handbook service, the unit cost for members outside of Ontario has been reduced. The unit cost for Ontario locals had been reduced in an effort to bring it closer to the unit costs elsewhere in the country.

The new pricing structure is as follows, member locals outside of Ontario will pay \$2.20 per handbook (48 page signature) plus applicable taxes, a reduction of \$0.30 per unit (\$0.05 for member locals in BC). The handbook cost per unit for Ontario member locals will be \$2.25 per handbook (48 page signature) plus applicable taxes, a reduction of \$0.25.

In addition the threshold for the per unit volume discount has been lowered from 10,000 to 7,500 meaning more locals will qualify for the discount. Finally the cost of purchasing dividers and the front and back covers was decreased.

Since the inception of the handbook service in the late 1990s, the books have been printed and bound by companies based in Vancouver. However, with the dramatic growth of the service in recent years, the bindery is experiencing difficulty meeting the Federation's delivery deadlines. As reported at the November meeting, the National Executive solicited

proposals from printing companies in Manitoba and Ontario in mid-January in order to divide the books and print and bind the books in Vancouver and central Canada. A well-established printing company based in Toronto was selected and work is underway to print and bind all handbooks from locals east of Ontario. Provided the division of the 2007–2008 edition is successful, the Federation will be able to revise its internal deadlines thus providing member locals more time in which to submit their local content, images and advertisements for the 2008–2009 handbook.

National Student Health Network

Introduction

The first student health and dental plans to emerge on Canadian campuses were based on employee plans. They were expensive and failed to cover many of the drugs and services commonly required by students. The Federation created the National Student Health Network to secure lower rates and better coverage for students by employing the collective expertise and combined buying power of the Federation's membership.

From the start, students felt that it was important to minimise the role of insurance brokers in order for students' unions to maintain control of their health and dental plans. After all, the primary relationship in any insurance arrangement is between the insured and the insurer. Network personnel are able to assist in the administration of member plans, along with a variety of other tasks traditionally carried out by brokers at an additional expense.

Acting as a not-for-profit buying block of students' unions, the Network has been successful in securing lower rates and superior services for member health and dental benefits plans. In addition, the Network has worked to tailor insurance industry practices to the needs of students and pioneered many student-oriented health plan services that are now common to most plans throughout the country.

The National Student Health Network is currently composed of over 30 students' unions with a

combined membership of more than 200,000 students.

Network Operations

PLAN ADMINISTRATION AND BENEFITS PROVISION

Certain functions of insurance provision are required, by law, to be performed by a licensed brokerage; as such the Network can not entirely replace a broker. Since 1996, the Network has retained the services of Heath Benefits Consulting to negotiate with benefit providers and analyse claims data. In summer 2006, Heath Benefits Consulting was purchased by Morneau Sobeco, a large, publicly traded brokerage firm.

The transition to Morneau Sobeco has been smooth in some respects and difficult in others. The size and sophistication of administrative resources and technology at Morneau Sobeco will allow Network members to realize greater efficiencies in plan administration and further economies of scale. However, there have been transitory problems with information transfer that have caused some delays in claims reimbursement and opt-out processing. Throughout the transition; however, the Network has been able to ensure that the staff and resources of the student plan division within Heath Benefits Consulting have been maintained and that continuity and institutional memory will be preserved. Morneau Sobeco is in the process of developing a new internal division that will be dedicated to student plan administration.

Although the Network secures quotes from a variety of benefits providers, all current members of the consortium have selected Green Shield Canada as their provider. Green Shield is Canada's only national not-for-profit benefits provider and, as such, is consistently able to offer the lowest rates for student plans. The Federation has negotiated an agreement with Green Shield that establishes preferred

arrangements and services for Network members. Although Green Shield provides plans directly to some students' unions that are not members of the Network, these students' unions do not enjoy the reduced administrative costs provided to Network members. Because of the expansion of the Network's account, this year, Green Shield has appointed a new representative, with more internal support, to student plans.

NETWORK OPERATIONS

The general expansion of the Network membership in recent years and the introduction of a variety of new services and plan enhancements have meant an increase in workload for Network staff. In

order to respond to the expansion of its membership base, the Network has enhanced Administrative and Network Member Support staffing resources.

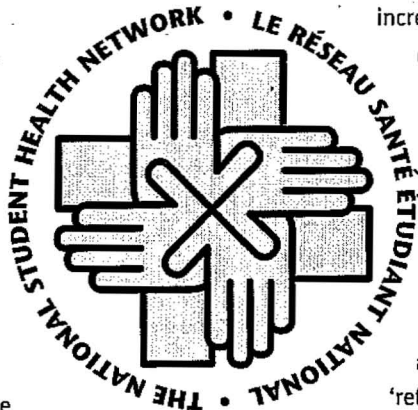
The Network is assisting its three University of Toronto members—Locals 19, 97 and 98—to implement a 'credit system' to replace the current 'refund cheque' opt-out procedures.

Members who wish to opt out will have their health plan premiums credited to their University of Toronto tuition fee accounts, which should result in substantial administrative cost savings.

HEALTH PLAN "AUDITING"

At the request of any member local that does not participate in the Network, the Network will undertake an assessment of the member local's health and dental plans in order to determine if the member local is being charged fair rates for its coverage. By examining the administrative costs charged by the carrier, fees charged by the agent/broker, plan design, and local administrative costs, the audit process determines whether the same plan could be provided at lower cost and helps identify unnecessary commissions and service fees.

Upon completion of the audit, the member local is presented with an assessment of its existing plan,



Services

and is typically provided with a “no obligation” quote for an alternative plan with equal or superior coverage through the Network. Although the student union is not obliged to accept the quote, the Network is bound by it if the member local chooses to accept it.

The Network has conducted several audits of health and dental plans over the past few years. In most instances, it was determined that the member locals were being overcharged for their coverage. Most of those member locals chose to join the Network, while other member locals simply used the information to compel their agents to secure more favourable arrangements.

Unfortunately, some brokers have taken steps to limit students’ unions’ access to information about their plans, thereby minimising the likelihood that their services will be subject to such scrutiny. Some agents have reacted by locking their students’ union clients into multi-year contracts that, in some cases, extend for more than three years. This practice runs contrary to the industry standard and undermines the students’ union’s ability to negotiate its rates. The Network’s value-for-dollar auditing service has been instrumental in assisting a number of non-member students’ unions in negotiating better rates and services from competitors.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Network will be hosting regional Network meetings throughout the summer, rather than a single national meeting as in previous years. This would allow for the meetings to be tailored somewhat to issues in the region, although all meetings would focus on claims management. Of particular concern are student-targeted marketing campaigns by providers such as Chiropractors and Pharmaceutical companies, the appetite of members for the services they provide, and the resulting effect on students’ unions plans.

Network Services And Materials

NETWORK MATERIALS

As previously reported, new Network materials, including letterhead, forms and presentation covers, have been created. The materials incorporate the Network’s new visual identity and prominently display the Network’s new brand, “Students Benefit”.

In addition, the Network’s staff is working with Green Shield and Morneau Sobeco to redevelop the content of the benefits booklet to be more user-friendly and accessible to students. The Network is also assisting several locals that are choosing to include their health and dental plan information in their handbook/ dayplanners rather than producing and distributing separate benefits booklets.

WEBSITE

The Network will be working with Greenshield and Morneau Sobeco to develop a website that will provide easy access to plan information for any student enrolled in a Network plan. This approach is being taken to reduce confusion among members looking for access to services and benefits.

With the technological support of Morneau Sobeco, the Network is currently developing a new electronic opt-out system for launch in September 2007 that is more flexible and will allow for greater customisation.

The Network has also recently developed a web-based survey capacity for the purpose of canvassing members on benefits, coverage and rate priorities. Member locals with access to membership email addresses will be able to send mass email messages to their members requesting that they visit a customised survey URL to provide specific feedback on aspects of plan design and coverage. A report on the results from the survey is produced and distributed to member local representatives for the purpose of plan assessment and renewal planning.

The Network tested the survey system in the lead-up to the Local 4 and Local 61 health plan referenda. Prior to each referendum, a survey was created to gauge students’ opinions about possible plan design priorities and to determine the overall demand for a health and dental plan. An email with a link to a customised version of the site was sent to each

member of the students' union. In both cases, the response rate exceeded 25%. After one week, the site was de-activated and the survey results were compiled automatically by the website programme and transferred to the Network.

RESPONSE TO INDUSTRY TRENDS

In recent years, most health and dental plans in Canada have been experiencing moderate inflationary pressure, with plan usage increasing dramatically in certain benefit categories in most plans. For the first time, anti-depressant claims in student health plans are equal to or exceeding birth control claims. In addition, the trend towards increased paramedical claims, and specifically for chiropractic and massage services, continues to cause concern. The Network has worked with member locals to develop reasonable and customary controls on paramedical claims that emphasise medically necessary procedures. These controls should limit plan abuse and help to ensure favourable plan performance experiences.

Rate reductions secured with ACE INA, the Network's primary supplier of accidental death and dismemberment insurance and the Network's new travel benefits plan, have provided rate reductions and enhanced benefits coverage for member plans.

Overall, despite reduced administrative fees, rate increases on many member plans were driven by the volume and cost of claims. The Network is currently working with its brokerage consultants and benefits providers to develop discount programmes with dental and paramedical service providers in order to improve savings Network members and contain plan costs.

Student Work Abroad Program

The Federation's Student Work Abroad Program, marketed as SWAP Working Holidays, is Canada's largest international work exchange programme. Established 32 years ago, it is estimated that roughly 50,000 Canadians have participated in the SWAP over the years. In addition to maintaining the traditional

destinations that are very popular among Canadian students and youth, in 2007 the SWAP has introduced new outbound activities in both Brazil and China and has also begun hosting students from India.

Outbound Programmes

SOUTH AFRICA

There has been considerable success with the South African programs developed over the last four years, which have seen a slight increase in the numbers of participants. The volunteer activities in South Africa have eclipsed the traditional "work programme" in the number of Canadian participants. This is a growing trend and indicates that voluntarism is the more appropriate method of operating work-oriented cultural exchanges in developing economies.

GHANA

The activity in Ghana is now managed by Volunteer Abroad, which has maintained an excellent working relationship with the Student and Youth Travel Organisation (SYTO), the long time SWAP partner in Accra. The SYTO continues to facilitate Ghanaian students' participation in the SWAP's "Inbound to Canada" programming.

BRAZIL

SWAP Brazil initially experienced some growing pains. However, the programme has overcome some initial challenges, and there is now high demand for Canadians in English-as-a-Second Language tutoring and teaching positions.

CHINA

Starting this year, the SWAP is offering teaching opportunities in China through a partnership with the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), a US-based organisation with extensive operations in China. Canadian participants will be employed as English-as-a-Second Language teaching assistants in local Chinese high schools. Participants will be provided with housing and a monthly allowance. CIEE will provide a two-week orientation and training

Services

session in Shanghai for participants. The first participants will travel to China in August of 2007.

BRITAIN

The UK Government has dramatically increased the fee for the British Working Holiday visa from \$200 (Canadian dollars) to \$485. This will likely result in a drop in the number of Canadians applying for this programme. The Federation will continue to promote SWAP Britain; however, at the same time, the SWAP will focus more on Ireland, which offers a full year of working in what has become a very strong labour market.

Inbound Programmes

In 2006, the Federation hosted over 6,000 foreign students and youth at SWAP Inbound Centres in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. In addition, the SWAP works closely with Hostelling International to provide some basic services to Calgary arrivals and is considering the possibility of establishing a fourth Inbound Centre in Calgary in 2008.

Discount Programme

Since its formation in 1981, the Federation has operated a national student discount programme.

The service utilises two discount cards: the International Student Identity Card (ISIC) and the Studentsaver card. The ISIC is issued as a benefit of membership to those members of the Federation who are full-time students. International rules governing the issuing of the ISIC stipulate that only full-time students are eligible to receive the ISIC. Consequently, the Federation created the Studentsaver card—available to part-time students—in order to ensure that, where possible, part-time students who belong to the Federation have access to the same discounts.

ISIC Issuing

Currently, close to 70 students' unions and institutions serve as ISIC issuing offices, using label printers supplied by the Federation. Since September 2006, the Federation has disbursed 40,005 ISIC cards.

As has been previously reported, the ISIC label printers supplied by the Federation are in some cases nearly eight years old. In addition to normal wear and tear, many printers have been rendered irreparable due to various types of abuse. Others are developing bizarre software related bugs as the computers they are connected to continue to advance and evolve. The

Federation is currently analyzing the current state of its ISIC printer inventory in an effort to ensure that all issuing offices will have a properly functioning printer for September.

In fall 2006, the Federation launched the second version of the ISIC issuing database. To expedite the launch of the new database only part of the overall project was completed. Several of the envisioned upgrades

that have yet to be implemented focus on making card issuing more efficient, making it more difficult to enter incorrect information, and allowing for the generation of detailed reports on issuing activity.

It is anticipated that the work to implement the upgrades will begin in the summer when the volume of ISICs issued on campus decreases.

Service Awareness

A section listing Studentsaver discounts was included, for the second year, in the 2006–2007 handbooks produced through the Federation's handbook/dayplanner project and will be included again in the 2007–2008 books.

In addition to the discount guidebook and handbook insert, the Federation promotes the discounts on the Studentsaver website at www.studentsaver.ca.



ca, which is searchable by city, province, and type of business. The National Executive has identified a number of areas in need of improvement on the website and are endeavoring to revamp it for August. For example, the fair-trade, accessibility, and organic classifications that currently appear in the printed guides and handbook inserts will soon be included on the revamped website.

Discount Solicitation

Each year, Federation member locals solicit discounts in their communities. This year, discount solicitation began in February—early start was initiated to ensure sufficient time for the discount listings to be published in member local handbooks. The majority of discount solicitation took place in April, with a final push in early May to finalize discounts and renewals.

Renewal of discounts is the responsibility of national and regional offices. Federation offices in a number of regions used a new “fax-back renewal” system, in which a new version of the discount contract

was faxed to participating merchants along with a letter inviting them to renew their discount. The contract was pre-printed with the business’ address, contact information and current discount. Under the previous system, renewal letters and a new, blank contract were mailed to merchants to fill out and send back at their leisure. The new system allowed the participating business to simply sign (or make any necessary changes to) the contract and fax it back to the Federation. The new method reduced the time involved in the renewal process, as well as the cost of postage. Although the new

system was largely successful, Federation offices and discount solicitors often had to follow-up by phone to secure many of the renewals.

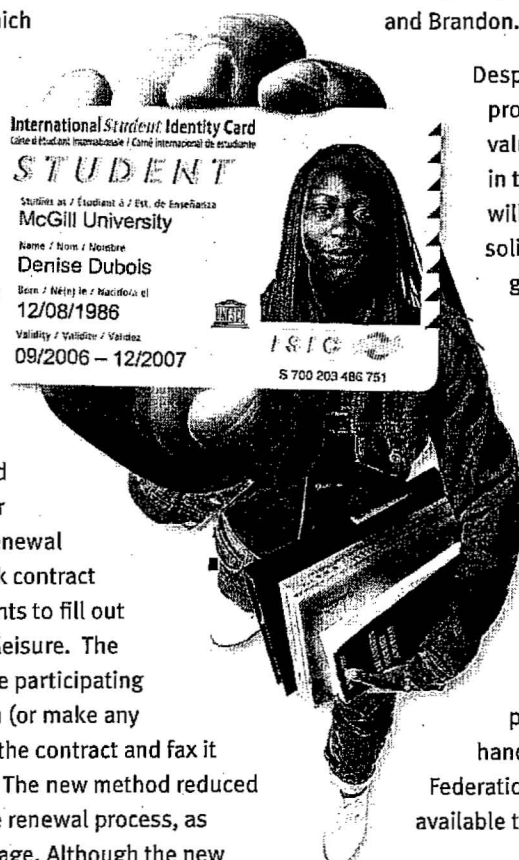
Regional offices also identified some difficulty in finding reliable solicitors, despite a concerted effort to post positions earlier in most areas. As a result, it was necessary to hire a “second wave” of solicitors in some areas in the last weeks of the solicitation period to make up for lost time.

Discount solicitation for 2007–2008 is nearly complete nation-wide. To date, roughly 2,300 discounts have been secured for 2007–2008, a number approximately 500 fewer than the previous year. This drop can be attributed to solicitation and renewal difficulties, but also to a continued emphasis on providing discounts of a higher quality, resulting in the elimination of some offers. There have also been substantive increases in the number of discounts offered in some cities where there had been marginal offerings in previous years such as Sault Ste. Marie and Brandon.

Despite some initial setbacks, the programme will once again provide valuable discounts to Federation members in the coming year. The National Executive will continue to focus on improving the solicitation and renewal process, with the goal of making the programme more effective and increasing its benefit to members.

Discount Guidebook

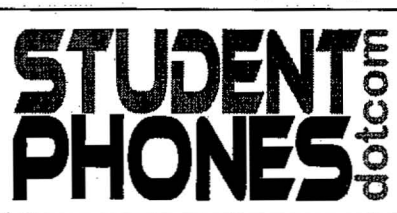
Over the last two years there has been an concerted effort to integrate a Studentsaver section—card and discount listings—into member handbooks. In 2005–2006, such a section was incorporated in the handbooks published through the Federation’s handbook project. In 2006–2007, the Federation made the Studentsaver section available to member locals who were not



participating in the handbook project for insertion into their books.

The incorporation of the Studentsaver section into member handbooks has resulted in a considerable reduction in the number of standalone guides printed. As a result, it has become more economical to produce two separate guidebooks: an Eastern Canada book and a Western Canada book.

For the 2007–2008 year, regional Studentsaver discount listings will once again be included in both handbooks produced through the Federation's handbook project and in the handbooks of member locals not on the handbook project who have requested the section. In addition, the Federation will once again produce both the Eastern and Western Canada Guidebooks for the Studentsaver (with the card affixed to the front of the book) and the International Students Identity Card (with an ISIC cover).



Studentphones.com

For the past four years, the Federation has been partnering with Studentphones.com to negotiate reduced student rates for cellular telephones and cellular service. The collective purchasing potential of the combined Federation membership has attracted the interest of several cellular service providers, while the use of the ISIC as verification of student status has meant increased benefit for the Federation's members.

Of the carriers offering discounts through Studentphones, Fido Networks continue to provide the best offer. Currently students can get Fido's \$35 a month unlimited evenings and weekends plan for \$25 a month, a discount of almost 30%. In addition to the monthly savings with Fido, students also receive a \$50 discount on the purchase of a phone. Discounts

are also currently available with Rogers Wireless and Virgin Mobile.

For the coming year, Fido has indicated that they will once again be providing a substantial discount. Telus Mobility, who has not been receptive in the past to entertaining the idea of a student discount, have expressed interest in exploring an offer. Telus' change in its position can be attributed, in part to, the work of Studentphones and member locals in implementing anti-exclusivity agreements that prevent single carrier

monopoly agreements with students' unions. However, securing discounts with certain regional carriers continues to be hampered by their virtual monopoly of cellular phone signal coverage of a region.

Finally, the partnership with the Phones for Food programme has been quite successful. Phones for Food is a cellular telephone recycling service operated by the Canadian Association of Food Banks. Through the service, the revenue generated from refurbishing and recycling old telephones is donated to food banks. Currently more than 30 member locals participate in the programme by providing space for a phone recycling box on campus.

Studentminutes

Although Studentminutes has experienced consistent growth since its launch almost two years ago, members have identified two areas in need of improvement: a bilingual and the ability to refill an account without the use of a credit card (such as through Internet banking). Studentminutes' current carrier has been unable to meet these demands, and therefore, work is underway to find a new carrier for fall 2007.

UFile.ca

The discount with UFile.ca was made available beginning on February 15, 2007 for the 2006 tax-filing season.

On March 6, 2007, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) suspended the use of several systems including Netfile, the government's online tax filing system, due to "infrastructure problems". Although students could still use Ufile to generate and print a paper tax return, the government's suspension of service eliminated the convenience of filing online. The CRA resumed Netfile service by March 15; however, at that point a substantial backlog in the processing of both online and paper returns had amassed causing increased delays in the time before refunds were issued.





Canadian Federation of Students • Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

Internal Affairs

National Executive

Current Composition

The current members of the National Executive are:

POSITION	NAME
Aboriginal Students' Representative	Jarita Greyeyes
Alberta Representative	Kathleen Rhodes
British Columbia Representative	Shamus Reid
Francophone Students' Representative	Katherine Boushel (until April 30, 2007)
Graduate Students' Representative	Meghan Gallant
Manitoba Representative	Rachel Gotthilf
National Chairperson	Amanda Aziz
National Deputy Chairperson	Brent Farrington
National Treasurer	Dave Hare
New Brunswick Representative	Colin Curry
Newfoundland and Labrador Representative	Cletus Flaherty
Nova Scotia Representative	Chris Parsons
Ontario Representative	Ken Marciniak
Prince Edward Island Representative	Elmabrok Masoud
Québec Representative	Steven Rosenshein
Saskatchewan Representative	Alice Collins
Students of Colour Representative	Alam Ashraful
Women's Representative	Sarah Amyot

Katherine Boushel, who has served as the Francophone Students' Representative on the National Executive since May 2005, resigned from the position on April 30, 2007. Katherine was unable to complete her term due to the commencement of her term as the full-time Vice-President of Federal

and International Affairs at la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec.

2007-2008 Term

Most positions on the National Executive have been elected for the upcoming year. At the fall 2006 national general meeting, Amanda Aziz (Local 103) was re-elected as National Chairperson for the 2007-2008 term. Ben Lewis (Local 24) was elected as National Treasurer and Brent Farrington (Local 91) was elected as National Deputy Chairperson.

Earlier this year, Dave Molenhuis (Local 105) and Dustin Grof (Local 4) were elected as the Ontario and British Columbia Representatives, respectively. Garry Sran (Local 103) has been elected as the Manitoba Representative, Kaley Kennedy (Local 11) has been elected as the Nova Scotia Representative and Katherine Giroux-Bougard (Local 35) has been elected as the Newfoundland and Labrador Representative. Michael White (Local 72) has been elected as the Aboriginal Students' Representative.

At this meeting, elections will be conducted for the Alberta Representative, Saskatchewan Representative, Prince Edward Island Representative, New Brunswick Representative, Graduate Students' Representative, Students of Colour Representative, Francophone Students' Representative, and Women's Representative on the National Executive for the 2007-2008 term.

Federation Staffing

Newfoundland and Labrador Organiser

In early March, Newfoundland and Labrador Organiser Jennifer Anthony commenced a six-month leave of absence, ending on August 31, 2007.

Member Services Officer-Saskatchewan/Alberta

Earlier this month, Member Services Officer-Saskatchewan/Alberta Chris Galloway informed the Federation that he was resigning effective May 23, 2007.

The National Executive hopes to have the region re-staffed by no later than August 2007.

Federation National Congresses

The Federation holds two national congresses each year, one in May and one in November. In addition, the Federation's two national caucuses, the National Aboriginal Caucus and the National Graduate Caucus, hold national meetings each February or March.

National Caucus General Meetings

The Federation's National Graduate Caucus consists of all member students' unions composed in whole or in part of graduate students. This year the Caucus annual general meeting was held February 15 to 18 at McGill University. Fifteen of the thirty eligible member graduate unions were in attendance.

The Federation's National Aboriginal Caucus consists of all member students' unions composed in whole or in part of aboriginal students. This year the Caucus annual meeting was held from March 29 to 31 at the University of Winnipeg. Sixteen member local unions participated in the meeting.

November 2007 National General Meeting

The fall 2007 national general meeting will be held either November 18 to 21 or November 25 to 28. The National Executive will be finalising the dates at its next meeting in early July.

May 2008 National General Meeting

The spring 2008 national general meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 27 to 30. The National Executive will be finalising the dates at its next meeting in early July.

Legal Affairs

Nuisance Law Suit

In summer 2002, Local 3-UBC Students' Union-Okanagan signed a contract extension with Gallivan and Associates (Gallivan), its agent at the time for health and dental insurance. Although there is zero benefit for a students' union to enter into a multi-year contract with an insurance agent, unless that agent can somehow guarantee insurance rates and benefits for the duration of the contract, Local 3 nevertheless signed a five-year extension.

Two years later, in spring 2004, Local 3 notified Gallivan that it considered the contract terminated, alleging that Gallivan had violated its fiduciary responsibility as an agent for the organisation.

In summer 2005, Gallivan filed suit in British Columbia for breach of contract against Local 3, various directors and former directors of the Local, and various employees of the Local. For some inexplicable reason, Gallivan also named the Canadian Federation of Students as a defendant in the suit.

In its statement of claim, Gallivan alleged that termination of the agreement was "part of a concerted and continuing pattern of conduct by the CFS to destroy the Plaintiff's business and eliminate its market share by direct interference in its contractual relationship with student bodies at post-secondary institutions across Canada".

Apparently, Gallivan did not realise that it is the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, the Canadian Federation of Students' sister organisation, and not the Canadian Federation of Students, that provides student health and dental insurance and works to expose unethical and corrupt practices in the student health and dental insurance brokering industry.

In the event that the matter proceeds to trial, the evidence will show that neither the Canadian Federation of Students nor the Canadian Federation of Students-Services did anything to induce Local 3 to

Internal Affairs

terminate its agreement with Gallivan, as alleged by the plaintiff.

Gallivan is seeking unspecified punitive damages and legal costs from the Canadian Federation of Students. The Canadian Federation of Students is seeking dismissal and legal costs.

A court date for the suit has not established, and neither party has initiated examinations for discovery.

Office Organisation

Preparations for Relocation of the National Office

In 2000, the membership established a capital fund for the purchase of office space. As of June 30, the balance in the fund will be \$1,375,000, an amount that should cover the bulk of the purchase price on a space that meets the Federation's needs.

The Federation's current office lease runs until August 31, 2008. The National Executive hopes to make a purchase within the next twelve months so that no new lease will be required.

An active search of available properties in downtown Ottawa commenced in early January 2007 with the assistance of an estate agent who the Federation has engaged. Preference is being given to small, stand-alone buildings; however, the Federation may have to settle for a commercial condominium due to availability, price, and space utilisation issues.

The Federation may face some difficulty with Ottawa zoning regulations, as the City is currently in the process of changing them. In the event that a property that the Federation is interested in does not comply with city zoning regulations, the Federation will have to begin a legal process to determine if a building is *legally non-conforming* (commonly known as "grandfathered").

The Federation has already engaged a real estate attorney to complete a property title search to determine that the previous building owner has met all municipal regulations, including full payment

of taxes, zoning regulation, and most importantly that the seller is the rightful owner of the building. Some legal work, involving the review of two sets of condominium bylaws from properties the Federation had been evaluating, has already occurred. In both cases the Federation decided against submitting an offer.

The National Executive is currently reviewing engineering firm credentials in order to select a firm to produce a due diligence assessment in the event that the Federation submits an offer of purchase. The assessment will evaluate the structural, geotechnical, mechanical, and electrical elements of a property to ensure that the building and its grounds are code and needs compliant.

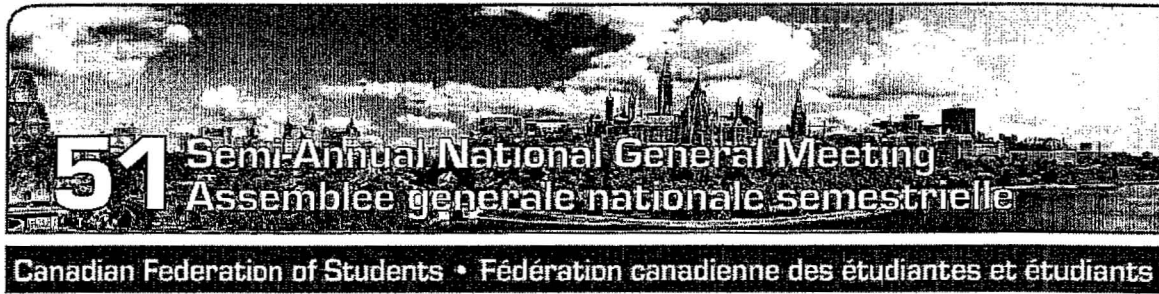
The National Executive has also had some preliminary discussions with its current landlord, the Canadian Red Cross, about leaving early without penalty if a property is purchased and available for occupancy before August 31, 2008. The Red Cross has indicated that it would be agreeable.

Technology Upgrades

Anticipating a pending move of the national office, improvements to the office's outdated phone system are currently being explored. Among the options being considered are Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) solutions that would likely provide better quality service at a savings when compared to traditional phone service.

Over the summer the National Executive intends to enhance the backup protocol in place for the national office's internal file-server. Currently, the server is backed up regularly to a dedicated hard-drive located within the national office and to magnetic tapes that are stored in secure locations both on- and off-site.

Given the reliance on magnetic tapes, maintaining a consistent off-site backup schedule has proven time-consuming and inconvenient. The Federation intends to replace these magnetic tapes with a hard-drive based, off-site backup system reducing the time and complexity involved in backing up the national office's internal file-server.



Membership Development

Membership Development

New Full Member

Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor

The Organization of Part-Time University Students was accepted as a prospective member of the Federation at the May 2006 national general meeting.

On November 27 to 30, 2006, a referendum on full membership was conducted in accordance with Bylaw 1.5; 88 percent voted in favour of Federation membership. The official results were: 145 in favour of membership, 20 opposed, and 1 spoiled ballot.

In accordance with Bylaw 1.2-b-ix, the National Executive is recommending that the Organization of Part-Time University Students be ratified as a full member of the Federation.

New Prospective Members

Dawson Student Union

The Dawson Student Union is composed of the roughly 7,500 students attending Dawson College in Montréal, the largest CEGEP in Québec. On March 7 this year, the board of directors of the Union voted to seek prospective membership in the Federation.

In accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive has reviewed the application and is recommending that the application for prospective membership be accepted.

Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association

The Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association is composed of all graduate students at Laurentian University in Sudbury. On April 26 this year, the Executive of the Association voted to seek prospective membership in the Federation.

In accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive has reviewed the application and is recommending that the application for prospective membership be accepted.



Canadian Federation of Students • Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

Finances

Introduction

As the 2006–2007 fiscal year draws to a close, it can be reported that, with only a few notable exceptions, most of the financial targets established in the Federation's national budget will be met.

Membership Fees

Membership fees remain the primary source of funding for the Federation. This year, the Federation projected to collect membership fees of just over \$2.9 million, an amount that the Federation should have no difficulty achieving. As of April 30, \$2,187,410.09 had been received. With very few exceptions, membership fees on a local-by-local basis, are exceeding the budget projections.

Services Income and Expense

Referral Fees from CUTS

For fiscal 2007, the budget projected referral fee revenue of \$646,000 and, in turn, a re-investment of the entire \$646,000. While the percentage of re-investment is set by default at 85%, the National Executive believes that it would prudent to attempt to seek the agreement of the minority shareholders in raising the re-investment to 100% so as to provide the company with increased working capital.

Student Work Abroad Program

The Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP) is a Federation service that is administered primarily by Travel CUTS. In 2005–2006, the programme generated a net surplus \$116,470, representing a new high.

For the current year, it is expected that SWAP net revenue will meet and possibly exceed the amount budgeted in the 2007 revised budget. Although SWAP expenses at April 30 exceeded revenues by \$121,382, most SWAP revenue is generated in the final two last months of the fiscal year, while expenses are mostly consistent from month to month. It is now expected that the surplus for the year will be approximately

\$70,000, compared to the budgeted amount of \$63,300.

Discount Programme Revenue

Sales of International Student Identity Cards (ISIC) as of April 30 were down approximately 20% from the same point a year ago, while at the same time, the Federation continues to issue a consistent number of cards free as a benefit of membership.

It appears the budgeted amount for the discount program will be exceeded slightly.

National Student Health Network

The National Student Health Network is intended to operate on a break-even basis. Although the programme inevitably generates small surpluses in some years and small losses in others, over time it is essentially revenue neutral.

For 2005–2006, the programme was due to “one-time only” information technology and programme development costs. The modest surplus projected in the budget should be realised.

Fund Allocations

Capital Fund

In 1996, the Canadian Federation of Students' operations, based in Ottawa, and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services' operations, based in Toronto, were moved into joint office space in Ottawa. At the time, the new space was roughly equivalent in size to the combined office spaces that had housed the separate Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services operations.

Initially, the Federation paid \$90,000 per year under its original five-year lease signed in 1996. In 2001, the Federation exercised its renewal option on the space for an additional five years. Under the terms of the renewal, rates were adjusted to reflect the market conditions at the time. Annual costs jumped to almost \$150,000 per year.

On June 30, 2007 the Federation will have spent close to \$1.35 million on rent since consolidating its operations into one office. With this in mind the member locals voted in 1999 to create a capital fund for the future purchase of office space. With this year's budgeted allocation of \$175,000, the fund now stands at \$1.375 million.

Federal Election Campaign Fund

Federal Elections provide a unique opportunity for influencing public opinion and extracting commitments from potential Members of Parliament and political parties. However, the irregular timing of elections, and the significant expense that can be associated with running a high profile campaign during these short windows of time, means that it is quite difficult to budget in advance for such a campaign.

In 2005, Federation member locals voted to create a Federal Election Campaign Fund so that there would be sufficient financial resources available to implement an effective Federal Election Campaign, in addition to the campaigns set out in the Campaigns and Government Relations Strategy.

With this year's budget allocation of \$25,000, the fund now stands at \$100,000.

General Meeting Students With Disabilities Access Fund

At some national general meetings there may be several delegates with special needs. At other meetings there may be none. The cost of providing sign language interpretation for a hearing impaired delegate can exceed \$10,000 for a single general meeting. In the past, the dilemma for the Federation was whether or not to always budget for such an expense even though the need may exist at only one in ten meetings.

To allow for consistency in budgeting from year to year, the member locals established a General Meeting Students with Disabilities Access Fund in 2000. The Fund allows the Federation to allocate a consistent amount each year, rather than having costs

that fluctuate wildly from year to year paid from that year's operating budget.

With this year's budgeted allocation of \$5,000, the fund now stands at \$60,000.

Membership Fee Issues

Fee Adjustments for Consumer Price Index Change

When the Federation was founded in 1981, the national membership fee was set at \$2.00 per student per semester. In 1992, the Federation's member locals voted to increase the fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00. At the same time, a bylaw was adopted stipulating that, starting in 1996, the fee would be adjusted each academic year by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

The adjustment for inflation is calculated in mid-January when the previous year's Consumer Price Index (CPI) is announced by Statistics Canada. Notice of the change is sent to member locals immediately thereafter. The following table shows the adjustments that have been made to the national membership fee since the annual adjustments commenced in 1996, including the adjustment for the coming year:

FEDERATION FISCAL YEAR	ADJUSTED FEE
1995-1996	\$3.00
1996-1997	\$3.06
1997-1998	\$3.12
1998-1999	\$3.16
1999-2000	\$3.20
2000-2001	\$3.28
2001-2002	\$3.38
2002-2003	\$3.42
2003-2004	\$3.50
2004-2005	\$3.60
2005-2006	\$3.66
2006-2007	\$3.75
2007-2008	\$3.82

As the table illustrates, the Federation's national membership fee for the upcoming academic year will be \$3.82 per student per semester.

Each year, the National Executive is faced with the challenge of trying to ensure that all member locals arrange with their respective institutions collection of the adjusted fee. In the first few years after the adoption of the CPI adjustment, the success rate was quite low. However, with each passing year more and more locals make the adjustment as a matter of course.

A few member locals are still collecting only a fee of \$3.00. In some cases, their respective institutions are either unable or unwilling to collect amounts that include cents.

Collection of the Proper Base Membership Fee

As noted in previous reports, one member local, the York Federation of Students, has not adjusted the base membership fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00. Nor is the Local adjusting the fee annually for inflation, other than one small change a few years ago that increased the fee to \$2.06 per semester. As a result, more than \$550,000 in membership fees that should have been remitted by the Local since 1995 has not been. The National Executive continues to seek solutions to the problem.

Local 18-Douglas Students' Union

Membership fees paid by students at Douglas College are remitted directly by the College to the Federation. Starting in summer 2005, Douglas College ceased transferring the fees to the Federation, coinciding with the cessation of fee transfers to the Douglas Students' Union.

In early January this year, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ruled that:

"...with respect to monies currently held by Douglas College collected by Douglas College from students at Douglas College for or on behalf of the Plaintiff, Canadian Federation of Students or Canadian Federation of Students – British Columbia Component pursuant to section 21 of

the College and Institute Act (British Columbia) and with respect to such monies collected in the future by Douglas College:

(a) Douglas College provide an accounting of the amount of fees collected on behalf of Canadian Federation of Students or Canadian Federation of Students – British Columbia Component, respectively, and Douglas College remit the applicable fees directly to Canadian Federation of Students or Canadian Federation of Students – British Columbia Component; and

(b) Douglas College pay the balance of such monies to the Receiver Manager."

All outstanding fees were received from Douglas College prior to the end of January.

2005–2006 Audited Statements

The audits of Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services were completed in December 2006 and January 2007 respectively. The audited combined statements of the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Student-Services will be presented at this meeting.

As the statements show, the Federation's financial position is quiet stable with a strong balance sheet and healthy cash flow.

2006–2007 Audit

As has been previously reported, in accordance with the Unanimous Shareholders Agreement that is in place between the shareholders of Travel CUTS, neither shareholder is permitted to engage the same auditor as the company.

The Federation solicited quotes from four firms of chartered accountants in Ottawa, three local firms and one national/international firm. The National Executive is recommending that McLarty & Co Chartered Accounts of Ottawa be appointed as the auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007. McLarty & Co is a mid-sized Ottawa based firm. In

addition to providing the most competitive quote and being a firm recommended by Deloitte & Touche, the Federation's current auditors, McLarty & Co. have indicated that the timing of the Federation's audits are complementary to their normal work cycle.

Appendix I - Meetings with and Submissions to Government

DATE	MEETING	SUBJECT
5/12/2007	Canada Council on Learning (CCL)	Briefing on CCL research report
19/12/2007	New Democrat Finance Critic Judy Wasylycia-Leis (Winnipeg North)	Millennium Scholarship Foundation
20/12/2007	Office of Hon. Senator Elizabeth Hubley (Prince Edward Island)	Federal liberal election platform
24/1/2007	Canada Student Loans Program Director General Rosaline Frith	Canada Student Loans Program service provision contract, student loan bankruptcy prohibition,
30/1/2007	Ray Simard, M.P. (Lib., Saint Boniface)	Federal liberal election platform, Millennium Scholarship Foundation
30/1/2007	Office of federal New Democrat Post-Secondary Education Critic Denise Savoie, M.P. (Victoria)	Post-Secondary Education Act
15/2/2007	Federal New Democratic Party Leader Jack Layton, M.P. (Toronto—Danforth)	Day of Action, Post-Secondary Education Act
20/2/2007	Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, M.P. (Con., Oshawa); Parliamentary Secretary to the Finance Minister Diane Ablonczy	2007 Federal Budget

Appendix I - Meetings with and Submissions to Government

DATE	MEETING	SUBJECT
7/5/2007	National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance	Canada Student Loans Program, Canada Access Grants, Designation, Canada Education Savings Program, Interest Relief, Debt Reduction in Repayment, Student Loan Bankruptcy, Service Provider Transition, Parental Contribution Thresholds
14/3/2007	Office of federal New Democrat Post-Secondary Education Critic Denise Savoie, M.P. (Victoria)	Whistleblower protection for academic researchers under the Federal Accountability Act (Bill C-2), federal funding for post-secondary education
28/3/2007	Ray Simard, M.P. (Saint Boniface)	Federal liberal election platform, Millennium Scholarship Foundation
17/3/2007	Opposition Human Resources and Social Development Critic Mike Savage, M.P. (Lib., Dartmouth—Cole Harbour)	Canada Access Grants, Millennium Scholarship Foundation, federal Liberal election platform
19/4/2007	Advisory Committee on International Students and Immigration	Off-campus work permits for international students
23/4/2007	Senator Yoine Goldstein (Rigaud, Québec)	Student loan bankruptcy prohibition
4/5/2007	Office of Human Resources and Social Development Minister Monte Solberg, M.P. (Medicine Hat)	Canada Student Loans Program review, Millennium Scholarship Foundation
16/5/2007	Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs: Senator Donald Oliver (Nova Scotia) (Chair) Senator Mobina Jaffer (British Columbia) Senator Serge Joyal (Québec) Senator John Bryden (New Brunswick) Senator George Baker (Newfoundland and Labrador) Senator Joan Fraser (Québec) Senator Pierre Claude Nolin (Québec)	Bill C-31, An Act to Amend the Canada Elections Act

Appendix I - Meetings with and Submissions to Government

DATE	MEETING	SUBJECT
18/5/2007	Office of the federal New Democrat Post-Secondary Education Critic Denise Savoie, M.P. (Victoria)	Canada Summer Jobs Program
18/5/2007	Office of the Opposition Human Resources and Social Development Critic Mike Savage, M.P. (Lib., Dartmouth—Cole Harbour)	Canada Summer Jobs Program

Appendix II - Media

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2006/11/14	CBC TV (Winnipeg)	Manitoba tuition fee tax credit announcement
2006/11/20	The Eyeopener*	Reduce Tuition Fees Campaign
2006/12/14	Times & Transcript	New Brunswick Tuition Fee Tax Credit
2006/12/28	Fox News	Tuition Fees in Canada
2006/12/29	Pique New Magazine	Student Loan Default Rates
2007/01/03	Telegraph Journal	New Brunswick and Manitoba Tuition Fee Tax Credits
2007/01/10	The Charlatan*	Summer Career Placement Program Cuts
2007/01/11	The Martlet*	Summer Career Placement Program Cuts
2007/01/12	Canadian University Press (Ottawa)	Appointment of Monte Solberg as Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development
2007/01/12	Ottawa Citizen	Appointment of Resolve Corporation as new Canada Student Loans Program Provider
2007/01/23	Night Views*	International Students' Tuition Fees
2007/02/01	Rabble.ca Podcast	Day of Action to Reduce Tuition Fees
2007/02/05	Canadian University Press (Ottawa)	NDP Post-Secondary Education Act

Appendix II - Media

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2007/02/05	CanWest News Service	NDP Post-Secondary Education Act
2007/02/05	The Charlatan*	Tuition Fees in Canada
2007/02/05	Metro News	Tuition Fees and Student Debt
2007/02/06	CBC Radio (Quebec)	Tuition Fees in Canada
2007/02/06	CanWest	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/06	Global TV (National)	Day of Action
2007/02/06	The Link*	Day of Action
2007/02/06	The Weal*	Day of Action
2007/02/06	CKRW Radio (Yukon)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	AM 680 CFTR	Day of Action
2007/02/07	AM 640 CFMJ	Day of Action
2007/02/07	AM 800 CJAD	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CTV Newsnet	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CTV (Montreal)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CTV (Ottawa)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CBC TV (Montreal)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CBC TV (National)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CBC TV (Nova Scotia)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CBC TV (New Brunswick)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CBC Radio (Montreal)	Day of Action

Appendix II - Media

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2007/02/07	CBC Radio One (National)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	FM 93.1 CKCU*	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Global TV (Montreal)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Global TV (National)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Rogers TV (Ottawa)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Radio Canada Newsworld	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Canadian University Press (Ottawa)	Day of Action
2007/02/07	CJIC Radio	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Canadian Public Access Channel	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Radio Canada	Day of Action
2007/02/07	Globe & Mail (Online)	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/07	La Presse	Day of Action
2007/02/08	Globe & Mail	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	FM 93.1 CKCU*	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/03/08	Le Devoir	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	La Journal de Montréal	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	La Presse	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	Montreal Gazette	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	Ottawa Citizen	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	The Radics*	Day of Action

Appendix II - Media

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2007/02/08	CBC Radio (Cross-Country Check-up)	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/08	The Silhouette*	Day of Action
2007/02/08	Rogers TV (Talk Ottawa)	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/15	Embassy Newspaper	Day of Action & Tuition Fees
2007/02/20	The Ryersonian*	"No Means No" Bluenotes T-Shirts
2007/02/20	The Charlatan*	Tuition fees & Funding in Manitoba
2007/02/24	Globe & Mail	No Means No Campaign
2007/02/25	Toronto Star	No Means No Campaign
2007/02/26	Toronto Sun	No Means No Campaign
2007/03/02	The Link*	No Means No Campaign
2007/03/01	McGill Daily*	No Means No Campaign
2007/03/02	The Manitoban*	Federation Membership
2007/03/05	Canadian Press	Tuition fees at University of Manitoba
2007/03/07	The Pioneer*	Federation Membership
2007/03/08	The Charlatan*	No Means No Campaign
2007/03/08	The Manitoban*	Summer Career Placement Program Funding Restoration
2007/03/09	The Pioneer*	Summer Career Placement Program Funding Restoration
2007/03/10	McGill Daily*	Canadian Blood Services Campaign
2007/03/12	Brock Press*	Student Debt
2007/03/19	Canadian Public Access Channel	2007 Federal Budget

Appendix II - Media

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2007/03/19	CTV National	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/19	Globe & Mail (Online)	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/19	The Link*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/19	Globe and Mail (Online)	Tuition Fees
2007/03/19	Toronto Star	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/20	The Pioneer*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/20	Canadian University Press (Ottawa)	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/20	FM 93.1 CKCU*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/21	The Uniter*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/21	The Varsity*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/22	The Charlatan*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/03/23	The Charlatan*	2007 Federal Budget
2007/04/05	Macleans Magazine	Federation campaigns
2007/04/08	CJAD 800 AM	Whistleblower Protection
2007/04/17	Sun Media	Virginia Tech Shootings
2007/04/18	London Free Press	Virginia Tech Shootings
2007/05/01	Macleans Online	Auditor General Report
2007/05/02	McGill Daily*	Canadian Blood Services Consultation
2007/05/07	Prairie Dog Magazine	Auditor General Report
2007/05/11	CBC Radio (The Current)	Student Loan Debt

*Campus Media

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

National Labour Unions

Canadian Association of University Teachers

Canadian Labour Congress

Canadian Union of Public Employees

National Union of Public and General Employees

Public Service Alliance of Canada

United Food and Commercial Workers

National Community Organisations

Campaign for Public Education

Canadian Health Coalition

Canadian Islamic Congress

Centre for Social Justice

Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada

Council of Canadians

Polaris Institute

National Anti-Poverty Organisation

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Provincial & Local Labour Unions

Algoma District Labour Council
Association of Nova Scotia University Teachers
British Columbia Federation of Labour
Canadian Postal Workers Union Local 1500
Canadian Union of Public Employees - Ontario
Canadian Union of Public Employees - Newfoundland & Labrador
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 82
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 500
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1230 (U Toronto)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1281 (Ontario)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1334 (U Guelph)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2424 (Carleton U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2484 (U Toronto)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2626 (Ottawa U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3261 (U Toronto)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3902 (U Toronto)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3903 (York U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3904 (Ryerson U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3905 (Lakehead U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3909 (U Manitoba)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3908 (Trent U)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3912 (Dalhousie U., Mnt. St. Vincent U., St. Mary's U.)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4400 (Toronto Education Workers)
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4554
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4600 (Carleton U)
Canadian Autoworkers Local 598 - The Sudbury Mine Mill & Smelter Workers Union
Communication, Energy, and Paperworkers Union of Canada Local 105
Faculty Union at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
Fish, Food and Allied Workers (FFAW/CAW)

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Laurentian University Administrative and Professional Staff Association (LUAPSA)

Laurentian University Faculty Association (LUFA)

Laurentian University Staff Union (LUSU)

Manitoba Nurses' Union

Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Public and Private Employees

Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour

Newfoundland and Labrador Nurses Union

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

Nova Scotia Federation of Labour

Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union

Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association

Ontario Federation of Labour

Ontario Public Service Employees Union

Ontario Public Service Employees Union – Local 592

Ontario Public Service Employees Union – Local 596 (Ryerson U)

Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers Federation, Rainbow District 3

Ontario Secondary Students Teachers Federation – District 2

Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation – District 12

Ottawa and District Labour Council

Public Service Alliance of Canada Local 42 - Union of taxation workers

Ryerson Faculty Association

Sudbury District Labour Council

Toronto & York Region Labour Council

Steelworkers 1998 (U Toronto)

United Autoworkers Local 251

UNITE HERE Local 75

United Steelworkers – Local 4120 (U Guelph)

Winnipeg Labour Council

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Community Organisations & Municipalities

British Columbia Coalition of People with Disabilities

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

City of Kamloops

City of Kenora

City of Halifax

City of Victoria

City of Toronto Mayor David Miller

County of Richmond

District of Lunenburg

Halifax Coalition Against Poverty

Municipality of Digby

Municipality of Red Lake

Muslim Youth of North America-MYNA (Toronto Chapter)

Muslim Students' Association National

Neebing Township

Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League

Toronto Youth Cabinet

Town of Amherst

Town of Antigonish

Town of Burin

Town of Gander

Town of Pictou

Town of Port Hawkesbury

Town of Marathon

Town of Yarmouth

Township of Terrace Bay

Township of Conmee

Township of Emo

Township of Neebing

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Township of Nipigon

Women in Resource Development Committee (NL)

Campaign for Public Education

Canadian Islamic Congress

Campus: Administrations, Clubs, Course Unions & Student Groups

Carleton University

Ontario Public Interest Research Group – Carleton

Rideau River Residence Association

Guelph University

College of Social and Applied Human Sciences

Muslim Students Association

Student Senate Caucus

Lakehead University

African and Caribbean Student Association (AFCASA)

Education Student Teachers Association (ESTA)

Lakehead University Native Students Association (LUNSA)

Social Work Students' Association (SWSA)

Laurentian University

Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association - Association des étudiantes et étudiants aux études supérieures de l'Université Laurentienne

Laurentian University-Department of Sociology

Laurentian University Senate

Native Students' Association

University of Sudbury Student Association

Women's Centre

University of Manitoba

University of Manitoba Senate

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

University of Ottawa

Ontario Public Interest Research Group - Ottawa

Student Federation of the University of Ottawa

University of Ottawa Senate

Ryerson University

Ahmadiyya Muslim Student Association @ Ryerson

Albanian Students' Association

Arab Students' Association

Arts and Contemporary Studies Course Union

Catholic Students' Association

Communication and Culture Grad Students' Association

Fashion Student Union

IMPREZZA, Polish Student Society at Ryerson

Indian Students' Association

Iranian Student Association

Nursing Course Union

Nutrition Course Union

Punjabi Association of Ryerson

Residence Council

Retail Management Students' Association

RYE Access

RYE Pride

Ryerson Residence Council

Ryerson University Board of Governors

Ryerson University Academic Council

South Asian Alliance @ Ryerson

Student Association of Geographic Analysis

United Black Students @ Ryerson

Youth With A Mission

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Trent University

Julian Blackburn College Students' Association

University of Toronto

Arts and Science Students' Union

Civil Engineering Club

Erindale Part-Time Undergraduate Students

Innis College Students' Society

LGBT OUT

New College Students' Council Nursing Students' Association

Ontario Public Interest Research Group - Toronto

OISE Graduate Students' Association

Saint Michael's College Students' Union

Undergraduate Pharmacy Students' Association

University College Literary and Athletic Society

University of Toronto Black Students' Association

University of Toronto Muslim Students' Association

University of Toronto Native Students' Association

University of Toronto Philosophy Reading Group

University of Toronto Thaqaalyn Muslim Students' Association

UTM Students' Union

Victoria University Students' Administrative Council

Woodsworth College Students' Association

University of Toronto at Mississauga

Black Students' Association

Christian fellowship

Communications, Culture and Information Technology Students' Association

Erindale College African Students' Association

Muslim Students' Association

Pakistani Students' Association

Political Hip Hop Students' Association

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

South Asian Alliance

Tamil Students' Association

Undergraduate Commerce Society

University of Toronto at Scarborough

Afghan Students' Body

Amnesty International

Anime Club

Chinese Christian Fellowship

Changing, Helping, Inspiring, Learning, Devoting, Educating (CHILDE)

Life Science Student Union

Emergency Medical Response Group (EMRG)

Faith In Action (FIA)

LGBTQ

Management and Economics Students' Association

Model United Nations

Muslim Students' Association

Neuroscience and Psychology Association

Organization for the Promotion of University Spirit (OPUS)

Organized Sound

Pakistani Students' Federation

Social Science Students' Association

Song Scribe

South Asian Alliance

Tamil Students' Association

Words Actions Resistance (WAR)

Young Communist League

York University

Afghan Student Association

Calumet College Council

Appendix III - Day of Action Supporters and Partners

Founders College Council
Glendon College Student Union
McLaughlin College Council
Ontario Public Interest Research Group-York
Somali Student Association
Stong College Student "Government"
Undergraduate Political Science Students' Council
Vanier College Council
York Debating Society
York Undergraduate Music Students' Association
York University Faculty Association
York University Staff Association