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**Assemblée générale annuelle nationale
Annual National General Meeting**

Canadian Federation of Students • Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

MINUTES

November 21, 2007 to November 24, 2007

PROCÈS-VERBAL

du 21 novembre 2007 au 24 novembre 2007



MINUTES

26th Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)
Wednesday, November 21 to Saturday, November 24, 2007

CALL TO ORDER—Wednesday, November 21, 2007

15:08 the meeting was called to order by National Chairperson Amanda Aziz.

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 03	University of British Columbia Students' Union-Okanagan	Present
Local 76	Broadway Campus (King Edward) Students' Union	Present
Local 75	Camosun College Student Society	Present
Local 05	Capilano Students' Union	Present
Local 73	Downtown Campus (City Centre) Students' Union	Present
Local 18	Douglas Students' Union	Present
Local 33	Emily Carr Students' Union	Present
Local 26	Kwantlen Student Association	Present
Local 61	Malaspina Students' Union	Present
Local 13	College of New Caledonia Students' Union	Present
Local 72	North Island Students' Union	Present
	Northern Lights College Students' Association*	Absent
Local 66	Northwest Community College Students' Union	Present
Local 53	Okanagan College Students' Union	Present
Local 86	College of the Rockies Students' Union	Absent
Local 04	Selkirk College Students' Union	Present
Local 23	Simon Fraser Student Society	Present
Local 15	Thompson Rivers University Students' Union	Present
Local 89	University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society	Present
Local 44	University of Victoria Students' Society	Present
Local 42	Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association	Absent
Local 21	University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 90	First Nations University of Canada Students' Association	Present
Local 09	University of Regina Students' Union	Present
Local 101	University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 17	University of Saskatchewan Students' Union	Present
Local 37	Brandon University Students' Union	Present
Local 96	University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 103	University of Manitoba Students' Union	Present
Local 38	Association des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface	Present
Local 08	University of Winnipeg Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 28	Atkinson Students' Association	Absent
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 01	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
	Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale*	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Absent
Local 93	Glendon College Students' Union	Present
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Absent
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Present
Local 104	Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-time Students	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local 39	McMaster University Graduate Students' Association	Absent

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Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Students' Union	Absent
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association des étudiant(e)s diplômé(e)s de l'Université d'Ottawa	Present
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Absent
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Present
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Absent
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union	Absent
Local 97	University of Toronto Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
	Trent Graduate Students' Association*	Absent
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Absent
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part Time University Students (University of Windsor)	Present
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Absent
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 91	Concordia Student Union	Present
Local 83	Concordia Graduate Students' Association	Present by proxy
	Dawson Student Union*	Present
Local 79	Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill University	Present
	Students' Society of McGill University*	Present
Local 67	University of New Brunswick Graduate Students Association	Present
Local 63	Holland College Student Union	Absent
Local 70	University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association	Present
Local 31	University of Prince Edward Island Student Union	Absent
Local 64	Acadia Students' Union	Absent
Local 95	Cape Breton University Students' Union	Present
	Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students*	Absent
Local 11	University of King's College Students' Union	Present
Local 34	Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union	Present
Local 07	Student Union of NSCAD University	Present
Local 69	Association générale des étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne	Present
Local 36	Grenfell College Student Union	Present
Local 45	Marine Institute Students' Union	Present
Local 100	Graduate Students' Union of the Memorial University of Newfoundland	Present
Local 35	Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union	Present
Local 46	College of the North Atlantic Students' Union	Present

* Prospective member

National Chairperson Amanda Aziz declared that quorum had been achieved.

2. WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

National Chairperson Aziz offered the following remarks:

"I'd like to welcome you to the 26th annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students. For those of you who told your friends that you were going to a national conference for a week, allow me to correct you. Conferences are places where you go to sit back, receive information, and let others do the work for you. This is NO conference. This is where we set the direction for Canada's student movement, and is the highest-

decision making body of our Federation. This is where we make decisions about the services that serve our members, and we define the principles and values of our organisation.

We have a lot of responsibility resting on our shoulders. This is where we chart a course for our fight for student rights.

To those of you who are at your first national general meeting, I'm especially glad to be welcoming you. You have very valuable experiences and perspectives to contribute, and you are going to meet many strong, talented, and inspiring people, who are working on other campuses, just like you, to build campus community and to make a meaningful contribution. And there is not one among us who could accomplish our objectives by working all alone.

[In French in the original]

It is by rallying our efforts and uniting our voices that we can create the type of political pressure that decision-makers will have to deal with. I hope that this national general meeting will allow you to form links, and establish connections that will spur on our movement.

[End French]

As we start these next four days of meeting, debate, and information sharing, we need to acknowledge the significant events and activities that have taken place since the last time we came together in May of this year. There has certainly been no shortage of activity in these last six months. We have continued to ride the high of a major, nation-wide student day of action held last February, that captured the attention of Parliament and the media, and galvanised public opinion and as you'll hear tomorrow, we've got the polling numbers to prove it.

Some of you might remember a very powerful and moving closing plenary at the last meeting, when we came together in solidarity to organise for the First Nations Day of Action. On June 29th, thousands of students and other supporters joined in solidarity with thousands of First Nations People, to demand justice and immediate action to improve the lives of First Nations people from coast to coast.

Just a few weeks ago, the Federation was heard before a federal court, defending academic freedom and student rights in the case of Chris Radziminski. As a former graduate student at the University of Toronto, Chris was surprised to see his graduate research published without his permission, and the conclusions changed to support his industry sponsor. When the University and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council failed in their responsibility to uphold academic integrity and Chris' rights, Federation members were quick to dedicate resources and support in the fight to protect whistleblowers like Chris.

We hit the ground running this fall with the launch of our petition drive calling on the Harper government to create a national system of need-based grants. After nine years of self-promotion, the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation has been a failed experiment. Only a portion of its endowment ever made it to the pockets of the students for whom it was promised. The rest has been siphoned off into an unaccountable bureaucracy that has devoted its energies to convincing federal and provincial governments that tuition fees are not important barriers to post-secondary education. Now, as the 10-year mandate of the Foundation winds to a close, we have an important opportunity to convince the federal government to reinvest this money into a functioning system of need-based grants, one that doesn't discriminate against part-time students, and that actually helps the students who need it most.

We have a chance to end Canada's bizarre distinction of being one of only of two countries in the developed world that still does not have a comprehensive national grants program. Our petitions have been circulating on member campuses across the country, and I am happy to report that there are encouraging stories coming in from members eager to report on their petition drives. The Federation's newest members at l'Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale have already collected nearly 1,400 signatures. That is over 40% of their total membership and it sets a high standard for other member locals to match before mid-January, when Members of Parliament will be presented with the thousands of signed petitions. Please join me today in welcoming l'Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale—our newest full member—and local 107 of the Canadian Federation of Students.

In these past six months, we have also been charting new territory and forming new partnerships in our campaign to stop climate change and promote environmental sustainability. Over the summer, new materials were developed to support the launch of a campaign aimed at adding our voices and our resources to Canada's environmental movement and putting forward an unwavering call for not just the immediate implementation of Kyoto, but for stronger commitments to reduce emissions, reduce waste, and to stop global warming. We are talking to our members about how to make individual changes in our own lives, on our

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campuses, and in our broader communities to reduce our collective environmental footprint. That's why, this year, we have partnered with the Sierra Youth Coalition and the David Suzuki Foundation to launch a national tour in support of environmental sustainability and immediate government action, and we won't stop until our values are reflected in government policy. Our environmental campaign is an important reminder that the waste in our economy has tangible global consequences.

What is somewhat less visible is the degree to which student struggles in Canada are related to student struggles elsewhere in the world. Many students in the world are living the reality that student rights are human rights. Our founding principle in the student movement is that education is a right – that education isn't just a key to equality of opportunity, but it is also about democracy. Our movement is about fighting for social justice. The bread and butter issues that concern our members in a daily way – the rising cost of our education, mounting student debt, affordable public transit, and challenging discrimination – represent our core values and are corner-stone issues for building a just society.

By mobilising our members on these issues, we are making the connections between affordable public education and the dangers of privatisation and the erosion of social programmes. By organising powerful campaigns like last year's day of action, students are inspired about our capacity to make a difference.

There are many victories that we have secured as students in so many places across the country – where tuition fees this year have been frozen or even reduced. But we must also guard against taking our victories for granted. In Québec, where tuition fees were frozen for 28 of the last 33 years, the government succumbed to pressure this year from a handful of elitist university presidents, and cancelled the tuition fee freeze. In response, Québec students started protests and plan a province-wide day of action tomorrow. Two years ago, Québec students organised, demonstrated, and went on strike for two months to stop dramatic cuts to the provincial grants programme. They have won before and I believe they can win again. And that is why students from across the country firmly support Québec students in recognition that their fight is our fight.

But it isn't enough for our members to be active on our campuses and in the streets, we must also raise our voices at the polls. Since the last time we met, our members in three provinces – Newfoundland, Ontario, and Saskatchewan – have organised high profile campaigns to inject student issues into provincial elections and increase student and youth voter turnout. We are going to need that experience, because Harper's minority federal government could fall at any time and we might soon find ourselves in full election mode all over again.

Tomorrow we will hear some of their successes and challenges in a panel about their election organising. It is in anticipation of a federal election that we have kicked our lobby campaign into high gear. Just four weeks ago, student representatives from across the country met with over 150 Members of Parliament and Senators on Parliament Hill to call for: dedicated federal funding for post-secondary education; the replacement of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation with a national system of need-based grants; and a federal strategy to reduce tuition fees. Rest assured, our message was heard across party lines.

Just weeks before, the Federation launched a substantial research report and policy paper, *Strategy for Change*, to demonstrate that when it comes to access to post-secondary education, 'money DOES matter'. Each MP and Senator was presented with our comprehensive and fully costed proposal to completely overhaul Canada's system of student financial assistance to reduce student debt. In our meetings with government, we were professional and we were principled. Many Members of Parliament remarked on the strength of our arguments and made commitments in support of our issues. Throughout the week, statements of support were read in the House of Commons and in the Senate, while pointed questions were asked to this government about what they were doing to help students. And with the federal government posting a 14 billion dollar surplus this September, those questions were timely and necessary.

With the increase in funding earmarked for post-secondary education in the 2007 federal budget, it's more important than ever that we continue to hold the federal and provincial governments accountable to ensure that this money benefits students. But back to that surplus, instead of using some of the surplus to reinvest in post-secondary education, Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty announced another round of aggressive tax cuts. The cuts alone were close to 14 billion dollars in personal income tax cuts, corporate tax cuts and a further reduction in the GST. On October 16, the Harper government delivered its second throne speech and paid only lip service to post-secondary education, while making no concrete commitments to improve access or to reduce student debt. With the Federation's recent public opinion polling demonstrating that 82% of the voting public supports our call for tuition fee freezes or reductions, Harper's neglect of affordable college and university education will, no doubt, be part of the record for which we will hold him accountable in the next Federal election.

If we do find ourselves in election mode this year, we cannot afford to lose this opportunity for students to make our voices heard, and to elect a government that we believe will not only defend affordable public, post-secondary education, but who have the vision to build a better system.

This also means that we have a lot of work to do in trying to shape election platform policy of each party in the next few months. That is why we are happy to have with us today the Honourable Stéphane Dion, Leader of the Liberal Party and Canada's Official Opposition, to talk about what his party will commit to public post-secondary education.

It has been a number of years since Federation members have welcomed a Party Leader to a national meeting. This is a perfect opportunity for us to hear first hand from one of the major parties before the next federal election. There is no doubt that when this election is called, students are going to be united in our demand for affordable education. And this meeting is one of the places where that unity will be forged.

[In French in the original]

Together, we represent over five hundred thousand students, Canadians and international students, from colleges and universities in undergraduate and graduate studies, full-time or part-time, in institutions of all sizes, in every province. Fighting together against inequality and discrimination, against financial barriers, racism, sexism, homophobia and any other form of prejudice that could divide us.

[End French]

Because we are united on the principle that we are always stronger when we work together, that doesn't mean that we will always agree. Or that there won't be passionate debate. But building a fighting student movement means that we work out our differences and leave these meetings united in our commitment to each other, to student rights and to affordable education. Because there are many out there who would benefit from our division and failure: those who believe that education is an individual investment and not a social and economic priority; those who want to privatise our social programmes; those who think that education should be traded as a commodity; and those who think that education and opportunity should be privileges for those who can afford it.

At the most basic level, the Federation is nothing more or nothing less than students' unions working together in a democratic and cooperative fashion. And when you hear about a students' union wanting to leave the Federation, what they are really saying is that they don't want to work together with you within our democratic and cooperative framework. Make no mistake about it. They are not leaving the "Canadian Federation of Students", they are severing ties with the students' unions that are represented in this room today-in Newfoundland, Ontario, Saskatchewan.

As we have learned from history, when students are divided, it is only our opponents who win. It is no surprise that in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, where every single college and university student works together as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students, we have been able to secure tuition fee freezes and reductions, enhanced need-based grants for students, and debt remission for graduates. We should be looking to Newfoundland and Labrador as a model of strength and unity.

That is why we should also remind ourselves of the importance of our involvement in the International Union of Students and the struggles of our sister organisations like the "Student Unity of Bangladesh", that was recently banned by the government for an uncertain period of time because of their progressive organising, or the Nigerian Students' Union that has faced the arrest of student leaders who are outspoken against privatisation, or the National Union of Students In Australia that has had its funding stripped by a regressive government.

We will continue to share strategies and experiences so that, as students, we can learn from our victories and from our setbacks. And to be sure, we know that the more successful our student movements become, the louder our opposition gets. But that cannot and must not stop us. It is also in the spirit of solidarity, that I am happy to say that we will be joined again at this meeting by representatives from la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, and la Fédération des associations étudiantes du campus de l'Université de Montréal.

In solidarity, I wish us all a productive and inspiring meeting, and I look forward to working with you in the months ahead. Merci. Je vous souhaite une excellente réunion!"

The Honourable Stéphane Dion, Leader of the Official Opposition, provided greetings.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

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Aziz explained that the Federation's Bylaws enabled a voting member that was unable to attend all or portions of a general meeting to appoint another member to act as its proxy for all or portions of the meeting. She announced that:

- Local 83 had designated Local 91 as its proxy for the opening plenary.
- Local 20 had designated Local 88 as its proxy for the closing plenary.

3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

Aziz explained that Sylvia Sioufi was unable to chair the opening plenary session; however, Sioufi would be available for the closing plenary session. She said that Sioufi had a long history of involvement with the Federation, having served as an elected director and as a researcher for the Federation in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She noted that Sioufi had chaired Federation national general meetings on several previous occasions. She said that the National Executive was recommending that Anne McGrath be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the opening plenary. She said that McGrath had a long history of involvement with the Federation, having served as an elected director for one of the Federation's predecessor organisation. She noted that McGrath had chaired Federation national general meetings on several previous occasions and had also chaired several Canadian University Press meetings.

2007/11:001 MOTION
Local 01/Local 08

Be it resolved that Anne McGrath be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the opening plenary of the November 2007 national general meeting.

CARRIED

2007/11:002 MOTION
Local 71/Local 27

Be it resolved that Sylvia Sioufi be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the closing plenary of the November 2007 national general meeting.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA

2007/11:003 MOTION
Local 61/Local 78

Be it resolved that the agenda for the opening and closing plenaries be adopted.

2007/11:004 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 23

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:003 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that the agenda for the general meeting be adopted with the following amendment under Motions Served with Due Notice:

Be it resolved that Local 23's motion to withdraw from the Federation be ratified."

The Plenary Speaker ruled the proposed amendment out of order.

2007/11:005 MOTION TO SUSTAIN RULING OF THE CHAIR
Local 23/Local 26

Be it resolved that the ruling of the chair be sustained.

CARRIED

2007/11:004 OUT OF ORDER

2007/11:006 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 26/

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:003 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that the agenda for the general meeting be adopted with the following amendment under Motions Served with Due Notice:

"Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:N20 be replaced with the following motion:

"Be it resolved that the National Executive be censured;

Be it further resolved that former at-large elected officers George Soule, Angela Regnier, and Dave Hare be censured;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive be directed to include, in every National Executive Report until the CFS-Services loans are repaid and the appointment of a Receiver-Manager of the Douglas Students' Union is ended, clear and detailed information surrounding the Federation's actions with respect to the Douglas Students' Union;

Be it further resolved that Bylaw X – Finances be amended by adding a new section 5, to read as follows:

5. Extraordinary Transactions

- a. For the purposes of this section, "extraordinary transaction" means any financial transaction that arises outside of the usual and predictable operations of the Federation, and includes:
 - i. any transaction that is unbudgeted; and,
 - ii. any gift or loan to a provincial component or student association over \$1,000.
- b. Any extraordinary transaction shall require the approval of the National Executive. This approval may not be delegated.
- c. The details of any extraordinary transaction shall be reported to the members in the National Executive Report required under Bylaw V, section 2 (f).
- d. The financial statements of the Federation shall include a note on every gift or loan over \$1,000 made by the Federation to any provincial component or student association.;

Be it further resolved that for the purposes of this resolution, "loan" includes an advance on health and dental plan premiums."

The Plenary Speaker ruled the proposed amendment out of order.

2007/11:007 MOTION TO SUSTAIN RULING OF THE CHAIR
Local 26/Students' Society of McGill

Be it resolved that the ruling of the chair be sustained.

CARRIED

2007/11:006 OUT OF ORDER

2007/11:008 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 05/Local 20

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:003 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that the agenda for the general meeting be adopted with the inclusion of the following motion under Other Business:

"Whereas Alison Bodine, a US citizen, is a Co-chair, spokesperson and central organizer with Vancouver antiwar coalition Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO), was for three years the president of the University of British Columbia's Coalition Against War on the People of Iraq and Internationally (CAWOPI), was a long-time executive committee member of the UBC Social Justice Center, a prominent activist in solidarity with Cuba and a participant in the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba, and is a supporter of immigrant and refugee rights in Canada and the US;

Whereas near midnight on Thursday September 13, 2007 Alison Bodine was unjustly arrested by the Canada Border Services Agency and detained by the RCMP when she went voluntarily to the US- Canada border to return to the US and retrieve political materials that were previously seized;

Whereas on Oct. 31st, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada upheld the CBSA charge of misrepresentation against Alison Bodine, and she was banned from Canada for two years, as of Nov.17 2007;

Whereas Alison's arrest, the charges against her and removal from Canada is an attack on the democratic and human rights of all individuals to organize and express their political views peacefully, an attack on the right to free speech, and an attack on immigrants, refugees, people without status, and non-residents of Canada; therefore

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Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) demand that Honourable Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley lift the two-year ban that has been ordered against Alison Bodine by the October 31 Immigration and Refugee Board decision and restore her right to freely travel between the United States of America and Canada.”

CARRIED

2007/11:003 **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

6. ADOPTION OF NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

2007/11:009 **MOTION**

Local 105/Local 71

Be it resolved that the agenda for the general meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

7. ADOPTION OF NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2007/11:010 **MOTION**

Local 7/Local 3

Be it resolved that the minutes of the May 2007 national general meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

It was noted that the Local 19 delegates listed in the attendance appendix were incorrect. The delegates who had attended the meeting were: Rose Da Costa, Joseph Mulongo and Alyson Stone.

8. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

The Plenary Speaker provided a brief overview of Robert's Rules, the system of meeting rules and procedures that the Federation employs for plenary sessions, plenary sub-committee meetings, and caucus meetings.

b. Overview of Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting

Aziz said that the Federation endeavoured to create an environment at its national general meetings free of harassment. She said that at each national general meeting, the Federation employed an anti-harassment advisor who would be available on a 24-hour basis to assist delegates.

Women's Representative Shelley Melanson said that the Federation had an anti-harassment policy to deal with any demeaning, abusive or threatening behaviour that might arise at the meeting. She said that the anti-harassment policy was a preventative measure. She encouraged delegates to familiarise themselves with the policy and to be sensitive of how their actions could affect other delegates.

c. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer

National Treasurer Ben Lewis explained that he served as the Staff Relations Officer for the Federation. He said that the staff of the Federation is unionised with the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1281 and that the relationship between the Federation and its staff was governed by a collective agreement. He said that the agreement outlined the rights and responsibilities of employees and the employer. He noted that the employees of the Federation had the right to attend and participate in all meetings of the employer with the exception of those meetings that included discussions of discipline, discharge and negotiations. He said that the employees often had more experience and provided context for a number of the issues that delegates would be discussing over the course of the meeting. He said that encouraging staff participation was very important to the health of the organisation.

9. RATIFICATION OF NEW MEMBERS

a. Ratification of Full Membership Vote

2007/11:011 MOTION

Local 94/Local 3

Be it resolved that the members of the Association étudiante de La Cité Collegiale be ratified as full members of the Federation.

CARRIED

b. Consideration of Extension of Prospective Membership Application

2007/11:012 MOTION

Local 8/Local 53

Be it resolved that the prospective membership of the Northern Lights College Students' Association be cancelled.

CARRIED

2007/11:013 MOTION

Local 1/Local 69

Be it resolved that the prospective membership of the Students' Society of McGill University be extended.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

2007/11:014 MOTION TO EXTEND SPEAKERS' LIST

Local 94/Local 78

Be it resolved that the speakers' list be extended by three people.

CARRIED

Additional speakers addressed the motion.

2007/11:015 MOTION TO EXTEND SPEAKERS' LIST

Local 19/Local 8

Be it resolved that the speakers' list be extended by one person.

CARRIED

An additional speaker addressed the motion.

2007/11:016 MOTION TO EXTEND SPEAKERS' LIST

Local 24/Local 32

Be it resolved that the speakers' list be extended by one person.

CARRIED

An additional speaker addressed the motion.

2007/11:013 DEFEATED

10. PREPARATION FOR ELECTIONS

a. Introduction of Electoral Officers

The Plenary Speaker said that, in accordance with Bylaw 6, Section 7, the National Executive had appointed Ashkon Hashemi, Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario Internal Coordinator, and Christine Bourque, Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario Organiser, as the Electoral Officers for the elections being conducted at the meeting.

b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures

Hashemi explained that elections for the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer would be conducted at the general meeting. He noted that the elections were for the 2008 term commencing at the adjournment of the May 2008 national general meeting. He said that an election would also be conducted for a Travel CUTS Board position. He said that it was a two-year term

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commencing in summer 2008. He noted that a by-election for New Brunswick Representative on the National Executive would also be conducted at the meeting in the New Brunswick component meeting.

Hashemi said that delegates should refer to Bylaws V, VI and Standing Resolution 17 and 18 for information about the election procedures and the positions.

11. ADOPTION OF STANDING PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDAS

a. Striking of Plenary Sub-Committees

The Plenary Speaker said that, as per Standing Resolution 1, Section 1, the following sub-committees of the plenary and forum would be struck automatically:

- Budget Committee;
- Campaigns and Government Relations Forum;
- Policy Review and Development Committee; and
- Organisational and Services Development Committee.

b. Adoption of Sub-Committee Agendas

2007/11:017 MOTION

Local 91/Local 94

Be it resolved that the plenary sub-committee and forum agendas be adopted.

CARRIED

12. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

a. Motions Referred to the National Executive by the Previous General Meeting

2007/05:019 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 105/Local 78

Whereas Bylaw III, Policy of the Federation, establishes the process by which policy of the Federation is created; and

Whereas Bylaw III, Article 1 used to establish a time period at which point policies of the Federation would expire; and

Whereas many policies of the Federation are outdated and require review and either updating or repealing;

Be it resolved that Bylaw III, Article 1 be amended to include:

- e. All policies of the Federation will expire at the close of the final plenary of the general meeting closest to five years after which they were adopted, unless otherwise renewed.

2007/11:018 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 8/Local 78

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/05:019 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that Bylaw III, Policy of the Federation, Section 1 be amended to include:

- e. Policy older than five years will be considered repealed if it is served with notice and receives less than two-thirds support at a general meeting."

2007/11:019 MOTION TO REFER

Local 93/Local 78

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/05:019 and Motion-2007/11:018 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:018 REFERRED

2007/05:019 REFERRED

b. New Motions Served with Notice

The Plenary Speaker said that the following motions had been served with notice for consideration at the meeting. She explained that most of the motions would require a seconder.

2007/11:020 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY
Local 8/Local 78

Whereas, at the May, 2007 national general meeting, the National Executive was directed to examine the Federation's general meeting child care policy and report back at the November, 2007 national general meeting; and

Whereas the provision of on-site childcare was determined by the National Executive to be infeasible; therefore

Be it resolved that section 1 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

1. The Federation, upon receipt of a statement of expenses from a delegate to a national general meeting or a member of the National Executive attending a national executive or general meeting, shall reimburse the member (parent or guardian of the child) or the member local association up to a maximum of \$80.00 per day for 8-10 hour childcare services, and \$120.00 per day for 24 hour childcare services;

Be it further resolved that Section 3 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

3. A member of a member local association shall only be reimbursed for the days of the meeting, and the days traveling to and from the meeting where extra days for travel are required;

Be it further resolved that Section 4 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

4. The Federation shall not be responsible for supplying or arranging on-site child care for members attending meetings;

2007/11:021 MOTION TO REFER
Local 78/Local 91

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:020 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:020 REFERRED

2007/11:022 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTIONS
Local 8/Local 78

Whereas the input of caucuses, constituency groups and provincial components is essential to ensure that decision made at general meetings are representative of the Federation; and

Whereas it should be the role of the representative(s) selected by caucuses, constituency group and provincial components to sit on each standing general meeting committee to represent their respective caucus, constituency group or provincial component to their designated committee; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 1, section 2 be amended to read as follows:

2. Committee Composition

Each caucus, constituency group and provincial component shall have the right to select one voting member to sit on each standing general meeting committee to represent the caucus, constituency group or provincial component's members.

2007/11:023 MOTION TO REFER
Local 105/Local 71

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:022 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:022 REFERRED

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2007/11:024 MOTION

Local 8/Local 78

Be it resolved that a comprehensive research paper be prepared outlining the deficiencies in the student financial assistance system nationally and articulating the Federation's vision for student financial assistance.

2007/11:025 MOTION TO REFER

Local 98/Local 01

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:024 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:024 REFERRED

2007/11:026 MOTION

Local 84/Local 8

Whereas youth voter turnout is generally lower than that of the rest of the population;

Whereas in the 2007 Ontario Election Elections Ontario ensured there were enumeration tables and polling locations at every college and university campus in Ontario with residences;

Whereas Elections Ontario produced materials clearly communicating to students their right to declare their school address as their ordinary residence;

Whereas Elections Ontario recognised institutional student identity cards as proof of identification;

Whereas Elections Ontario recognised government-issued student loan documents and institutional communication as proof of residence;

Whereas Elections Ontario hired "Youth Outreach Officers" for every riding with a college or university campus and adopted an on-campus youth outreach strategy;

Whereas this represents a commitment to encouraging youth voter-turnout in provincial elections; and

Whereas in the 2007 Ontario Election voter turnout in ridings with university and college campuses was generally higher than the provincial average; therefore

Be it resolved that, in anticipation of the next Federal election, Elections Canada be lobbied to ensure that:

- enumeration tables are setup at every college and university campus in Canada
- polling locations are setup at every college and university campus in Canada where residences are present
- one day of advanced polling take place with polling locations setup at every college and university campus in Canada where residences are present
- materials are produced clearly communicating to students their right to declare their school address as their ordinary residence
- institutional student identity cards with a signature are recognised as proof of identification
- government-issued student loan documents and institutional communication are recognised as proof of address
- "Youth Outreach Officers" are hired for every riding with a college or university campus and adopt an on-campus youth outreach strategy in conjunction with the local students' union

Be it further resolved that member local representatives be encouraged to write to The Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, Marc Mayrand, showing their support for such initiatives.

2007/11:027 MOTION TO REFER

Local 33/Local 15

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:026 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:026 REFERRED

2007/11:028 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 84/Local

Whereas the Federation's current policy outlines the preferred date for elections;

Whereas Ontario, Newfoundland and Labrador and British Columbia all have fixed dates for provincial elections; and

Whereas having fixed dates for elections allows for better planning and preparation in terms of campaign organizing; therefore

Be it resolved that the following policy amendment be adopted:

The Federation supports fixed election dates for municipal, provincial and federal elections.

The Federation opposes the calling of municipal, provincial and federal elections when the majority of students are not attending classes.

2007/11:029 MOTION TO REFER

Local 94/Local 73

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:028 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:028 REFERRED

2007/11:030 MOTION

Local 105/Local 8

Whereas since taking office, the Harper government has clearly stated its position for a reduced role of the federal government in provincial matters;

Whereas the throne speech identified the introduction of "legislation to place formal limits on the use of federal spending power for new shared-cost programs in areas of exclusive provincial jurisdiction" as a priority of the current government;

Whereas post-secondary education is defined by the Canadian Constitution as an area of provincial jurisdiction;

Whereas previous federal governments have made clear that post-secondary education is an area of sole provincial jurisdiction;

Whereas the federal government has always played and should continue to play an important role in providing funding for post-secondary education through provincial transfer payments; and

Whereas the federal government has always played and should continue to play an important role in providing financial assistance for post-secondary students; and

Whereas the federation has long believed that the provision of high-quality, affordable post-secondary education is the responsibility of all levels of government; therefore

Be it resolved that the federal government be lobbied on the importance of a federal role in providing high-quality and affordable post-secondary education in Canada;

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to emphasize the need for a federal role in post-secondary education to Members of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby local Members of Parliament to support Bill C-398, the Post-Secondary Education Act.

2007/11:031 MOTION TO REFER

Local 98 /Local 7

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:030 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:030 REFERRED

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2007/11:032 MOTION

Local 105/Local 8

Whereas the 2007 federal budget increased funding to the Canada Social Transfer; and

Whereas \$800 million was announced as "earmarked" for post-secondary education; and

Whereas there is no guarantee that the money "earmarked" in the budget may actually be spent by provincial governments on post-secondary education; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby provincial governments to commit to spending the increased funding announced in the 2007 federal budget on post-secondary education, and more specifically on reducing tuition fees and increasing access to and the quality of post-secondary institutions; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Council of Ministers of Education Canada and the Council of the Federation urging provincial governments to spend the increased funding on post-secondary education.

2007/11:033 MOTION TO REFER

Local 8/Local 33

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:032 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:032 REFERRED

2007/11:034 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 105/Local 8

Whereas the Federation's policy on funding for post-secondary education has not been amended since the creation of the Canada Social Transfer and thus is out of date; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation's "Funding Education" policy be amended as follows:

Federal Transfer Payments

Preamble

The federal government's involvement in funding post-secondary education through transfer payments began with the Established Programs Financing (EPF) Act of 1977. The Act brought into existence a new federal contribution to the provinces that consisted of deferred tax points and cash payments, and allocated 29% of the EPF transfer for post-secondary education. However, no guarantee existed to ensure that the post-secondary education funds were allocated to universities and colleges, rather than to other provincial government priorities.

On April 1, 1996, the federal government combined virtually all of its transfers to the provinces into the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST), including federal transfer payments for post-secondary education, health, and social assistance services. Not only was the combined transfer accompanied by deep funding cuts of over \$7 billion, the very nature of federal responsibility for higher education shifted. The impact on access to post-secondary education was swift and severe, as provinces passed on the funding cuts to students and their families in the form of higher tuition fees and higher student debt. Like the EPF, the CHST lacked any accountability and assurance that funding designated for post-secondary education would make it to students and institutions.

At the behest of the provinces, the federal government split the CHST into two separate transfers in 2004, one for health funding and one for everything else (Canada Social Transfer). The primary motivation was to put a focus on federal-provincial negotiations for increased health care spending and mutual accountability. The Canada Social Transfer (CST) was treated as a side-effect of the split and was largely ignored during the first few years of its existence. Funding for the CST barely increased by inflation between 2004 and 2007. In 2007, the federal government increased spending for post-secondary education through the CST, but failed to create any conditions for the new spending. Without accountability for federal spending, there can be no guarantee that money earmarked for higher education is actually spent that way once it reaches the provinces.

Policy

The Federation supports the creation of a dedicated transfer payment for post-secondary education that is separate from the Canada Social Transfer, and provides stable federal funding to the provinces for higher education. The post-secondary education transfer should be guided by national principles and a national post-secondary education Act. The cash value of the dedicated post-secondary transfer should be set at a minimum 0.5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and increase with inflation.

To ensure regional equity, the Federation supports the allocation of cash transfers to provinces on a per students basis for those attending public post-secondary institutions and equalization according to provincial GDP per capita.

2007/11:035 MOTION TO REFER
Local 94/Local 106

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:034 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:034 REFERRED

2007/11:036 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY
Local 76/Local 8

Be it resolved that the Federation's "Public Transportation" policy be amended as follows:

Preamble

Public transit is a crucial issue for post-secondary students and essential to both the quality of life and environmental health of communities.

When transportation costs were downloaded to municipal governments, transit systems were increasingly forced to rely on user fees for funding due to a lack of adequate government funding for public transportation. Like all user fees, fares for public transit adversely and disproportionately affect students and lower-income Canadians. In addition, vehicular transportation is among the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

The Canadian Urban Transit Association's 2006 national survey of Canadian transit systems reported a \$21 billion need for public transit capital infrastructure investment for the period 2006-2010. In March of 2007, the mayors of Canada's largest cities announced that \$2 billion a year was needed to upgrade and expand their transit systems as part of a national transit strategy.

Canada is the only "G8" country without a long-term federal transit-investment policy. In its Second Interim Report on the 2007-2008 Estimates released in June 2007, the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance recommended that a national urban strategy be created that included "permanent, long-term funding dedicated to urban transit." This recommendation is consistent with proposals from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- the establishment of accessible and affordable municipal and inter-municipal public transportation for all post-secondary students regardless of age and status;
- long-term sustainable federal funding for repairing existing services and expanding transit networks; and
- the creation of a national urban transit strategy by the federal government, in conjunction with provincial governments and municipalities, that includes permanent, long-term funding dedicated to urban transit.

The Federation opposes:

- government cutbacks to funding for public transportation;
- the lease or sale of public transportation systems to private operators; and
- the establishment of private, for-profit municipal and inter-municipal mass-transit services in communities where public transit systems do not exist.

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2007/11:037 MOTION TO REFER

Local 45/Local 69

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:036 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:036 REFERRED

2007/11:038 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 91/Local 8

Whereas climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing young people today;

Whereas the Federation has no policy related to climate change;

Whereas the Kyoto Protocol is an important tool in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas the current government has abandoned its responsibilities to reach the targets outlined in Kyoto; therefore

Be it resolved that the following policy be adopted:

Preamble

Climate change is considered by many scientists and organizations to be the most serious environmental threat facing the world today. In recent years, the true impact of human activity on climate change has become obvious. Accordingly, environmental sustainability has become a top priority for Canadians, and in particular, Canadian youth.

On February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol officially entered into force. The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement that sets targets for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. Canada signed onto the Protocol, but successive federal governments have not put in place plans to meet its targets. As of 2004, Canada's emissions were 27 per cent above the 1990 level, contrary to the Kyoto target of 6 per cent below the 1990 level for 2008-2012.

Policy

The Federation supports the Kyoto Protocol and other initiatives aimed of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and minimizing the environmental impact of human activity.

The Federation supports the regulation of industry in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Federation supports the creation of new technologies, employment and infrastructure that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and that have minimal impacts on the ecosystem.

The Federation supports the use of public policy to spur innovation, investment, technological progress, and behavioural change in support of environmental sustainability.

2007/11:039 MOTION TO REFER

Local 93/Local 32

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:038 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:038 REFERRED

2007/11:040 MOTION

Local 91/Local 8

Whereas twice a year, delegates from across the country gather at the Federation's national meetings;

Whereas many delegates must use air transport as their method of transportation to these meetings;

Whereas compared to other modes of transport, such a driving or taking the train, traveling by air has a greater climate impact per passenger kilometre and produces the most amount of emissions;

Whereas more and more companies and organizations, such as the Olympics, are going carbon neutral;

Whereas carbon offsets are achieved by purchasing credits from projects such as wind farms, solar installations or energy efficient projects;

Whereas carbon offsets can be used to neutralize emissions from air travel;

Whereas the purchase of carbon offsets can be applied to emissions created by transportation to national general meetings; and

Whereas the purchasing of carbon offsets reduces delegates' impact upon the climate when traveling to Federation meetings; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation purchase carbon offsets in order to neutralize the emissions caused by travel to and from national general meetings; and

Be it further resolved that Federation national general meetings move to a carbon neutral model.

2007/11:041 MOTION TO REFER
Local 75/Local 104

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:040 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:040 REFERRED

2007/11:042 MOTION
Local 24/Local 8

Whereas student union solidarity was critical in the dismantling of the South African apartheid system; and

Whereas there is a growing international movement declaring Israel an Apartheid State; and

Whereas Palestinian students are unable to access post-secondary education as a result of the Israeli military occupation and Israel's apartheid policies; and

Whereas current Federation policies encourage members to boycott the goods and services of corporations, institutions, government, political jurisdictions and individuals which have discriminatory practices or are engaged in human rights abuses or injustices; and

Whereas on July 9th 2005, the Palestinian Civil Society called for boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel until it complies with international law and universal principles of human rights; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation create a task force to research the feasibility of a boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign;

Be it further resolved that locals be encouraged to file FIPPA requests at their respective institutions to determine ties to Israeli institutions and organizations; and

Be it further resolved that the committee that will research the feasibility of a boycott of Israel report back with recommendations to the May 2008 National meeting.

Local 37 objected to the consideration of Motion-2007/11:042.

The plenary voted not to consider Motion-2007/11:042.

2007/11:042 NOT CONSIDERED

2007/11:043 MOTION
Local 68/Local 8

Whereas the Federation has typically run a Vote Education campaign during federal elections; and

Whereas the Federation's election campaign includes an analysis of Party platforms; and

Whereas there could be a federal election within the next six months; and

Whereas political parties are still working on platform policy to be included in an upcoming federal election; and

Whereas the Liberal Party proposed a generous grants program in their election platform in 2006 but neglected to mention increased funding; and

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Whereas the Conservative Party made no commitments to increasing student financial aid for students; and

Whereas the New Democratic Party committed to creating a Post-Secondary Education Act if elected; and

Whereas it is important for the Federation to put forward suggestions for party platform policy rather than simply respond to them; therefore

Be it resolved a letter be sent to parties represented in the House of Commons summarizing the electoral promises that comprised party platforms on post-secondary education from the last federal election, and recommendations for parties to include in their platforms in an upcoming election; and

Be it further resolved that federal parties be lobbied to include Federation campaign goals in their party platforms for post-secondary education.

2007/11:044 **MOTION TO REFER**
Local 75/Local 78

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:043 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:043 **REFERRED**

2007/11:045 **MOTION**
Local 26/local 8

Whereas the Federation is the largest student lobby group in Canada;

Whereas knowledge about the Federation and their membership therein, comes to the membership by word of mouth and campaign materials;

Whereas the average member of the Federation has limited knowledge about the internal workings and goings-on of the Federation;

Whereas according to William Hart Coleridge, a famous bishop who advocated for the abolition of slavery, "There is an art of which every man should be a master the art of reflection. If you are not a thinking man, to what purpose are you a man at all?";

Whereas the Federation should take time and self reflect and ensure that we are acting in the best interests of our membership, are known to our membership and are doing what the membership want; and

Whereas a survey of the membership with relation to their perceptions of the Federation's identity, mission, campaigns and effectiveness, would be an exercise in self-reflection; therefore

Be it resolved that an independent survey/polling company, other than Catalyst Creative, be commissioned to survey Canadian students both within and outside of the Canadian Federation of Students' membership as to its identity, mission, campaign and effectiveness.

2007/11:046 **MOTION TO REFER**
Local 78/Local 62

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:045 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:045 **REFERRED**

2007/11:047 **MOTION**
Local 26/Local 8

Whereas at the May 2007 semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students, a motion was passed directing the National Executive to post the Bylaws, Standing Resolutions, and policies online;

Whereas the Standing Resolutions are not posted online; and

Whereas there is no link from the homepage or the 'About' section of the Federation's website to the Bylaws and Policies of the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that the direction to post the Standing Resolutions of the Federation online, as adopted at the May 2007 general meeting be fulfilled; and

Be it further resolved that links be posted either on the homepage or on the 'About' section of the Federation's website to the Bylaws, Standing Resolutions, and Policies of the Federation

2007/11:048 MOTION TO REFER

Local 94/Local 105

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:047 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:047 REFERRED

2007/11:049 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas financial transparency is an important public relations tool;

Whereas posting the Federation's national budget on the website makes the Federation a more transparent organization; and

Whereas financial accountability to the general membership is a priority for the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that that the 2007 national budget and all future budgets be posted on the Federation's website;

Be it further resolved that the 2006 audited financial statements of the Federation, and all future financial statement be posted on the Federation's website; and,

Be it further resolved that there be a link to the budgets and financial statements from the 'About' section of the Federation's website.

2007/11:050 MOTION TO REFER

Local 11/Local 20

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:049 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:049 REFERRED

2007/11:051 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas the membership of the Federation has only manual access to the records of the Federation through their students union;

Whereas the membership is more likely to visit the Federation's website for Federation records than their student union office;

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Federation to make its records as accessible as possible to the to encourage membership interest and involvement in the Federation; and

Whereas National Executive meeting minutes contain sensitive campaign and other time-sensitive information and therefore cannot be released immediately after the conclusion of a meeting; therefore

Be it resolved that all National Executive minutes and agendas be posted on the Federation's website, one year after the occurrence of the meeting.

2007/11:052 MOTION TO REFER

Local 94/Local 45

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:051 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:051 REFERRED

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2007/11:053 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations both lobby the federal government on issues relating to post-secondary education;

Whereas purposeful communication between organizations must be established to discourage zero-sum views of issues that students face;

Whereas the "strength in numbers" which a students' union realizes by working in a Federation with other students' unions is realized to an even greater extent when the Federation works in coalition with other groups and organizations; and

Whereas even on matters of disagreement, it is often prudent and advantageous to consult with other lobby organizations prior to engaging in lobbying campaigns and strategies; therefore

Be it resolved that the National Chairperson be directed to discuss the possibility of exploring lobbying goals and strategies, and other public relations matters, with CASA.

2007/11:054 MOTION

Local 45/Local 11

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:053 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:053 REFERRED

2007/11:055 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Be it resolved that the National Executive be censured.

Local 94 objected to the consideration of Motion-2007/11:055.

The plenary voted not to consider Motion-2007/11:055.

2007/11:055 NOT CONSIDERED

2007/11:056 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 26/Local 8

Be it resolved that Bylaw X – Finances be amended by adding a new section 5, to read as follows:

5. Extraordinary Transactions

a. For the purposes of this section, "extraordinary transaction" means any financial transaction that arises outside of the usual and predictable operations of the Federation, and includes:

- i. any transaction that is unbudgeted; and,
- ii. any gift or loan to a provincial component or student association over \$1,000.

b. Any extraordinary transaction shall require the approval of the National Executive. This approval may not be delegated.

c. The details of any extraordinary transaction shall be reported to the members in the National Executive Report required under Bylaw V, section 2 (f).

d. The financial statements of the Federation shall include a note on every gift or loan over \$1,000 made by the Federation to any provincial component or student association.

2007/11:057 MOTION TO REFER

Local 78/Local 23

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:056 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2007/11:056 REFERRED

2007/11:058 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas part of the nature of being a student in Canada often entails having to work full-time in addition to upholding academic, social, and family obligations;

Whereas the internal politics of the student movement in Canada are becoming more inaccessible to the average student who must work to put themselves through school due to more pressing time priorities; and

Whereas it is critical for the Federation's ongoing survival as an organization that represents all students and not alienate time-pressed students and to innovate ways for her/him participate in their student movement; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw VI, section 1, subsection (b) be amended to read as follows:

- b. In addition to subsection (a), nominees for National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer must be nominated by at least three member local student associations of the Federation. The Chief Returning Officer shall certify a candidate for National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, or National Treasurer if she has received, before August 15,
 - i. a signed letter from the nominee, confirming that she agrees to be a candidate for the given position; and
 - ii. signed letters of nomination from at least three member local student associations.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 2, subsection (a) be amended to read as follows:

- a. Timing of Elections of At-Large Members
 - i. The Chief Returning Officer shall send a list of all validly nominated candidates for National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer to every member local student association before August 22.
 - ii. The election of the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer shall be conducted between September 1 and September 30.
 - iii. Each member local student association shall be responsible for administering the election amongst its members.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 3, subsection (a) be amended to read as follows:

- a. Procedure for the Election of At-Large Members

Elections for National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson and National Treasurer shall be conducted according to the following rules and procedures:

 - i. elections shall be conducted by secret ballot;
 - ii. each individual member of the Federation will be permitted one (1) vote in each election;
 - iii. the election shall be conducted using the Alternative Vote (AV) system of ranked-choice balloting;
 - iv. only individual members of the Federation may engage in campaigning on behalf of any candidate;
 - v. the Chief Returning Officer shall maintain a website, linked from the Federation's home page, which shall contain the names, photos, and a 250-word statement of candidacy, throughout the month of September;
 - vi. the Chief Returning Officer shall produce a report on the conduct of the election of the at-large officers, which shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting for ratification.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 4, subsection (a) be amended to read as follows:

- a. Term of Office for At-Large Members

The term of office for the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson and National Treasurer shall commence at the end of the closing plenary of the semi-annual general meeting immediately following the annual general meeting at which they were ratified and shall expire at the end of the closing plenary of the following semi-annual general meeting.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 6, subsection (a) be amended to read as follows:

- a. Vacancy in an at-large National Executive Position

In the event of a vacancy in the position of National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, or National Treasurer, the National Executive shall have the authority to appoint a member of the National Executive to fill the position, until the next national general meeting.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 7 be amended to read as follows:

7. Chief Returning Officer and Elections Advisory Committee

- a. Elections Advisory Committee
 - i. The Elections Advisory Committee shall consist of five delegates elected at every semi-annual general meeting.

- ii. The term of office of the members of the Elections Advisory Committee shall commence at the end of the semi-annual general meeting at which they were elected and shall expire at the end of the following semi-annual general meeting.
- iii. The Elections Advisory Committee may meet and conduct business by teleconference.
- iv. The Elections Advisory Committee shall elect a chairperson from amongst its own membership.
- v. The Elections Advisory Committee shall:
 - recommend to the Federation the appointment of the Chief Returning Officer, and
 - advise the Federation on the conduct of the elections process.
- b. Chief Returning Officer
 - i. The Chief Returning Officer shall be appointed by the Federation at the annual general meeting.
 - ii. The term of office of the Chief Returning Officer shall commence at the end of the annual general meeting at which they were elected and shall expire at the end of the following annual general meeting.
 - iii. The Chief Returning Officer must have professional experience administering elections.
 - iv. The Chief Returning Officer shall have oversight over the elections of the National Executive.
 - v. The Chief Returning Officer shall receive remuneration, the amount of which shall be set by plenary.
- c. Finances

The Federation's budget shall provide sufficient funding for the conduct of the elections process and for the functioning of the Elections Advisory Committee.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 8 be amended so as to read as follows:

8. Notice of Elections for National Executive Positions

- a. The Chief Returning Officer shall send notice of the election of the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer to all member local student associations before July 15 containing the following information:
 - i. the rate of remuneration of the at-large officers;
 - ii. the outline of duties and responsibilities of the at-large officers;
 - iii. the outline of travel obligations and/or necessary relocation;
 - iv. the procedure and deadline for submitting nominations for the at-large offices;
 - v. the procedure and deadline for conducting the election and reporting the results of the election;
 - vi. the name and contact information of the Chief Returning Officer and of the chairperson of the Elections Advisory Committee.
- b. The notice of every annual and semi-annual general meeting shall include the following information for elections to be conducted at that general meeting:
 - i. the positions on the National Executive that are open for election at that meeting;
 - ii. an outline of duties and responsibilities of the positions that are open for election;
 - iii. an outline of the travel obligations of the positions that are open for election.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VI, section 9 be amended to read:

9. Announcement of Election Results

Following the tabulation of votes for at-large positions, the Chief Returning Officer will announce to the plenary:

- a. the nominees elected; and,
- b. the vote count for each candidate.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw II, section 1, subsection (b) be amended to read:

- b. At the Annual General Meeting, in addition to any other business that may be transacted, the report of the National Executive, the financial statements, and the report of the auditors will be presented, and the auditors for the ensuing year will be appointed; and the elections for the next National Executive (other than the at-large officers) will occur; and the election of the at-large officers shall be ratified.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw V, section 1, subsection (a) be amended to read:

- a. The following at-large positions elected by the individual members of the Federation:
 - i. National Chairperson
 - ii. National Deputy Chairperson
 - iii. National Treasurer.

With the following provisos:

- (a) that the Elections Advisory Committee shall first be elected at the 53rd Semi-Annual General Meeting (May 2008); (b) that the Chief Returning Officer under the new elections process shall first be appointed at the 27th Annual General Meeting (November 2008); and (c) that the elections for the at-large elected officers under the new elections process shall first take place in 2009.

2007/11:059 MOTION TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

Local 7/Local 69

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:058 be postponed indefinitely.

2007/11:060 MOTION TO REFER

Local 26/Local 5

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:058 be referred to the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

DEFEATED

2007/11:059 CARRIED

2007/11:058 POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

2007/11:061 MOTION

Local 1/Local 8

Be it resolved that additional coalition partners be sought, including but not limited to other organizations that claim to represent students, for the campaign to replace the Millennium Scholarship Foundation with a national system of need-based grants.

2007/11:062 MOTION TO REFER

Local 105/Local 53

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:061 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:061 REFERRED

2007/11:063 MOTION

Local 1/Local 8

Whereas the Conservative government announced a review of the Canada Student Loans Program in the 2007 federal budget;

Whereas the department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada has been conducting a review over the summer; and

Whereas the results of the review are rumoured to be announced in the next federal budget; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with provincial student aid branches and communicate the Federation's goals for a national system of needs-based grants.

2007/11:064 MOTION TO REFER

Local 45/Local 32

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:063 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:063 REFERRED

13. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

The Plenary Speaker announced that, given the time constraints, the report of the National Executive would be considered in the closing plenary.

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14. OTHER BUSINESS

2007/11:065 EMERGENCY MOTION

Local 5/Local 8

Whereas Alison Bodine, a US citizen, is a Co-chair, spokesperson and central organizer with Vancouver antiwar coalition Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO), was for three years the president of the University of British Columbia's Coalition Against War on the People of Iraq and Internationally (CAWOPI), was a long-time executive committee member of the UBC Social Justice Center, a prominent activist in solidarity with Cuba and a participant in the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba, and is a supporter of immigrant and refugee rights in Canada and the US;

Whereas near midnight on Thursday September 13, 2007 Alison Bodine was unjustly arrested by the Canada Border Services Agency and detained by the RCMP when she went voluntarily to the US-Canada border to return to the US and retrieve political materials that were previously seized;

Whereas on October 31, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada upheld the CBSA charge of misrepresentation against Alison Bodine, and she was banned from Canada for two years, as of November 17 2007;

Whereas Alison's arrest, the charges against her and removal from Canada is an attack on the democratic and human rights of all individuals to organize and express their political views peacefully, an attack on the right to free speech, and an attack on immigrants, refugees, people without status, and non-residents of Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students demand that Honourable Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley lift the two-year ban that has been ordered against Alison Bodine by the October 31 Immigration and Refugee Board decision and restore her right to freely travel between the United States of America and Canada.

2007/11:066 MOTION TO REFER

Local 45/Local 32

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:065 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2007/11:065 REFERRED

A series of logistical announcements were made.

15. RECESS

2007/11:067 MOTION TO RECESS

Local 61/Local 1

Be it resolved that plenary be recessed until 13:00, Saturday, November 24, 2007.

CARRIED

18:17 the meeting recessed.

MINUTES

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CALL BACK TO ORDER—Saturday, November 24, 2007

14:46 the meeting was called back to order by Plenary Speaker Sylvia Sioufi.

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 03	University of British Columbia Students' Union-Okanagan	Present
Local 76	Broadway Campus (King Edward) Students' Union	Present
Local 75	Camosun College Student Society	Present
Local 05	Capilano Students' Union	Present
Local 73	Downtown Campus (City Centre) Students' Union	Present
Local 18	Douglas Students' Union	Present
Local 33	Emily Carr Students' Union	Present
Local 26	Kwantlen Student Association	Present
Local 61	Malaspina Students' Union	Present
Local 13	College of New Caledonia Students' Union	Present
Local 72	North Island Students' Union	Present
Local 66	Northwest Community College Students' Association	Present
Local 53	Okanagan College Students' Union	Present
Local 86	College of the Rockies Students' Union	Absent
Local 04	Selkirk College Students' Union	Present
Local 23	Simon Fraser Student Society	Present
Local 15	Thompson Rivers University Students' Union	Present
Local 89	University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society	Present
Local 44	University of Victoria Students' Society	Present
Local 42	Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association	Absent
Local 21	University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 90	First Nations University of Canada Students' Association	Present
Local 09	University of Regina Students' Union	Present
Local 101	University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 17	University of Saskatchewan Students' Union	Present
Local 37	Brandon University Students' Union	Present
Local 96	University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 103	University of Manitoba Students' Union	Present
Local 38	Association des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface	Present
Local 08	University of Winnipeg Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 28	Atkinson Students' Association	Present
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 01	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
Local 107	Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Absent
Local 93	Glendon College Students' Union	Present
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Present
Local 104	Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-time Students	Present
	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association*	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local 39	McMaster University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present by proxy

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Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Students' Union	Absent
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association des étudiant(e)s diplômé(e)s de l'Université d'Ottawa	Present
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Present
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Present
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Absent
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union	Absent
Local 97	University of Toronto Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
	Trent Graduate Students' Association*	Absent
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Present
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part-time University Students (University of Windsor)	Present
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society	Absent
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Absent
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 91	Concordia Student Union	Present
Local 83	Concordia University Graduate Students' Association	Present
	Dawson Student Union*	Present
Local 79	Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill	Present
Local 67	University of New Brunswick Graduate Students Association	Present
Local 63	Holland College Student Union	Absent
Local 70	University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association	Present
Local 31	University of Prince Edward Island Student Union	Absent
Local 64	Acadia Students' Union	Absent
Local 95	Cape Breton University Students' Union	Present
	Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students*	Absent
Local 11	University of King's College Students' Union	Present
Local 34	Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union	Present
Local 07	Student Union of NSCAD University	Present
Local 69	Association générale des étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne	Present
Local 36	Grenfell College Student Union	Present
Local 45	Marine Institute Students' Union	Present
Local 100	Graduate Students' Union of the Memorial University of Newfoundland	Present
Local 35	Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union	Present
Local 46	College of the North Atlantic Students' Union	Present

* Prospective member

Sioufi declared that quorum had been achieved.

2. BUSINESS FROM OPENING PLENARY

National Chairperson Amanda Aziz, National Deputy Chairperson Brent Farrington, National Treasurer Ben Lewis and other members of the National Executive highlighted sections of the National Executive Report.

Delegates asked questions about the Report and the work of the National Executive over the preceding six months.

2007/11:068 MOTION

Local 71/Local 7

Be it resolved that the National Executive Report be adopted.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Lewis highlighted sections of the draft revised 2007-2008 budget.

- 2007/11:069 MOTION**
Local 78/Local 97
Be it resolved that the final draft Revised 2007-08 Budget be adopted.
- 2007/11:070 MOTION TO AMEND**
Local 79/Local 1
Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:069 be amended to read:
"Be it resolved that the final draft Revised 2007-2008 Budget be adopted with the following amendment:
-reduce the membership drive and referenda line item from \$75,000 to \$45,000."
- 2007/11:071 MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT**
Local 3/Local 76
Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:070 be amended to read:
"Be it resolved that the final draft Revised 2007-08 Budget be adopted with the following amendment:
-reduce the membership drive and referenda line item from \$75,000 to \$60,000."
- CARRIED**
- 2007/11:070 CARRIED AS AMENDED**
- 2007/11:069 CARRIED AS AMENDED**
- 2007/11:072 MOTION**
Local 78/Local 105
Be it resolved that the Budget Committee Report be accepted.
CARRIED
ABSTENTION NOTED:
Local 26

4. PRESENTATION OF THE POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Proposal to Amend Policy on Elections

- 2007/11:028 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**
Local 84/Local 8
Whereas the Federation's current policy outlines the preferred date for elections;
Whereas Ontario, Newfoundland and Labrador and British Columbia all have fixed dates for provincial elections; and
Whereas having fixed dates for elections allow for better planning and preparation in terms of campaign organizing; therefore
Be it resolved that the Federation's "Elections" policy be amended as follows:
The Federation supports fixed election dates for municipal, provincial and federal elections.
The Federation opposes the calling of municipal, provincial and federal elections when the majority of students are not attending classes.
- CARRIED**

b. Proposal to Adopt Policy on Federal Transfer Payments

- 2007/11:034 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**
Local 105/Local 8
Whereas the Federation's policy on funding for post-secondary education has not been amended since the creation of the Canada Social Transfer and thus is out of date; therefore
Be it resolved that the Federation's "Funding Education" policy be amended as follows:

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Federal Transfer Payments

Preamble

The federal government's involvement in funding post-secondary education through transfer payments began with the Established Programs Financing (EPF) Act of 1977. The Act brought into existence a new federal contribution to the provinces that consisted of deferred tax points and cash payments, and allocated 29% of the EPF transfer for post-secondary education. However, no guarantee existed to ensure that the post-secondary education funds were allocated to universities and colleges, rather than to other provincial government priorities.

On April 1, 1996, the federal government combined virtually all of its transfers to the provinces into the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST), including federal transfer payments for post-secondary education, health, and social assistance services. Not only was the combined transfer accompanied by deep funding cuts of over \$7 billion, the very nature of federal responsibility for higher education shifted. The impact on access to post-secondary education was swift and severe, as provinces passed on the funding cuts to students and their families in the form of higher tuition fees and higher student debt. Like the EPF, the CHST lacked any accountability and assurance that funding designated for post-secondary education would make it to students and institutions.

At the behest of the provinces, the federal government split the CHST into two separate transfers in 2004, one for health funding and one for everything else (Canada Social Transfer). The primary motivation was to put a focus on federal-provincial negotiations for increased health care spending and mutual accountability. The Canada Social Transfer (CST) was treated as a side-effect of the split and was largely ignored during the first few years of its existence. Funding for the CST barely increased by inflation between 2004 and 2007. In 2007, the federal government increased spending for post-secondary education through the CST, but failed to create any conditions for the new spending. Without accountability for federal spending, there can be no guarantee that money earmarked for higher education is actually spent that way once it reaches the provinces.

Policy

The Federation supports the creation of a dedicated transfer payment for post-secondary education that is separate from the Canada Social Transfer, and provides stable federal funding to the provinces for higher education. The post-secondary education transfer should be guided by national principles and a national post-secondary education act. The cash value of the dedicated post-secondary transfer should be set at a minimum 0.5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and increase with inflation.

To ensure regional equity, the Federation supports the allocation of cash transfers to provinces on a per students basis for those attending public post-secondary institutions and equalisation according to provincial GDP per capita.

2007/11:073 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 37/Local 75

Be it resolved that the words "and increase with inflation" be deleted from the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:034.

CARRIED

2007/11:074 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 53/Local 3

Be it resolved that the second clause in the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:034 be replaced with the following:

To ensure regional equity, as well as financial accessibility, the Federation supports the allocation of cash transfers to provinces on a per students basis for those attending public post-secondary institutions and equalisation according to provincial GDP per capita.

CARRIED

2007/11:075 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 104/Local 44

Be it resolved that the words "post-secondary education" be replaced with "public post-secondary education" throughout the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:034.

CARRIED

2007/11:076 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 61/Local 72

Be it resolved that the following words be added as the final paragraph in the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:034:

The Federation opposes any decrease in provincial funding for post-secondary education as a result of any increase in federal transfer payments.

CARRIED

2007/11:077 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 27/Local 32

Be it resolved that the words "national principles" be replaced with the words "the principles of public administration, comprehensiveness, accessibility, collegial governance, and academic freedom." in the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:034.

CARRIED

2007/11:034 CARRIED AS AMENDED

c. Proposal to Adopt Policy on Public Transportation

2007/11:036 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 76/Local 8

Be it resolved that the Federation's "Public Transportation" policy be amended as follows:

Preamble

Public transit is a crucial issue for post-secondary students and essential to both the quality of life and environmental health of communities.

When transportation costs were downloaded to municipal governments, transit systems were increasingly forced to rely on user fees for funding due to a lack of adequate government funding for public transportation. Like all user fees, fares for public transit adversely and disproportionately affect students and lower-income Canadians. In addition, vehicular transportation is among the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

The Canadian Urban Transit Association's 2006 national survey of Canadian transit systems reported a \$21 billion need for public transit capital infrastructure investment for the period 2006-2010. In March of 2007, the mayors of Canada's largest cities announced that \$2 billion a year was needed to upgrade and expand their transit systems as part of a national transit strategy.

Canada is the only "G8" country without a long-term federal transit-investment policy. In its Second Interim Report on the 2007-2008 Estimates released in June 2007, the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance recommended that a national urban strategy be created that included "permanent, long-term funding dedicated to urban transit." This recommendation is consistent with proposals from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- the establishment of accessible and affordable municipal and inter-municipal public transportation for all post-secondary students regardless of age and status;
- long-term sustainable federal funding for repairing existing services and expanding transit networks; and
- the creation of a national urban transit strategy by the federal government, in conjunction with provincial governments and municipalities, that includes permanent, long-term funding dedicated to urban transit.

The Federation opposes:

- government cutbacks to funding for public transportation;
- the lease or sale of public transportation systems to private operators; and
- the establishment of private, for-profit municipal and inter-municipal mass-transit services in communities where public transit systems do not exist.

CARRIED

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d. Proposal to Adopt Policy on Climate Change

2007/11:038 MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY

Local 91/Local 8

Whereas climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing young people today;

Whereas the Federation has no policy related to climate change;

Whereas the Kyoto Protocol is an important tool in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas the current government has abandoned its responsibilities to reach the targets outlined in Kyoto; therefore

Be it resolved that the following policy be adopted:

Preamble

Climate change is considered by many scientists and organisations to be the most serious environmental threat facing the world today. In recent years, the true impact of human activity on climate change has become obvious. Accordingly, environmental sustainability has become a top priority for Canadians, and in particular, Canadian youth.

On February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol officially entered into force. The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement that sets targets for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. Canada signed onto to the Protocol, but successive federal governments have not put in place plans to meet its targets. As of 2004, Canada's emissions were 27 per cent above the 1990 level, contrary to the Kyoto target of 6 per cent below the 1990 level for 2008-2012.

Policy

The Federation supports the Kyoto Protocol and other initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and minimising the environmental impact of human activity.

The Federation supports the regulation of industry in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Federation supports the creation of new technologies, employment and infrastructure that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and that have minimal impacts on the ecosystem.

The Federation supports the use of public policy to spur innovation, investment, technological progress, and behavioural change in support of environmental sustainability.

2007/11:078 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 44/Local 91

Be it resolved that the policy proposed in Motion-2007/11:038 be amended as follows:

Preamble

In 2007 the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stated with very high confidence that the global atmospheric concentration of CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide (greenhouse gasses) had increased markedly as a result of human activity since 1750 and now far exceeds pre-industrial levels determined from ice core samples spanning thousands of years.

Climate change is now the most serious threat to humanity and the true impact of human activity on climate change has become obvious. Accordingly environmental sustainability has become a top priority for Canadians and in particular Canadian youth.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- initiatives, such as those in the spirit of the Kyoto Protocol, that call for the urgent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to a level at least 6% lower than the 1990 levels and minimise the negative environmental impact of human activity;
- the regulation of industry in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- the creation of innovative solutions, including but not limited, to new technologies, employment and infrastructure that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and that will have minimal impact on the ecosystem;
- the use of public policy to spur innovation, investment, and behavioural change that supports environmental sustainability; and

- the inclusion of indigenous peoples in these activities for the purpose of researching and implementing traditional indigenous methods of environmentally sustainable living.

The Federation opposes:

- any government policies and/or initiatives that seek to undermine its commitments, present or past, towards environmental sustainability."

CARRIED

2007/11:038

CARRIED AS AMENDED

NOTICE

MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 37/Local 33

Be it resolved that the Federation's "Elections" policy be amended as follows:

For all municipal, federal, or provincial elections, the Federation supports:

- the establishment of enumeration tables on university, college and institute campuses;
- polling stations established at university, college and institute campuses (especially where residences are present);
- a minimum of two weeks of advance polling, with a minimum of one day of advance polling to be held on university, college and institute campuses;

academic amnesty be granted for all post-secondary students for the purpose of voting on the official election date; and

- the allowance of post-secondary students to choose for which riding or constituency to vote, either their permanent address or their address used while attending university or college.

For all municipal, federal, or provincial elections, the Federation opposes:

- the calling of elections when the majority of students are not attending classes on campus; and
- any government legislation that restricts or limits a student's right or ability to vote, excluding age and citizenship requirements.

2007/11:079

MOTION

Local 79/Local 91

Be it resolved that the Policy Development and Review Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY CAUCUSES AND CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

a. Caucuses

National Aboriginal Representative Mike White reported on the work of the Aboriginal Caucus.

2007/11:080

MOTION

Local 61/Local 5

Whereas Canada was one of four countries that did not sign the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in opposition to 143 other countries that did sign the Declaration; and

Whereas Indigenous peoples are oppressed in other countries including, but not limited to: United States of America, New Zealand, Australia and Canada; and

Whereas Federation membership includes Indigenous students from the above mentioned countries and others; therefore

Be it resolved that the rights of indigenous peoples be upheld; and

Be it further resolved that all levels of government be lobbied to adhere to the moral, legal, political and economic principles stated within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Prime Minister asking him to endorse the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write letters of support for the Declaration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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- 2007/11:081 MOTION**
Local 68/Local 4
Be it resolved that a national anti-racism campaign be developed in consultation with members to be presented at the May 2008 national general meeting.
- 2007/11:082 MOTION TO AMEND**
Local 24/Local 36
Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:081 be amended to include:
"Be it further resolved that the Federation commit to a process of self-reflection of internal structures and how those structures affect students of colour and Aboriginal students within the Federation in preparation for the national anti-racism campaign."
CARRIED
ABSTENTIONS NOTED:
Local 17
Local 37
Local 62
Local 94
Local 96
- 2007/11:081 CARRIED AS AMENDED**
- 2007/11:083 MOTION TO RECESS**
Local 32/Local 103
Be it resolved that the meeting recess for 90 minutes.
CARRIED

18:28 the meeting recessed.

19:57 the meeting reconvened.

b. Constituency Groups

Representatives from constituency groups provided reports on the discussions of the groups.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Election of At-Large Representatives

i. National Chairperson

- 2007/11:084 MOTION**
Local 36/Local 100
Be it resolved that Katherine Giroux-Bougard (Local 35) be ratified as the National Chairperson for the 2008-2009 term.
CARRIED

ii. National Deputy Chairperson

- 2007/11:085 MOTION**
Local 91/Local 71
Be it resolved that Brent Farrington (Local 91) be ratified as the National Deputy Chairperson for the 2008-2009 term.
CARRIED

iii. National Treasurer

- 2007/11:086 MOTION**
Local 68/Local 70
Be it resolved that Dave Molenhuis (Local 105) be ratified as the National Treasurer for the 2008-2009 term.
CARRIED

b. National Executive Provincial Representative Election

- 2007/11:087 MOTION**
Local 96/Local 19
Be it resolved that Graham Cox(Local 67) be ratified as the New Brunswick Representative for the remainder of the 2007-2008 term.
CARRIED

c. Travel CUTS Board Representative Election

- 2007/11:088 MOTION**
Local 103/Local 8
Be it resolved that Amanda Aziz (Local 103) be ratified as the Travel CUTS Board Representative for the 2008-2010 term.
CARRIED
- 2007/11:089 MOTION**
Local 4/Local 3
Be it resolved that the ballots be destroyed.
CARRIED
- 2007/11:090 MOTION**
Local 105/Local 53
Be it resolved that the Electoral Committee Report be accepted.
CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANISATIONAL AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Local 26 delegates Laura Anderson and DJ Lam said that they had attended the Organisational and Services Development Committee meeting as observers on the second day.

Farrington asked delegates to amend their reports accordingly.

a. Proposal for a "Sunset" Provision on Policy

- 2007/05:019 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**
Local 105/Local 8
Whereas Bylaw III, Policy of the Federation, establishes the process by which policy of the Federation is created; and
Whereas Bylaw III, Article 1 used to establish a time period at which point policies of the Federation would expire; and
Whereas many policies of the Federation are outdated and require review and either updating or repealing;
Be it resolved that Bylaw III, Article 1 be amended to include:
e. All policies of the Federation will expire at the close of the final plenary of the general meeting closest to five years after which they were adopted, unless otherwise renewed.
- 2007/11:018 MOTION TO AMEND**
Local 8/Local 78
Be it resolved that Motion-2007/05:019 be amended to read:
"Be it resolved that Bylaw III, Policy of the Federation, Section 1 be amended to include:
e. Policy older than five years will be considered repealed if it is served with notice and receives less than two-thirds support at a general meeting."
- 2007/11:091 MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT**
Local 96/Local 8
Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:018 be amended to read:
"Be it resolved that Bylaw III, Policy of the Federation, Section 1 be amended to include:

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- e. Policy older than five years will be considered repealed if it is served with notice and receives less than fifty percent support at a general meeting."

DEFEATED

2007/11:018 **CARRIED**

2007/05:019 **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

b. Proposal to Amend Childcare Policy

2007/11:020 **MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

Local 8/Local 78

Whereas, at the May 2007 national general meeting, the National Executive was directed to examine the Federation's general meeting childcare policy and report back at the November 2007 national general meeting; and

Whereas the provision of on-site childcare was determined by the National Executive to be infeasible; therefore

Be it resolved that Section 1 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

1. The Federation, upon receipt of a statement of expenses from a delegate to a national general meeting or a member of the National Executive attending a national executive or general meeting, shall reimburse the member (parent or guardian of the child) or the member local association up to a maximum of \$80.00 per day for 8–10 hour childcare services, and \$120.00 per day for 24 hour childcare services;

Be it further resolved that Section 3 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

3. A member of a member local association shall only be reimbursed for the days of the meeting, and the days traveling to and from the meeting where extra days for travel are required;

Be it further resolved that Section 4 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

4. The Federation shall not be responsible for supplying or arranging on-site childcare for members attending meetings;

2008/11:092 **MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 100/Local 98

Be it resolved that the first clause of Motion-2007/11:020 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that section 1 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

1. The Federation, upon receipt of a statement of expenses from a delegate to a national general meeting or a member of the National Executive attending a National Executive or general meeting, shall reimburse the member (parent or guardian of the child/dependent) or the member local association up to a maximum of \$80.00 per day for 8–10 hour child/dependent care services, and \$120.00 per day for 24 hour child/dependent care services;"

CARRIED

2007/11:093 **MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 54/Local 62

Be it resolved that the first clause of Motion-2007/11:020 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that section 1 of the Operations Policy on Childcare be amended to read:

1. The Federation, upon receipt of a statement of expenses from a delegate to a national general meeting or a member of the National Executive attending a National Executive or general meeting, shall reimburse the member (parent or guardian of the child/dependent) or the member local association, and that no reasonable expenses shall be denied for 24 hour child/dependent care services;"

DEFEATED

2007/11:020 **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

NOTED IN OPPOSITION:

Local 24

Local 97

c. Proposal to Amend General Meeting Standing Committee

2007/11:022 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Local 8/Local 78

Whereas the input of caucuses, constituency groups and provincial components is essential to ensure that decisions made at general meetings are representative of the Federation; and

Whereas it should be the role of the representative(s) selected by caucuses, constituency groups and provincial components to sit on each standing general meeting committee to represent their respective caucus, constituency group or provincial component to their designated committee; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 1, section 2 be amended to read as follows:

2. Committee Composition

Each caucus, constituency group and provincial component shall have the right to select one voting member to sit on each standing general meeting committee to represent the caucus, constituency group or provincial component's members.

CARRIED

d. Proposal to Adopt Policy on Carbon Neutral Model

2007/11:040 MOTION

Local 91/Local 8

Whereas twice a year, delegates from across the country gather at the Federation's national meetings;

Whereas many delegates must use air transport as their method of transportation to these meetings;

Whereas compared to other modes of transport, such as driving or taking the train, traveling by air has a greater climate impact per passenger kilometre and produces the most amount of emissions;

Whereas more and more companies and organisations, such as the Olympics, are going carbon neutral;

Whereas carbon offsets are achieved by purchasing credits from projects such as wind farms, solar installations or energy efficient projects;

Whereas carbon offsets can be used to neutralise emissions from air travel;

Whereas the purchase of carbon offsets can be applied to emissions created by transportation to national general meetings; and

Whereas the purchasing of carbon offsets reduces delegates' impact upon the climate when traveling to Federation meetings; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation purchase carbon offsets in order to neutralise the emissions caused by travel to and from national general meetings; and

Be it further resolved that Federation national general meetings move to a carbon neutral model.

2008/11:094 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 89/Local 44

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:040 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that the Federation commit to becoming climate neutral by 2012."

2008/11:095 MOTION TO REFER

Local 78/Local 4

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:040 and Motion-2008/11:094 be referred to the National Executive.

CARRIED

2008/11:094 REFERRED

2007/11:040 REFERRED

e. Proposal to Conduct Survey

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2007/11:045 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas the Federation is the largest student lobby group in Canada;

Whereas knowledge about the Federation and their membership therein, comes to the membership by word of mouth and campaign materials;

Whereas the average member of the Federation has limited knowledge about the internal workings and goings-on of the Federation;

Whereas according to William Hart Coleridge, a famous bishop who advocated for the abolition of slavery, "There is an art of which every man should be a master the art of reflection. If you are not a thinking man, to what purpose are you a man at all?";

Whereas the Federation should take time and self reflect and ensure that we are acting in the best interests of our membership, are known to our membership and are doing what the membership want; and

Whereas a survey of the membership with relation to their perceptions of the Federation's identity, mission, campaigns and effectiveness, would be an exercise in self-reflection; therefore

Be it resolved that an independent survey/polling company, other than Catalyst Creative, be commissioned to survey Canadian students both within and outside of the Canadian Federation of Students' membership as to its identity, mission, campaign and effectiveness.

DEFEATED

f. Proposal Regarding Federation Documents

2007/11:047 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas at the May 2007 semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students, a motion was passed directing the National Executive to post the Bylaws, Standing Resolutions, and policies online;

Whereas the Standing Resolutions are not posted online; and

Whereas there is no link from the homepage or the 'About' section of the Federation's website to the Bylaws and Policies of the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that the direction to post the Standing Resolutions of the Federation online, as adopted at the May 2007 general meeting be fulfilled; and

Be it further resolved that links be posted either on the homepage or on the 'About' section of the Federation's website to the Bylaws, Standing Resolutions, and Policies of the Federation.

DEFEATED

2007/11:049 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas financial transparency is an important public relations tool;

Whereas posting the Federation's national budget on the website makes the Federation a more transparent organisation; and

Whereas financial accountability to the general membership is a priority for the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that that the 2007 national budget and all future budgets be posted on the Federation's website;

Be it further resolved that the 2006 audited financial statements of the Federation, and all future financial statement be posted on the Federation's website; and,

Be it further resolved that there be a link to the budgets and financial statements from the 'About' section of the Federation's website.

DEFEATED

2007/11:051 MOTION

Local 26/Local 8

Whereas the membership of the Federation has only manual access to the records of the Federation through their students' union;

Whereas the membership is more likely to visit the Federation's website for Federation records than their student union office;

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Federation to make its records as accessible as possible to the to encourage membership interest and involvement in the Federation; and

Whereas National Executive meeting minutes contain sensitive campaign and other time-sensitive information and therefore cannot be released immediately after the conclusion of a meeting; therefore

Be it resolved that all National Executive minutes and agendas be posted on the Federation's website, one year after the occurrence of the meeting.

DEFEATED

g. Proposal Regarding Coalition Work

2007/11:053 **MOTION**
Local 26/Local 8

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations both lobby the federal government on issues relating to post-secondary education;

Whereas purposeful communication between organisations must be established to discourage zero-sum views of issues that students face;

Whereas the "strength in numbers" which a students' union realizes by working in a Federation with other students' unions is realized to an even greater extent when the Federation works in coalition with other groups and organisations; and

Whereas even on matters of disagreement, it is often prudent and advantageous to consult with other lobby organisations prior to engaging in lobbying campaigns and strategies; therefore

Be it resolved that the National Chairperson be directed to discuss the possibility of exploring lobbying goals and strategies, and other public relations matters, with CASA.

DEFEATED

h. Proposal to Amend Bylaws

2007/11:056 **MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**
Local 26/Local 8

Be it resolved that Bylaw X – Finances be amended by adding a new section 5, to read as follows:

5. Extraordinary Transactions

- a. For the purposes of this section, "extraordinary transaction" means any financial transaction that arises outside of the usual and predictable operations of the Federation, and includes:
 - i. any transaction that is unbudgeted; and,
 - ii. any gift or loan to a provincial component or student association over \$1,000.
- b. Any extraordinary transaction shall require the approval of the National Executive. This approval may not be delegated.
- c. The details of any extraordinary transaction shall be reported to the members in the National Executive Report required under Bylaw V, section 2 (f).
- d. The financial statements of the Federation shall include a note on every gift or loan over \$1,000 made by the Federation to any provincial component or student association.

DEFEATED

i. Proposal to Ensure Accurate Representation

2008/11:096 **MOTION**
Local 15/Local 13

Whereas the Federation has had unqualified audits since its formation in 1981; and

Whereas throughout the history of the Federation, its finances have been managed responsibly and transparently; and

Whereas there are individuals and organisations who, despite evidence to the contrary, refuse to acknowledge or accept the evidence that the Federation has conducted itself properly with respect to the management of its finances and internal affairs; and

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Whereas those individuals persist in a campaign to damage the Federation credibility as a means to achieve their own ends; and

Whereas the allegations these individuals and organisations continue to publish are merely a means to an end and have no basis in reality; and

Whereas unfounded allegations against the Federation damage the organisation's credibility with the general members, government, and the public; and

Whereas the Federation's credibility is vital in terms of its ability to serve the interests of its members; and

Whereas the dramatic increase over the course of the last few years in the number of personal weblogs ("blogs"), websites and online newspapers has resulted in the proliferation of these unfounded allegations; and

Whereas the more often a lie, accusation or unfounded allegation is repeated the more likely it is that people will assume it is fact and repeat it either verbally or in written form; and

Whereas despite efforts to correct the falsehoods, accusations and unfounded allegations and to stop their circulation by appealing to the ethics of the journalists in question it is increasingly difficult to secure a retraction, correction and apology; and

Whereas unless a correction and apology is printed and circulated the Federation appears guilty of the unfounded allegations; and

Whereas the National Executive is responsible for protecting the reputation of the Federation; and

Whereas it is sometimes necessary to secure legal assistance in order to 'set the record straight'; and

Whereas in the past the Federation has been reluctant to resort to legal action to correct wrongs against the organisation; and

Whereas this reluctance has largely benefited those who persist in circulating accusations and unfounded allegations because they have not been forced to correct the record and can simply continue to peddle their falsehoods; therefore

Be it resolved that the National Executive continue to take whatever steps necessary to secure corrections and apologies from media, organisations and individuals who publish false and defamatory statements about the Federation.

CARRIED

j. Proposal to Adopt Standing Resolution on Quebec Component

2008/11:097 **MOTION TO ADOPT STANDING RESOLUTION**
Local 91/Local 68

Be it resolved that the following Standing Resolution be adopted:

Quebec Component

The following Standing Resolution shall govern the affairs of the Quebec Component of the Federation:

1. Name

The name shall be known as the Quebec Component, hereinafter referred to as the Component.

2. Membership

The members of the component shall be all Federation member local associations in the province of Quebec.

3. Voting

Each member local association shall be entitled to one (1) vote within the Component.

4. Membership Fee

a. Full Membership

- i. Notwithstanding Section 4.a.ii. of this Standing Resolution, the Quebec Component fees for full member local associations shall be \$1.95 per semester, or \$3.90 per academic year, per local association individual member of the Quebec Component, pro-rated as per the policy of the member local association.

ii. Beginning in 2008, the Quebec Component membership fee shall increase on August 1 each year by the rate of increase in the national Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

b. Prospective Member

The fee for prospective membership in the Quebec Component shall be five per cent (5%) of the regular Component membership fee, notwithstanding that the fee may be reduced or waived by a majority vote of a national general meeting or the National Executive.

6. Steering Committee

The affairs of the Component shall be managed by a Steering Committee.

a. Composition

The Steering Committee shall be composed of the Quebec Representative on the National Executive, the Secretary-Treasurer and one representative from each member local association in Quebec.

b. Election

i. Election of the Representative on the National Executive

The Quebec Representative on the National Executive shall be elected at the May semi-annual national general meeting by a secret ballot vote of the Quebec member local associations.

ii. Election of the Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected at the May semi-annual national general meeting by a secret ballot vote of the Quebec member local associations.

iii. Election of Local Representatives

- The Local Representatives shall be elected by their respective local associations, in a manner consistent with the policies and bylaws of said member local association, and ratified at the Quebec Component Steering Committee Meeting at the May semi-annual national general meeting.
- If a member local association has not selected a Local Representative by the May semi-annual national general meeting, its Local Representative shall be ratified at the November annual national general meeting.

c. Term of Office

i. Term of Office of the National Executive Representative

The term of office for the Quebec Representative on the National Executive shall be one (1) year commencing at the adjournment of the May semi-annual national general meeting and ceasing at the adjournment of the subsequent May semi-annual national general meeting.

ii. Election of the Secretary-Treasurer

The term of office for the Secretary-Treasurer shall be one (1) year commencing at the adjournment of the May semi-annual national general meeting and ceasing at the adjournment of the subsequent May semi-annual national general meeting.

iii. Term of Office of Local Representatives

- The term of office for a local representative shall commence upon ratification by the Steering Committee at the May semi-annual national general meeting and cease at the adjournment of the subsequent May semi-annual national general meeting.
- Notwithstanding 6.iii.a. in the event that a local representative is ratified at the November annual national general meeting, their term shall commence upon said ratification and cease at the adjournment of the subsequent May semi-annual national general meeting.

7. Duties of the Steering Committee

a. Collective Duties of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shall manage the affairs of the Component, implement campaigns and services of the Federation in Quebec, and be responsible for the administration of Federation provincial resources in Quebec.

b. Duties of the National Executive Representative

The National Executive Representative:

- i. shall chair Quebec component meetings during national general meetings;

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- ii. shall attend all meetings of the Federation National Executive;
 - iii. shall be responsible for the communication between the Federation's National Executive and the component;
 - iv. shall ensure that the concerns and interest of the component shall be represented at National Executive meetings of the Federation;
 - v. shall, within budgetary limitations, be available to visit member associations and non-member associations wishing to know more about the component and the Federation's policies and operations;
 - vi. shall assist component delegates representing the component on committees at Federation national general meetings and be available to present information to committees
 - vii. shall present a written report to each component meeting detailing actions and decisions of the Federation National Executive;
 - viii. shall see to the delivery of Federation services to member local associations.
- c. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer
- The Secretary-Treasurer:
- i. shall oversee the keeping of accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Quebec Component, and shall deposit all monies or other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Component;
 - ii. shall submit a written report at each meeting of the Quebec Component Steering Committee that includes, but is not limited to, a year-to-date financial statement for the component.
- d. Duties of Local Representatives
- The Local Representatives:
- i. shall be generally responsible for on-campus representation of the Federation, including but not limited to, coordinating the implementation of Federation:
 - campaigns at the member local associations; and
 - services at the member local associations;
 - ii. shall communicate the perspectives of the member local associations to other members of the Steering Committee;
 - iii. shall coordinate the implementation of Federation campaigns and services within their member local associations.

8. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Quebec Component shall be the same as that of the Federation.

CARRIED

2007/11:098

MOTION

Local 53/Local 33

Be it resolved that the Organisational and Services Development Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

2007/11:099

MOTION

Local 26/Local 33

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended to consider the remaining Caucus and Constituency Group reports prior to item 6., Presentation of the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum Report.

DEFEATED

8. PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FORUM REPORT

a. Proposal to Conduct Research on Student Financial Assistance

2007/11:024

MOTION

Local 8/Local 78

Be it resolved that a comprehensive research paper be prepared outlining the deficiencies in the student financial assistance system nationally and articulating the Federation's vision for student financial assistance.

DEFEATED

b. Proposal on Youth Outreach in Federal Elections

2007/11:026 MOTION

Local 84/Local 8

Whereas youth voter turnout is generally lower than that of the rest of the population;

Whereas in the 2007 Ontario Election, Elections Ontario ensured there were enumeration tables and polling locations at every college and university campus in Ontario with residences;

Whereas Elections Ontario produced materials clearly communicating to students their right to declare their school address as their ordinary residence;

Whereas Elections Ontario recognised institutional student identity cards as proof of identification;

Whereas Elections Ontario recognised government-issued student loan documents and institutional communication as proof of residence;

Whereas Elections Ontario hired "Youth Outreach Officers" for every riding with a college or university campus and adopted an on-campus youth outreach strategy;

Whereas this represents a commitment to encouraging youth voter-turnout in provincial elections; and

Whereas in the 2007 Ontario Election voter turnout in ridings with university and college campuses was generally higher than the provincial average; therefore

Be it resolved that, in anticipation of the next Federal election, Elections Canada be lobbied to ensure that:

- enumeration tables are set up at every college and university campus in Canada
- polling locations are set up at every college and university campus in Canada where residences are present
- one day of advanced polling take place with polling locations set up at every college and university campus in Canada where residences are present
- materials are produced clearly communicating to students their right to declare their school address as their ordinary residence
- institutional student identity cards with a signature are recognised as proof of identification
- government-issued student loan documents and institutional communication are recognised as proof of address
- "Youth Outreach Officers" are hired for every riding with a college or university campus and adopt an on-campus youth outreach strategy in conjunction with the local students' union

Be it further resolved that member local representatives be encouraged to write to the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, Marc Mayrand, showing their support for such initiatives.

CARRIED

c. Proposal on Post-Secondary Education Act

2007/11:030 MOTION

Local 105/Local 8

Whereas since taking office, the Harper government has clearly stated its position for a reduced role of the federal government in provincial matters;

Whereas the throne speech identified the introduction of "legislation to place formal limits on the use of federal spending power for new shared-cost programs in areas of exclusive provincial jurisdiction" as a priority of the current government;

Whereas post-secondary education is defined by the Canadian Constitution as an area of provincial jurisdiction;

Whereas previous federal governments have made clear that post-secondary education is an area of sole provincial jurisdiction;

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Whereas the federal government has always played and should continue to play an important role in providing funding for post-secondary education through provincial transfer payments; and

Whereas the federal government has always played and should continue to play an important role in providing financial assistance for post-secondary students; and

Whereas the Federation has long believed that the provision of high-quality, affordable post-secondary education is the responsibility of all levels of government; therefore

Be it resolved that the federal government be lobbied on the importance of a federal role in providing high-quality and affordable post-secondary education in Canada;

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to emphasize the need for a federal role in post-secondary education to Members of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby local Members of Parliament to support Bill C-398, the Post-Secondary Education Act.

CARRIED

d. Proposal on Funding for Post-Secondary Education

2007/11:032 MOTION

Local 105/Local 8

Whereas the 2007 federal budget increased funding to the Canada Social Transfer; and

Whereas \$800 million was announced as "earmarked" for post-secondary education; and

Whereas there is no guarantee that the money "earmarked" in the budget may actually be spent by provincial governments on post-secondary education; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby provincial governments to commit to spending the increased funding announced in the 2007 federal budget on post-secondary education, and more specifically on reducing tuition fees and increasing access to and the quality of post-secondary institutions; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Council of Ministers of Education Canada and the Council of the Federation urging provincial governments to spend the increased funding on post-secondary education.

CARRIED

e. Proposal on Federal Election Promises

2007/11:043 MOTION

Local 68/Local 8

Whereas the Federation has typically run a Vote Education campaign during federal elections; and

Whereas the Federation's election campaign includes an analysis of Party platforms; and

Whereas there could be a federal election within the next six months; and

Whereas political parties are still working on platform policy to be included in an upcoming federal election; and

Whereas the Liberal Party proposed a generous grants program in their election platform in 2006 but neglected to mention increased funding; and

Whereas the Conservative Party made no commitments to increasing student financial aid for students; and

Whereas the New Democratic Party committed to creating a Post-Secondary Education Act if elected; and

Whereas it is important for the Federation to put forward suggestions for party platform policy rather than simply respond to them; therefore

Be it resolved a letter be sent to parties represented in the House of Commons summarizing the electoral promises that comprised party platforms on post-secondary education from the last federal election, and recommendations for parties to include in their platforms in an upcoming election; and

Be it further resolved that federal parties be lobbied to include Federation campaign goals in their party platforms for post-secondary education.

2007/11:100 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 68/Local 88

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:43 be amended to include:

"Be it further resolved that all registered political parties be sent a letter of recommendations for inclusion in their post-secondary platforms."

CARRIED

2007/11:043 CARRIED AS AMENDED

f. Proposal on Need-based Grants

2007/11:061 MOTION
Local 1/Local 8

Be it resolved that additional coalition partners be sought, including but not limited to other organizations that claim to represent students, for the campaign to replace the Millennium Scholarship Foundation with a national system of need-based grants.

2007/11:101 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 106/Local 36

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:061 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that additional coalition partners be sought, including but not limited to other organizations that claim to represent students, for the campaign to replace the Millennium Scholarship Foundation with a national system of need-based grants, regardless of minimum course load."

CARRIED

2007/11:061 CARRIED AS AMENDED

g. Proposal to Undertake Review of the Canada Student Loans Program

2007/11:063 MOTION
Local 1/Local 8

Whereas the Conservative government announced a review of the Canada Student Loans Program in the 2007 federal budget;

Whereas the department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada has been conducting a review over the summer; and

Whereas the results of the review are rumoured to be announced in the next federal budget; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with provincial student aid branches and communicate the Federation's goals for a national system of need-based grants.

2007/11:102 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 78/Local 7

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:063 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with provincial student aid branches and communicate the Federation's goals for a national system of need-based grants; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with provincial student aid branches and communicate the additional barriers to post-secondary education faced by marginalised groups."

CARRIED

2007/11:103 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 106/Local 105

Be it resolved that the first clause of Motion-2007/11:063 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with provincial student aid branches and communicate the Federation's goals for a national system of need-based grants, regardless of minimum course loads; and"

CARRIED

2007/11:063 CARRIED AS AMENDED

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h. Case of Anti-War Activist Alison Bodine

2007/11:065 MOTION

Local 5/Local 8

Whereas Alison Bodine, a US citizen, is a Co-chair, spokesperson and central organiser with Vancouver antiwar coalition Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO), was for three years the president of the University of British Columbia's Coalition Against War on the People of Iraq and Internationally (CAWOP), was a long-time executive committee member of the UBC Social Justice Centre, a prominent activist in solidarity with Cuba and a participant in the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba, and is a supporter of immigrant and refugee rights in Canada and the US;

Whereas near midnight on Thursday September 13, 2007 Alison Bodine was unjustly arrested by the Canada Border Services Agency and detained by the RCMP when she went voluntarily to the US-Canada border to return to the US and retrieve political materials that were previously seized;

Whereas on Oct. 31, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada upheld the CBSA charge of misrepresentation against Alison Bodine, and she was banned from Canada for two-years, as of Nov. 17 2007;

Whereas Alison's arrest, the charges against her and removal from Canada are an attack on the democratic and human rights of all individuals to organize and express their political views peacefully, an attack on the right to free speech, and an attack on immigrants, refugees, people without status, and non-residents of Canada;

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students demand that Honorable Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley lift the two year ban that has been ordered against Alison Bodine by the October 31 Immigration and Refugee Board decision and restore her right to freely travel between the US and Canada.

2008/11:104 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 7/Local 69

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:065 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that a letter be written to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted, restoring her right to freely travel between the United States and Canada.

Be it further resolved that members locals be encouraged to write letters to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted, restoring her right to freely travel between the United States and Canada."

CARRIED

2007/11:105 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 96/Local 35

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:065 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that a letter be written to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that Alison Bodine be pardoned of all charges laid September 13, 2007;

Be it further resolved that members locals be encouraged to write letters to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that Alison Bodine be pardoned of all charges laid September 13, 2007."

CARRIED

2007/11:106 MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Local 5/Local 68

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:105 be reconsidered.

CARRIED

2007/11:105 RECONSIDERED

2007/11:105 DEFEATED

2007/11:107 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 5/Local 4

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:065 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that a letter be written to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted;

Be it further resolved that members locals be encouraged to write letters to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted."

CARRIED

2007/11:108 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 97/Local 11

Be it resolved that Motion-2007/11:065 be amended to read:

"Be it resolved that a letter be written to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted immediately;

Be it further resolved that members locals be encouraged to write letters to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley demanding that the two-year ban ordered against Alison Bodine by the Immigration and Refugee Board on October 31 be lifted immediately."

CARRIED

2007/11:065 CARRIED AS AMENDED

i. Case of First Nations Activist Sharon McIvor

2007/11:109 MOTION

Local 3/Local 53

Whereas Sharon McIvor is a First Nations woman from Merritt, BC who has successfully challenged continuing sex discrimination stemming from the application of sections of the 1985 Indian Act that refer to determination of Indian status; and

Whereas Sharon McIvor's case challenges the continuing preferential treatment given to males and those whose Indian status is traced from male ancestors as a violation of the Section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the equality guarantee; and

Whereas the federal government is appealing the June 2007 BC Supreme Court ruling in favour of Sharon McIvor and her son, Jacob; and

Whereas the Court Challenges programme was cancelled by the federal government in October 2006; and

Whereas work on Sharon McIvor's case relied on funding from the federal Court Challenges programme that is no longer available; therefore

Be it resolved that, in consultation with the National Aboriginal Caucus, an amount at the discretion of the National Executive no lower than \$5,000 be donated to Sharon McIvor's court challenge;

Be it further resolved that member locals be urged to support the Sharon McIvor case with donations in-kind; and

Be it further resolved that a letter condemning the cancellation of the federal Court Challenges programme be sent to the federal government.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2007/11:110 MOTION

Local 69 /Local 71

Be it resolved that the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum Report be accepted.

CARRIED

9. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to consider.

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10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A series of logistical announcements were made.

11. ADJOURNMENT

2007/11:11 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Local 69/Local 8

Be it resolved that plenary be adjourned.

CARRIED

22:14 the meeting adjourned.

ATTENDANCE

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Delegations

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Local 3

University of British Columbia
Students' Union-Okanagan
Alexandra Caldwell
Bobby Chavarie
Ben Glassco
Rob Nagai
Michael Ouellet
Adam Wylie
Sterling Nelson

Local 75

Camosun College Student Society
Christopher Gillespie
Matthew de Groot
Lauryn Morley
Michel Turcotte
Justyne Wallace

Local 5

Capilano Students' Union
Giselle Aiabens
Vina Brown
Noah Fine
Peter Hendriks
Shaun Stewart

Local 73

City Centre Students' Union
Tiffany Kalanj
Vijaya Krishnan
Joel Pike

Local 13

College of the New Caledonia Students' Union
Valentine Crawford
Rebekah Nainchtein
Lyn Potts

Local 18

Douglas Students' Union
Wendy Case
Margaret Leibrandt
Roohafza Rahimi

Local 33

Emily Carr Students' Union
Graham Case
Meghan King
Amiel Logan
Lori MacDonald

Local 76

King Edward Students' Union
Sasha Burden
Laura Mackenrot
Robert Mealey
Donna Rose

Local 26

Kwantlen Student Association
Laura Anderson
Titus Gregory
DJ Lam
Steven Lee
Derek Robertson

Local 61

Malaspina Students' Union
Steve Beasley
Ian Caplette
Sheridan Clemson
Suzie Dunn
Mikael Jensen
Michael Olson

Local 72

North Island Students' Association
Patrick Barbosa
James Bowen
Jaden Keitlah
Tree Murdoch

Local 66

Northwest Community College Students' Association
Joanne Link
Laura Reimche
Orié Shiga

Local 53

Okanagan College Students' Union
Shannon Barnard
Jonathan Degenhardt
Mark Norris
Andrew Nelson
Nedine Scott
Dave Westmacott
Sean Rossouw
Andrew Bates

Local 4

Selkirk Students' Association
Alex Krueger
Maya Maloff
Varenka Schwarz

Local 23**Simon Fraser Student Society**

Haida Arsénault-Antolick

Amy Fox

Derrick Harder

Clea Moray

James Papadopoulos

Amanda van Baarsen

Local 15**Thompson Rivers University Students' Union**

Vanessa Holte

Nathan Lane

Local 44**University of Victoria Students' Society**

Christine Comrie

Jessie Hemphill

Tracy Ho

Caitlin Meggs

Ben Johnson

Edward Pullman

Jamie Strachan

Local 89**University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society**

Brandy Sistili

ALBERTA**Local 21****University of Calgary****Graduate Students' Association**

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Troy Eggum

Candice Powley

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Thomas Joseph Roussin

Local 9**University of Regina Students' Union**

Mike Burton

Christianne Pelletier

Jessica Sinclair

Local 101**University of Saskatchewan****Graduate Students' Association**

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Local 17**University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**

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MANITOBA**Local 37****Brandon University Students' Union**

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Melissa Moffit

Stephen Montague

Jocelyn Turnbull

Local 96**University of Manitoba****Graduate Students' Association**

Matt McLean

Aaron Glenn

Alan McGreevy

Local 103**University of Manitoba****Students' Union**

Amanda Jonson

Garry Sran

Local 38**Association étudiante du Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface**

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Marielle Gawryluk

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Harun Kibirige

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Local 28**Atkinson Students' Association**

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Mian Mohsin Masud

Zamina Meghji

Local 78**Carleton University****Graduate Students' Association**

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Cynthia Shelswell

Jessica Squires

Sheila Grantham

Nathan Hauch

Local 1**Carleton University Students' Association**

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Shelley Melanson

Danielle Sampson

Brittany Smyth

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Femi Adebayo

Paul Brown

Local 93**Glendon College Student Union**

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Amanda Sartori

Local 54

University of Guelph
Central Student Association
Cailey Campell
Jen Gorden

Local 62

University of Guelph Graduate Students'
Association
Nathan Harron
Megan Nicholson
Adam Schneider

Local 32

Lakehead University Student Union
Erin Copeland
Brendon Johnson
Richard Longtin
Colleen Parry

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Laurentian Association of Mature and
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Wanda Noganosh

**Laurentian University
Graduate Students' Association**

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Patrick Imbeau
Shantah Kanhai-Evans

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Laurentian University
Students' General Association
Sebastien Perth

Local 88

Association des étudiantes et étudiants
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Éric Blondin

Local 20

Nipissing University Students' Union
Josh Fortier

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University of Ottawa
Graduate Students' Association
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Society of Graduate and Professional Students
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Hildah Otieno
Jeremy Salter
Emily Shelton

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Ryerson Students' Union
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Alicia Murrin
Ibrahim Snobar

Ahmed El Saadany
Mohammed Halawani
Luis Mejaicano
Abdullahi Mohamed

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Scarborough Campus Students' Union
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Daniel Greanya
Chris Smith
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University of Toronto
Graduate Students' Union
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Alyson Stone
Greg West

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Jeff Peters
Ilona Peter Molnar
Shannon Young

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University of Toronto Students' Union
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Sandy Hudson
Ahmad Khan
Walied Khogali
Adnan Najmi
Dave Scrivener
Ishani Sharma
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Trent Central Student Association
Catherine Dickinson
Tyler Roach

Local 47

University of Western Ontario
Society of Graduate Students
Saidur Rahman Chowdhury

Local 56

Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students'
Association
Laleh Samarvakhsh

Local 48

University of Windsor
Graduate Student Society
Hijaz Al-Ani

Local 49

University of Windsor Students' Alliance
Carolyn Andray
Viva Dadwal
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Local 106

University of Windsor Organization of Part-
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Jane Cacciavillani
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Ben Keen

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Ben Lewis

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Ontario Representative

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