AGENDA

Opening Plenary

November 2010 National General Meeting

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

The Federation's Bylaws require that no less than one-half of the voting members of the Federation having voting rights be present in-person or by-proxy at the general meeting for business to be conducted. A roll call of the voting members will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm that a quorum of voting members is present.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

A voting member that is unable to attend some or all of the general meeting may appoint another voting member to act as its proxy at the meeting in accordance with Bylaw III. Any appointments will be announced at this time.

3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

The plenary is the formal decision-making assembly at the general meeting. The Plenary Speaker chairs general meeting plenary sessions.

4. WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

5. ADOPTION OF THE PLENARY AGENDA

The plenary will consider the plenary agenda prepared by the National Executive. Any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

6. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The plenary will consider the proposed schedule for the four days of the general meeting. Any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

7. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The plenary will consider the minutes of the previous national general meeting.

8. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. **Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures**

b. **Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting**

c. **Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer**

9. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

a. **Introduction of Electoral Officers**

b. **Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures**

The Electoral Officers will provide an overview of the election schedule and procedures at this time.

10. ADOPTION OF STANDING PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDAS

As per Standing Resolution 1, Section 1, the following plenary sub-committees and forum are automatically struck:
- Budget Committee;
- Campaigns and Government Relations Forum;
- Organisational and Services Development Committee; and
- Policy Review and Development Committee.

The plenary will consider the plenary sub-committee and forum agendas prepared by the National Executive. Any changes or additions to the agendas may be proposed at this time.

11. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

The Federation Bylaws require that all motions that seek to amend the Federation's Bylaws, Policy Manual, and Standing Resolutions or undertake campaigns be submitted no fewer than six weeks prior to the general meeting at which they are to be considered.

a. Motions Served with Notice by the Previous General Meeting

The following motion was referred to the National Executive by the May 2010 national general meeting:

2010/05:080 **MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS AND STANDING RESOLUTIONS**
Local 44/Local 93

Whereas the Students with a Disability constituency group has been inactive between general meetings; and

Whereas the group is not currently represented at the National Executive; therefore

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

b. The following representatives elected by its respective provincial components or caucuses:
   i. Alberta Representative
   ii. British Columbia Representative
   iii. Manitoba Representative
   iv. New Brunswick Representative
   v. Newfoundland-Labrador Representative
   vi. Nova Scotia Representative
   vii. Ontario Representative
   viii. Prince Edward Island Representative
   ix. Québec Representative
   x. Saskatchewan Representative
   xi. Graduate Student Representative
   xii. Aboriginal Student Representative
   xiii. Francophone Students Representative
   xiv. Racialised Students Commissioner
   xv. Women's Representative
   xvi. Students with Disability Representative

Be it further resolved that Bylaw IV, a new section 12 be added to read:

12. Duties and Powers of the Students with Disability Representative

The Students with Disability Representative shall perform all duties and such powers as established by Standing Resolution.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw IV be renumbered accordingly;

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 10 is amended to include:

9. Students with Disability National Executive Representative

The authority, role and responsibilities of the Students with a Disability National Executive representative shall be:

a. to sit on the National Executive of the Federation;

b. to be in empowered to make decisions on behalf of the Students with a Disability Constituency Group between general meetings;

c. to be responsible for representing the best interests of the constituency group between general meetings;

d. to take the direction of the constituency group during constituency group meetings during general meeting;

e. to facilitate constituency group meetings during general meetings;

f. to carry out the duties as do other National Executive members as outlined in Bylaw V in the Constitution and Bylaws; and

g. to be elected at a meeting of the Students with a Disability Constituency Group during the semi-annual general meeting of the Federation: the members of the constituency group shall elect a Students with a Disability National Executive Representative.

The National Executive recommends defeat of Motion 2009/11:N080

b. Motions Submitted by Member Locals

The following motions were served by member locals with notice and shall be considered at the meeting.

2009/11:N01 **MOTION**
Local 108/

Whereas tuition fees are a major barrier for any individual desiring a higher education, forcing students to pick between debt or no education at all; and

Whereas forcing Collège d'enseignement général et professionnel (CÉGEP) students into debt before they even reach university, can only do harm to Québec society; and

Whereas the accessibility of post-secondary education in Québec is something to protect and work toward improving; and

Whereas tuition fees at the CÉGEP level would constitute a break with Québec's proud tradition of offering the most accessible post-secondary education in the country; and

Whereas the CEGEP system has served as the only model of a near universally accessible system of post-secondary education in Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that any attempt at imposing tuition fees for Collège d'enseignement général et professionnel (CÉGEP) students be opposed.

2010/11:N02 **MOTION**
Local 108/

Whereas in recent months there have been an alarming number of teen suicides as a result of homophobia, transphobia and bullying of LBTQ people; and

Whereas many of these reported acts of bullying, homophobia, and transphobia have occurred on campuses; and

Whereas bullying can cause loneliness, depression, anxiety, and lead to low self-esteem and increased susceptibility to illness; and

Whereas the 2011 'International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia' is May 17th; and

Whereas the student movement is committed to making all campuses safe and inclusive spaces; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation participate in the 'International Day Against Homophobia and Transophobia' on May 17th, 2011; and

Be it further resolved that materials promoting the day be produced and distributed; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to pass resolutions of support for the day, and organise events on campus on and leading up to the day itself.

2010/11:N03 **MOTION**
Local 35/

Whereas Access Copyright has filed for a massive increase in the cost of its tariff; and

Whereas this unjustified cost increase will lead to students shouldering tens of millions of dollars in additional costs; and

Whereas universities and colleges currently spend hundreds of millions of dollars per year on purchasing access to journal and academic databases; and

Whereas universities directly compensating creators is more efficient and cost-effective than through Access Copyright; and

Whereas Access Copyright is no longer necessary as a licensing regime; and

Whereas Memorial University of Newfoundland has chosen to opt out of Access Copyright as of January 2011; and

Whereas this will allow the University to reduce its cost and more effectively compensate creators; and

Whereas such a model is beneficial both to post-secondary institutions and to students, who can realize savings and to creators who can be compensated in a more fair and direct manner; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation support Memorial University of Newfoundland's decision to opt out of Access Copyright; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their administrations to opt out of Access Copyright; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a toolkit to assist member locals in campaigning to get their educational institution to opt out of Access Copyright.

2010/11:N04 **MOTION**
Local 82/

Whereas Greyhound bus service is the only link for many students between school and their home community; and

Whereas Greyhound has consistently argued that it cannot afford to run unprofitable bus routes in rural parts of Canada; and

Whereas as a result, service has been limited, threatened or cut entirely from many regions of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario; and

Whereas short-term measures have emerged in some regions, including in Manitoba where $3.12 million was pledged to ensure the continuity of certain Greyhound lines in that province for an additional year; and

Whereas short-term measures that are unsustainable will not assist in ensuring the long-term viability of these bus routes; and

Whereas the Federation's We Ride Transit campaign has a current focus on inter-city transit, but could be expanded to include regional and inter-provincial transit services; therefore

Be it resolved the We Ride Transit campaign be expanded to call for a coordinated transit strategy to ensure access to and among rural and remote regions of Canada; and

Be it further resolved that publicly-funded and administered transit companies be supported to extend transit to and from rural and remote communities; and

Be it further resolved that the government of Canada and provincial governments be called on to develop transit strategies that preserve adequate service to rural and remote regions of Canada.

2010/11:N05 **MOTION**
Local 78/

Whereas Access Copyright, a reprographic licensing agency that grants licenses to post-secondary institutions outside of Québec for the use of copyrighted works has filed for its tariff for the 2011-2013 years; and

Whereas the tariff proposes an increase of over 250% in the cost of the tariff, while providing no more access to copyrighted works, and without any justification; and

Whereas the tariff also contains a number of extremely problematic propositions, including redefining copying to include sending a hyperlink, and requiring that post-secondary educational institutions grant access copyright unfettered access to all premises of the institution; and

Whereas these conditions violate the privacy and academic freedom of students, staff and faculty; and

Whereas the Federation filed a joint objection to the tariff with the Canadian Association of University Teachers; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation pursue its objection to 2011-2013 Access Copyright tariff proposal to the furthest extent possible; and

Be it further resolved that members take steps to educate their educational institutions about this tariff proposal, including making presentations to senates and institutional boards of governors.

2010/11:N06 **MOTION**
Local 78/

Whereas on June 2nd the federal government introduced Bill C-32 the Copyright Modernization Act; and

Whereas C-32 proposes a number of positive amendments, including the expansion of fair dealing to include education, the explicit legalisation of a number of common consumer practices (such as time and format shifting), a reduction in the level of statutory damages and a notice-and-notice regime for internet service providers; and

Whereas the positive aspects of C-32 are largely undermined by its proposal to implement blanket protections for digital locks; and

Whereas this blanket protection for digital locks will undermine many of the rights guaranteed to users under the Act; and

Whereas the content producing industry including big publishers associations and Access Copyright have launched an aggressive campaign against the expansion of fair dealing proposed in the Bill; and

Whereas this aggressive campaign has been largely based around misinformation and deceiving the public; and

Whereas the publishing industry has spent a considerable amount of resources lobbying the federal government, and opposition parties to remove the expansion of fair dealing from the Bill; and

Whereas expanding fair dealing is the most important part of the bill for the educational community; and

Whereas the Federation cannot match the money and resources of the publishing industry; and

Whereas the Federation's strength lies in its ability to mobilise the grassroots on campuses across the country; and

Whereas students collectively spend tens of millions of dollars to pay for the use of copyrighted works in an educational setting; and

Whereas beyond students direct uses, university libraries collectively spend over $300 million per year purchasing copyrighted works; and

Whereas the expansion of fair dealing will clarify the current law to make it explicitly clear that, when the use is fair, students have access to copyrighted works without permission or payment; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation launch a national campaign to ensure that if C-32 is adopted, it meets the needs of students and others in the educational community, specifically with regards to maintaining the expansion of fair dealing proposed in the bill as presented at first reading, and eliminating the blanket protection for digital locks; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write to their local members of Parliament to call on them to support the expansion of fair dealing and oppose the blanket protection of digital locks in Bill C-32; and

Be it further resolved that member locals run campaigns to inform their membership about the importance of fair copyright.

2010/11:N07 **MOTION**
Local 78/

Whereas the Canadian economic downturn is putting the retirement security of many workers at risk; and

Whereas the significant economic downturn in combination with an increased number of employer bankruptcies across various sectors have resulted in under-funded workplace pension plans and the actual and potential loss of promised pension benefits; and

Whereas only one in four private sector workers belong to a workplace pension plan and the remaining 3 out of 4 workers must rely more heavily on personal savings to provide for their retirement; and

Whereas the future of work for Canadians will involve multiple jobs at multiple work sites for multiple employers making portability of retirement savings important; and

Whereas the Canadian public pension system including Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) plus the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is safe but falls well short of replacing the 50% to 70% of pre-retirement income needed to maintain a decent standard of living; and

Whereas in June 2010, the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Finance announced consensus for a "modest phased-in and fully funded enhancement to defined benefits under the Canada Pension Plan"; and

Whereas the Canada Pension Plan works because of the following features:
- Universal coverage of all workers in all industries to provide defined retirement benefits as well as survivor, and disability benefits;
- Fully portable across the country regardless of the number of employers and number of jobs held;
- Jointly funded by employees and employers (4.95% each – 9.9% combined) on earnings up to annual maximum of $47,200 (in 2010);
- Inflation-indexed to CPI;
- Actuarially sound for the next 75 years;
- Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) invests assets of $123.9 billion. The Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) confirmed the CPPIB reserve fund had one of the best-performing investment returns during the 2005-09 boom-and-bust period;
- Administration fees of less than 0.05% of assets far lower than management expense ratios for privately administered assets; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call upon the Federal Government and each of the Provincial Governments to expand Canada's public pension system in the following ways:
- By increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by 15%, so no senior lives in poverty; and
- By amending the Canada Pension Plan legislation to provide for a seven year phased-in gradual increase in mandatory employer/employee contribution rates to provide for an increase in the replacement rate from 25% to 50% of the average wage

Be it resolved that the Federation will build awareness of the campaign to enhance the CPP and the GIS among its member Locals and will encourage its member Locals to contact their Members of Parliament and Provincial Legislative Assemblies in support of the phased in enhancement of CPP and the immediate increase in GIS benefits.

2010/11:N08 **MOTION**
Local 78/

Whereas the National Graduate Caucus executive consists of a separate chairperson and national executive representative; and

Whereas this structure leads to duplication of work between the Chairperson who is the chief spokesperson for the caucus, and the National Executive Representative, who represents the Caucus on the Federation's National Executive; and

Whereas the work of the Caucus is intimately tied to the broader work of the Federation; and

Whereas the Chairperson of the caucus, not acting as its voice on the Federation's National Executive leads to less effective representation and advocacy for graduate students; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Regulation 19, Article 5.a be amended to read as follows:

a. Composition

The Executive shall be composed of:
i. Chairperson; and
ii. Deputy Chairperson.

Be it further resolved that Standing Regulation 19, Article 5.d be amended to read as follows:

d. Vacancy in a Caucus Executive Position

In the event of a vacancy in the position of Caucus Chairperson or Caucus Deputy Chairperson:
i. the Caucus Executive shall have the authority to appoint a member of the National Graduate Caucus to fill the position until the next Caucus general meeting; and
ii. an election for the position shall be conducted at the next Caucus general meeting as per the election procedures set out in Standing Resolution 19, Section 6.

Be it further resolved that Standing Regulation 19, Article 6.b be struck; and

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 19, Article 6.c be amended to read as follows:

c. Eligibility

A nominee for the position of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson be a registered graduate student from a full member local association of the Federation, and be a delegate of a member local association, or a member of the Executive of the Caucus at the general meeting in which the election is being conducted.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 19, Article 7.c be amended to read as follows:

c. Individual Duties of the Chairperson

The Chairperson:
i. shall be the chief spokesperson of the Caucus and, as such, will articulate the policies of the Federation with respect to issues and matters of concern relating to graduate students;
ii. shall be responsible for the lobbying activities of the Caucus on issues of primary concern to graduate students;
iii. shall, within budgetary limitations, be available to visit member associations and non-member associations wishing to know more about the Caucus' and the Federation's policies and operations;
iv. shall coordinate production of a report, outlining the work undertaken by the executive and Caucus, for presentation to the each Federation national general meeting;
v. shall assist graduate student delegates representing the Caucus on committees at Federation national general meetings and be available to present information to committees; and
vi. shall, upon invitation, attend provincial component meetings at Federation national general meetings.
vii. shall attend all meetings of the Federation National Executive;
viii. shall be responsible for communications between the Federation National Executive and the Caucus;

ix. shall ensure that the concerns and interests of the Caucus are represented at Federation National Executive meetings; and shall present a written report to each Caucus meeting detailing actions and decisions of the Federation's National Executive.

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 19, Article 7.e be struck.

2010/11:N09 **MOTION**
Local 105/

Whereas Canada's student movement has secured numerous victories over the years both in terms of cost-savings and in policy changes that help students as they study; and

Whereas awareness of these victories are often not properly communicated to the membership; and

Whereas membership awareness material in Ontario have been warmly received by members in those provinces; and

Whereas the strength of the student movement relies in the knowledge and awareness that students have of the Canadian Federation of Students; therefore

Be it resolved that materials be produced highlighting the victories that students have won through years of activism through the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that these materials be available to member locals.

2010/11:N10 **MOTION**
Local 105/

Whereas the Studentsaver Discount Program provides students with valuable cost-saving discounts and the opportunity for members to work part-time; and

Whereas the current cycle that most member locals solicit Studentsaver discounts straddles the end of one academic year and the beginning of another, a time where many member locals are going through executive transition; and

Whereas focusing on soliciting Studentsaver discounts throughout the year would enable more solicitors to earn money and more discounts to be solicited; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to solicit discounts for the Studentsaver Discount Program year-round; and

Be it further resolved that discounts solicited after the deadline for inclusion in the Federation's handbook service be advertised on the Studentsaver Discount Programme's website.

2010/11:N11 **MOTION**
Local 105/

Whereas the Federation's bulk-purchasing of orientation materials program has proven to be a large success, with locals ordering significant quantities of ethically and sustainably produced t-shirts, pens, lanyards and other materials; and

Whereas one feature of this program is a set of freely available Federation stock graphics with images promoting the campaigns of the Federation; and

Whereas many member locals opt to use these graphics on materials they produce; and

Whereas the Federation has offered the same graphics for the past two years; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation offer a new set of stock graphics for the bulk-purchasing of orientation materials for the 2011 year.

2010/11:N12 **MOTION**
Local 24/

Whereas the current fact sheet on Aboriginal and First Nations education was created in 2004, and given recent changes in funding and issues the information needs to be updated; and

Whereas there have been changes to government spending and procedures when it comes to funding Aboriginal and First Nations students' education; and

Whereas in the past year the First Nations University of Canada's existence was threatened by the Government, and was placed on "probation" to secure additionally funding; and

Whereas the Federation and its member locals have already realised and affirmed its commitment to the rights of Aboriginal and First Nation students and First Nations education during the last National General meeting; therefore

Be it resolved that with the support of the Aboriginal caucus an updated Fact Sheet on Aboriginal and First Nations students' education be developed to reflect current issues concerning funding and access to education for Aboriginal and First Nations students.

2010/11:N13 **MOTION**
Local 24/

Whereas Statistics Canada compiles data on the level of tuition fees charged by post-secondary institutions across the country; and

Whereas Statistics Canada is the only source of comprehensive data on tuition fees across the country; and

Whereas the Federation and numerous other groups rely on this data to track tuition fees across the country and over periods of time; and

Whereas this year Statistics Canada chose to exclude the fees charged to students enrolled in Masters of Business Administration (MBA) programs from the calculations; and

Whereas this choice artificially lowered the average tuition fees charged to graduate students, making it appear as if these fees were lower than they actually are; and

Whereas the Federation relies on data that is comparable over many years and changes in calculation of this kind undermine the Federation's ability to compare data in a historic manner; and

Whereas excluding these programs from calculation contributes to the idea being put forward by many university administrators that these programs should be privatised; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on Statistics Canada to include the fees charged to Masters of Business Administration students in their annual calculation of tuition fees; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation send a letter to the head of the Department of Education Statistics at Statistics Canada, the Chief Statistician and the Minister of Industry calling on them to include the fees charged to Masters of Business Administration students in Statistics Canada's annual calculation of tuition fees and to reissue a calculation for the past year.

2010/11:N14 **MOTION**
Local 24/

Whereas the Federation developed the No Means No campaign more than ten years ago to raise awareness and to reduce the occurrence of date rape and dating violence; and

Whereas incidents of reported sexual assaults are on the rise and several severe incidents of sexual assault, rape and brutal abuse took place during the past two years across the country including on York University, Carleton University, Laurentian University, University of Ottawa and Ryerson University campuses; and

Whereas violence against women affects women from all communities and backgrounds but impacts women differently based on their race or Aboriginal ancestry, country of origin, status, religion, class, age, ability, and sexual orientation; and

Whereas violence against women and sexual assault occurs in many different forms and it is important to highlight the different ways that misogyny and violence manifest on our campuses, including but not limited to traditional and social forms of communication means; and

Whereas the violence on our campuses, in our workplaces, homes and communities has a toll, psychologically and physically, on women and there is a need to reflect on the individual and systemic forms of violence against women which continue to impact our campuses; and

Whereas forms of violence continue to take on new shapes as violence against women is being perpetrated through online and social media; and

Whereas the No Means No website should be a useful resource to assist students' unions and students across from coast to coast to coast to provide resources and up to date information on sexual assault and violence against women; therefore

Be it resolved that the Executive, with the assistance of the National Women's Representative, undertake to revise and update the No Means No campaign, including but not limited to: updating and revising campaign materials, fact sheets, buttons and stickers; and

Be it further resolved that the current No Means No website be revised, updated and expanded within the next year the to reflect how social media, Facebook, twitter, email and telephone media forms are used to harass, stock and perpetuate violence against women; and

Be it further resolved that the No Means No website be revamped to include the following: relevant and updated stats on violence against women, the different ways that violence manifests itself on our campuses and in our communities, and information about how violence affects women from different marginalised communities.

2010/11:N15 **MOTION**
Local 24/

Whereas on July 22, 2010 the Federal Government ordered a review of its affirmative action policies; and

Whereas affirmative action allows for policies to consider factors including race, color, religion, sex or national origin into consideration in order to benefit an underrepresented group, usually as a means to counter the effects of a history of discrimination; and

Whereas due to the existence of affirmative action policies, there is now greater representation of those from diverse origins in the public sector; and

Whereas the Federal government relies on data from Statistics Canada to determine how many people from each underrepresented group are in the country's workforce; and

Whereas the announcement of the hiring policy review came a day after the country's chief statistician resigned over the government's decision to axe the mandatory long census form; and

Whereas the Harper government is using the economic recovery and deficit as an excuse to roll back the important gains that have been made by women and racialised individuals through pay equity legislation, affirmative action programs and other equity based initiatives; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation issue a statement in support of affirmative action programmes and policies, explicitly indicating the benefit of acknowledging historical and systemic discrimination in hiring practices as a means to address racism, sexism and discrimination; and

Be it further resolved that the National Chairperson issue a letter to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Immigration urging them to end the review and continue the practice of affirmative action in public sector hiring; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write letters to the Prime Minister and Minister of Immigration urging them to end the review and continue the practice of affirmative action in public sector hiring.

2010/11:N16 **MOTION**
Local 24/

Whereas providing cost-saving services is an important part of membership in the Canadian Federation of Students and something that all members benefit from; and

Whereas students are always looking for new ways to save money as the cost of tuition fees continue to rise in Canada; and

Whereas several locals in the GTA have been successful in securing new discounts for their members, including Toronto Raptors, Toronto Blue Jays and the Toronto Argonauts; and

Whereas sports and recreational events are an important part in the lives of most students, but student debt, high fees and minimal disposable income may cause barriers; therefore

Be it resolved that the Executive investigate the possibility of securing sports and recreational-related discounts on tickets across the country and within different regions.

2010/11:N17 **MOTION**
Local 38/Local 8

Whereas the student delegates attending the AGM of the Federation are collectively mobilised for the duration of the meeting;

Whereas the decision-making processes can be influenced by the proximity of the AGM and by its delegates, who represent over 80 student unions, equalling more than 500,000 students across Canada;

Whereas the Federation prioritizes lobbying efforts from students on a united front;

Be it therefore resolved that the AGM included a rally on Parliament Hill to be attended by all delegates;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive be tasked with the choice of campaign to be led, as well as the date, start time, and duration of the Rally.

2010/11:N18 **MOTION**
Local 1/

Whereas, student loans owed to the federal government surpassed $15 billion for the first time in September, 2010; and

Whereas, students do not have any recourse for student financial assistance issues at the federal level; and

Whereas, documenting personal stories of students with high debt loads and experiences with repayment issues are vital to empowering students and creating a narrative that supports changes to government policy; and

Whereas, students should be enabled through their national students' union, to voice their concerns with the student financial assistance system; and

Whereas, the federal government does not collect sufficient data on student debt to allow for government policies to be informed by current realities facing students; and

Whereas, the Federation is engaged in a national campaign to tackle student debt and reduce tuition fees; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation create materials to collect information from students on their experiences with student debt, including issues with repayment of student loans, issues in applying for student financial assistance, personal experiences with the student financial assistance system, and collection agents; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation compile the experiences to further the Federation's campaign to improve the student financial assistance system and reduce student debt.

2010/11:N19 **MOTION**
Local 1/

Whereas the Youth in Transition Survey (YITS) is the only longitudinal survey that traces major transitions in young people's lives with respect to education, training and work; and

Whereas the YITS is the main source of information regarding post-secondary students in Canada; and

Whereas the YITS is required to fulfill Canada's international data collection commitments to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to compare the success of education in OECD countries and inform education, immigration, and labour market policies—all of which are vital to economic competitiveness; and

Whereas YITS has been conducted as a joint project between Statistics Canada and the ministry of Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSDC); and

Whereas HRSDC has indicated that they are reviewing funding for this essential survey, and may discontinue it; and

Whereas HRSDC has decided to discontinue funding to the National Longitudinal Survey on Children and Youth, the National Apprenticeship Survey, and the National Graduate Survey, are essential to fact-based analysis of education policy and broader economic planning; and

Whereas these cuts will impede the government's ability to develop Canada's economy and engage in reality-driven analysis of policy and programs; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the federal government to commit to long-term funding for the Youth in Transition Survey, the National Longitudinal Survey on Children and Youth, the National Apprenticeship Survey, and the National Graduate Survey; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation launch a campaign aimed at both the federal government and opposition parties to commit to long-term funding for the Youth In Transition Survey, National Longitudinal Survey on Children and Youth, the National Apprenticeship Survey, and the National Graduate Survey reinstated.

2010/11:N20 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 1/

Be it resolved that the post-secondary education policy on "Governance of Post-Secondary Institutions" be struck and replaced with the following:

Preamble

If post-secondary institutions are to fulfill their public responsibilities for the creation and transmission of knowledge and for the education of students,and staff should play a decisive role in making educational decisions and setting educational policy.

Policy

Final authority for administrative and financial matters should be vested in a board of governors, composed primarily of community representatives. Educational decisions and setting of academic policy should be the responsibility of a senior academic body called a senate.

The Federation supports:

- institutional boards of governors containing a representative sample of community members including academic and non-academic staff, students and alumni.
- the right of representatives of students' unions to participate in the decision making process.
- increasing voting representation of students on university boards of governors to fifty percent.
- The right of students' unions to democratically decide who will represent students on institutional boards of governors.
- a majority of the membership of academic senate's being academic staff elected by their colleagues, with additional representatives being student elected through a democratic process set out by their respective students' union.
- the University's President and Provost being ex-officio members of the senate;
- Membership on subcommittees of boards of governors and senates being open to all members of the respective body.
- The procedures and rules for boards of governors and senates being set out in the legislation constituting the institution, and in collective agreements negotiated between the institution and its academic staff.
- the membership of governing bodies reflecting, the diversity of the academic community in the case of a senate, and the diversity of the community in which the institution is located in the case of a board.
- governance structures of post-secondary institutions being representative of and accountable to the communities served by these institutions, to achieve equitable representation of faculty, support staff and students and to include increased numbers of economically disadvantaged people, women, aboriginal people, racialised peoples, queer people, people with disabilities, Francophones, International, mature and part-time students and student association representatives.

The Federation Opposes:

- the domination of governance structures of post-secondary institutions by members of the business and legal community.
- elections for student seats on institutional senates and boards of governors held by post-secondary institutions themselves, and not by recognised students' unions.
- students representatives on institutional governing bodies being prevented from speaking about decisions of said bodies to their members.

2010/11:N21 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 1/

Whereas sexual violence is a major issue on university and college campuses today; and

Whereas in many cases institutional responses have been less than adequate; therefore

Be it resolved that the following post-secondary education policy on "Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women on Campus" be adopted:

Preamble

When sexual violence against self-identified women occurs at a post-secondary institution, it is the responsibility of the campus community to provide a safe and inclusive environment that supports the survivor(s). Post-secondary institutions have a responsibility to take all steps necessary to eliminate the causes of sexual assault and/or violence. Too often, post-secondary institutions have publicly downplayed incidences on their campuses in order to protect the institution's reputation. Such efforts hinder the ability of campus communities to engage in meaningful and open dialogue, to address matters related to sexual violence on their campuses. Institutional policies and practices that prioritise knowledge and education and acknowledge a full range of experiences are critical to ending discrimination and violence. Such policies and practices should be rooted in the recognition of sexism as a mechanism of oppression that is intensified by racism, classism, homophobia, transphobia and ableism, as well as a range of other experiences that affect responses to the trauma of sexual violence.

In some institutional and police responses to sexual violence, visual representations of alleged perpetrators have focused on racialised characteristics. Such responses serve to target racialised groups rather than provide meaningful information such as age, height, and behaviour that will aid in identifying the perpetrator.

In addressing sexual violence on campuses, it is important for institutions to acknowledge that survivors rather than "strangers", who are not members of the campus community, know most perpetrators of sexual violence. Furthermore, it is important that institutions keep the campus community aware of ongoing developments and investigations to ensure that students are not left in a state of fear.

Policy

The Federation Supports:
- annual safety audits, that are community-driven and examine safety holistically.
- on-campus safety committees, composed of representatives of the institution, students' unions, faculty associations and staff unions, and mandated to improve safety and fulfill safety audit recommendations.
- incident reporting mechanisms that respect the rights and decisions of survivors, promote campus safety and inform the campus community of immediate risks.
- an adequate level of funding and resources for campus health and counselling services, including sexual assault crisis and trauma services, and public education on ending sexism and gendered violence.
- the inclusion in staff training and faculty professional development sessions of diversity and gender equality awareness education, especially for those staff and faculty working in security and frontlines service provision.
- the provision of adequately-funded campus safewalk services.
- on-campus sexual violence reporting systems established through the collaboration of institutional administrative bodies, students' unions, faculty associations, staff unions, and local sexual assault support centres and rape crisis centres.
- institutional policies and practices that recognise the importance of campus safety measures while at the same time promoting education, awareness and accountability with

the goal of eradicating sexism, gendered violence and systemic forms of oppression that exist within post-secondary institutions.
- institutional safety policies and practices that recognise the fact that a majority of sexual assaults occur between acquaintances.
- student-run sexual assault support services including, but not limited to emotional support, outreach activities and awareness-building campaigns.

2010/11:N22 **MOTION**
Local 94/

Whereas the federal government cancelled the 2011 long-form census of the Canadian population; and

Whereas the optional survey that the federal government has proposed to replace the long-form census will lead to biased results; and

Whereas experts widely hold that the proposed survey will undercount marginalised and disadvantaged communities, Francophones, renters and low-income families; and

Whereas the information garnered from the long-form census is essential for government to make informed public policy; and

Whereas over 350 groups representing diverse interests including the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives, the Conference of Canadian Bishops and the Canadian Association of Business Economists, amongst others, have opposed the cancellation of the long-form census; and

Whereas according to the Federation of Francophone and Acadian Communities the government will no longer be able to fulfil its obligations under the Official Languages Act without reliable data from the mandatory long census form; and

Whereas the proposed survey will both cost more than the mandatory long-form, and produce data that is of much lower value; and

Whereas the government has chosen to ignore a motion adopted by Parliament calling for the mandatory long-form census to be reinstated; and

Whereas on September 30 Carolyn Bennett, the honourable member for St. Paul's introduced Bill C-568 An Act to Amend the Statistics Act (Mandatory Long-Form Census); and

Whereas this Bill would amend the Statistics Act to require that a mandatory long-form census of the Canadian Population be conducted every five years, and would remove the threat of jail-time for the very small percent of those who received it that refused to fill it out; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the federal government to reinstate the 2011 mandatory long-form census; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation support Bill C-568 An Act to Amend the Statistics Act (Mandatory Long-Form Census); and

Be it further resolved that the Federation call on all federal political parties to support Bill C-568.

2010/11:N23 **MOTION**
Local 73/

Whereas student union websites are important tools for informing students about student union events, campaigns and services; and

Whereas more and more students search for information online and access websites using their cell-phones; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation Website Service be updated to include cell-phone optimized versions of student union websites; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation's main website be optimized for display on cell-phones.

2010/11:N24 **MOTION**
Local 73/

Whereas member locals have the ability to order high-quality and ethically-produced orientation and promotional materials through the Federation's Bulk Purchase of Orientation and Promotional Materials Service; and

Whereas this service would be valuable to extend to campus organisations such as clubs, as well as off-campus community groups; therefore

Be it resolved that work be undertaken to develop promotional materials for the Bulk Purchase of Orientation and Promotional Materials Service for member locals to use when doing outreach to on-and off-campus organisations.

2010/11:N25 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 100/

Whereas deferred maintenance in college and university campuses across Canada has resulted in ill-kept infrastructure which in many cases poses a threat to the health and safety of students, faculty and staff; and

Whereas it is the responsibility of college and university administrations to ensure that all campus facilities provide a safe environment for students, faculty and staff; and

Whereas the Federation has recognized that government funding cuts over the past two decades have left many institutions unable to provide the appropriate upkeep to aging infrastructure and have thus called on the federal government to address this funding gap; and

Whereas students, faculty and workers can play an important role in identifying health and safety concerns within their study and work spaces; and

Whereas the Federation has a long-standing tradition of working in partnership with staff and faculty unions and associations; and

Whereas many campus-based labour unions have put in place health and safety committees to address concerns in their workplace; therefore

Be it resolved that that the following Issues Policy on "Health and Safety" be adopted:

Preamble

Students spend a large portion of their time in various campus facilities, including classrooms, laboratories, libraries, study spaces or residences. Providing a safe study and work environment for students, faculty and staff is the responsibility of college and university administrations.

Health and safety concerns arise at any working environment and college and university campuses are no exception. Due to aging infrastructure and building maintenance that has been deferred for a number of years, facilities at a number of colleges and universities now pose serious challenges to the health and safety of students, faculty and staff.

While most labour unions have recognized health and safety concerns as a priority, in most cases college and university administrations do not have the appropriate structures in place to address health and safety concerns. Students can play an important role in identifying health and safety challenges and need to be part of any process to address them.

Policy

The Federation supports:
- the creation of Health and Safety committees that are student and worker driven and that include students' union representatives.
- the implementation of Health and Safety protocols at all college and university campus facilities.
- the implementation of Health and Safety education campaigns directed at students, faculty and staff and financed by the institution.
- the implementation of periodical Health and Safety assessments recommended by Health and Safety Committees and their enforcement at all campus facilities.
- infrastructure funding aimed at addressing the deferred maintenance in college and university campuses.

The Federation opposes:
- the postponement of campus facilities maintenance when this postponement compromises the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and any other people who use the campus facilities.
- the underfunding of college and universities that results in deferred maintenance.
- the creation of committees to address Health and Safety that do not have student or worker representation.
- any policies that circumvent or seek to circumvent Health and Safety standards and protocols.
- institutional policies that portray Health and Safety standards as optional.

2010/11:N26 **MOTION**
Local 68/

Whereas the Canada Student Financial Assistance Act contains a legislated ceiling of federal student debt of $15 billion; and

Whereas according to the department of Human Resources and Skills Development, the government surpassed this legislated ceiling this past September; and

Whereas over the summer, without debate or discussion the government artificially decreased its purported level of student loan liabilities by redefining "student loan" to exclude over $1.5 billion federal student debt; and

Whereas this change was made through an order-in-council requested by the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, Dianne Finley; and

Whereas the ceiling is in place to force a public discussion and debate before student debt surpasses this predefined amount; and

Whereas the government has chosen to try and sweep Canada's massive level of student debt under the rug, instead of addressing it; and

Whereas burdening a generation with billions of dollars in student debt will have long standing implications for Canada's economic stability and socio-economic equality; and

Whereas the federal government lacks a strategy to address Canada's massive levels of student debt; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the federal government to recognise that federal student debt has hit the legislative ceiling, and for Parliament to develop a national strategy to address debt student.

2010/11:N27 **MOTION**
Local 68/

Whereas, through a Freedom of Information request, it was revealed that nine Ontario colleges and universities had contracted the services of private lobby firms to lobby the provincial government on their behalf; and

Whereas the total cost of the use of these lobbyists was just over $1 million, with half of the cost spent by York University alone; and

Whereas in one case, a lobbyist secured by Algonquin College was elected in a by-election and is now the Minister of Infrastructure in Ontario; and

Whereas students' and taxpayers' money should not be used to lobby the government for more students' and taxpayers' money; and

Whereas university and college administrators already pay several hundreds of thousands of dollars to be represented by the Association of Universities and Colleges Canada; and

Whereas this practice highlights the need for a public post-secondary education system that better funded to enable the provision of a high-quality educational experience; therefore

Be it resolved that the practice of university and college administrators' hiring private lobby firms be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write to their provincial governments to ask that they prohibit public post-secondary institutions from hiring lobbyists.

2010/11:N28 **MOTION**
Local 68/

Whereas the Federation has a long standing campaign against the discriminatory Canadian Blood Services' policy that prevents men who have sex with men from donating blood; and

Whereas Canada Blood Services has just appointed Rabbi Dr. Reuven Bulka to their Board of Directors; and

Whereas Rabbi Dr. Reuven Bulka has in the past sat on the Board for National Association for Research and Therapy for Homosexuality which advocates that "homosexuality can be cured"; and

Whereas Canada Blood Services claims they are working towards ending the lifetime ban on men who have sex with men from donating blood; and

Whereas appointing Rabbi Dr. Reuven Bulka to the Board of Directors for Canada Blood Services shows unwillingness to seriously consider the discrimination that Queer and Trans people face on a day to day basis; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation write a letter condemning Canada Blood Services for appointing someone with those viewpoints to their Board of Directors; and

Be it further resolved that individual member locals of the Federation be encouraged to do so as well.

2010/11:N29 **MOTION**
Local 68/

Whereas there have been ten high-profile suicides of queer youth in recent months; and

Whereas the effects of discrimination and intolerance are much broader and more common than media-reported incidents would suggest; and

Whereas three out of four suicide attempts by youth have been tied directly to the actual or perceived sexual orientation of the victim; and

Whereas youth who face discrimination, intolerance and violence based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation often experience isolation and lack vital supports; and

Whereas in response to these realities a YouTube campaign titled, "It Gets Better" has been launched to reach out to queer youth that may experience discrimination based on their sexual orientation, such as bullying, and may feel isolated in their experiences; and

Whereas the videos feature stories of queer people who also experienced violence, discrimination and intolerance based on their sexual orientation during high school or in their youth in order to build a link with queer youth who may currently be in crisis; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation coordinate a video contribution to this online campaign; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to contribute to the "It Gets Better" campaign by working with campus groups to produce videos of students telling their stories; and

Be it further resolved that an online factsheet outlining the effects of homophobia and transphobia on youth and students be created to assist member locals in creating these videos and conducting outreach on their campus.

2010/11:N30 **MOTION**
Local 37/

Whereas, students are opposed to sweatshop materials and/or materials manufactured by companies involved directly or indirectly in the undermining of workers' rights on university and college campuses; and

Whereas, the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC) is an independent labour rights monitoring organization, conducting investigations of working conditions in factories to combat sweatshops and protect the rights of workers; and

Whereas, over 175 colleges and universities are affiliates of the WRC across North America including: York University, Ryerson University, Trent University, University of Toronto, Queen's University, and McMaster University; and

Whereas, membership in the WRC assists in combating the presence of sweatshop materials on campus; and

Whereas, the WRC's Designated Supplier Program (DSP) ensures that universities and colleges only purchase from suppliers who do not use sweatshop materials and uphold the democratic rights of workers to assemble, unionise, and bargain; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation produce materials to call on university and college administrators to affiliate with the Worker Rights' Consortium (WRC) and adopt the Designated Supplier Program (DSP).

2010/11:N31 **MOTION**
Local 37/

Whereas the Federation operates a Bulk Purchase of Orientation Materials Service that aims to provide member locals with ethically made promotional materials; and

Whereas this service has developed a long-standing relationship with the Single Mother's Co-operative of El Salvador, which has been its manufacturer for over six years; and

Whereas this service has resulted in student unions having a direct impact on the model of the materials industry and supports cooperative as an alternative economic model; and

Whereas members of the Federation would benefit from information on the impact of the service to further build support for worker's rights and ethical purchasing policies; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation commission a study on the impacts of the Bulk Purchase Orientation Materials Service on the community and life of members of the Single Mother's Co-operative of El Savador;

Be it further resolved that this study examine the following criteria, amongst others: working conditions for members of the Co-operative, economic impacts of the service on the community, recent and possible improvements to the service, etc;

2010/11:N32 **MOTION**
Local 37/

Whereas, the Federation's Bulk Purchasing of Orientation Materials Service facilitates the delivery of sweatshop-free materials on campuses across Canada; and

Whereas, the Federation's Bulk Purchasing of Orientation Materials Service works with the Single Mothers' Cooperative of El Salvador; and

Whereas, the Service furthers Federation policies to support workers' rights, ethical purchasing, and university and college codes of conduct; and

Whereas, the Bulk Purchasing of Orientation Materials Service has been expanded to open purchasing throughout the year; therefore,

Be it resolved that the Service be renamed the Sweatshop-free Materials Service.

2010/11:N33 **MOTION**
Local 103/

Whereas on June 17, Tony Martin the honorable member for Sault-Ste Marie introduced Bill C-545 An Act to Eliminate Poverty In Canada; and

Whereas this bill was seconded by Michael Savage the honorable member for Dartmouth–Cole Harbour and Liberal critic for Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSD), and Yves Lessard the honorable member for Chambly-Borduas and the Bloc Quebecois critic for HRSD; and

Whereas the Bill requires the federal government work in partnership with provinces, territories and other key stakeholders including First Nations communities to develop and deliver a comprehensive poverty elimination strategy for Canada; and

Whereas there are at least 3.4 million people poor in Canada and more than one in ten Canadians lives below the poverty line; and

Whereas poverty massively drives up the cost of social services, health care and public order; and

Whereas allowing a large proportion of Canada's population to live in poverty severely restricts millions of Canadians from contributing to Canada and the economy to their full ability; and

Whereas the costs of poverty far outweigh the expenditure required to eliminate it; and

Whereas poverty is a substantial barrier for many students who would otherwise go on to attend college or university; and

Whereas low-income Canadians continue to be extremely underrepresented in Canada's post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas the federal government already has a series of effective tools at its disposal to reduce and eventually eliminate poverty, including the Canada Social Transfer, the Old Age Security Program, income security programs, child benefits, employment insurance and Working Income Tax Benefit; and

Whereas these programs are currently not coordinated towards eliminating poverty; and

Whereas such coordination would require a minimal amount of resources and pay a substantial dividend; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation endorse Bill C-545 An Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation call on the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to work with key stakeholders including Aboriginal groups, to develop and deliver a comprehensive poverty elimination strategy for Canada.

2010/11:N34 **MOTION**
Local 103/

Whereas millions of Canadians currently live below the Low Income Cut Off (LICO); and

Whereas one in ten children in Canada live in poverty; and

Whereas poverty disproportionately effects people based on gender, sexual identity, race, ability, citizenship status and age; and

Whereas the recent economic recession has meant record job loss and increases in personal debt, often among the most vulnerable; and

Whereas access to healthcare, housing, education, childcare and a living wage are rights in a fair and equitable society; and

Whereas addressing poverty requires a coordinated national strategy and commitment; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation sign on the Dignity For All Campaign for a poverty-free Canada; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to sign onto the campaign.

2010/11:N35 **MOTION**
Local 44/

Whereas for centuries the Provincial and Federal Governments have worked to assimilate and decimate First Nations culture and livelihood; and

Whereas this has been demonstrated through land acquisition, residential schools, boarding schools, and many other unethical and oppressing policies established through the Indian Act; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students takes up space and land that contributes to the marginalization of First Nations and should work to decolonize itself; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation acknowledge the Traditional Territory that it resides on at the beginning of every National meeting to work towards decolonizing its presence; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation take steps to help members recognize the Traditional Territories that they conduct their meetings on so that each Local can begin to acknowledge the Traditional Territory to which they reside.

2010/11:N36 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 44/

Be it resolved that the following Issues Policy "Food Security" be adopted:

Preamble

Canadian students, often struggling with debt and living below the poverty line, can find themselves unable to access affordable, nutritious food. Food security is the principle that everyone should be able to fulfill as a basic need. Students, faculty and staff at post-secondary institutions across Canada are working towards food security through institutions like food banks and community gardens. As a concept, food security connects the needs of hungry students to the lack of local produce and to the more and more unaffordable cost of food on campuses. Students are typically at the forefront of positive social change and by addressing the issues of food security, we can help to alleviate some of the social and environmental inequalities that Canadians increasingly face.

Policy

The Federation supports:
- the principle of food security which the WHO defines as "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life".
- the establishment of food banks, food buying co-op programs, subsidized meal plans and other such

programs which place access to nutritious food within the means of all students.
- the allotment of campus vegetable garden plots in university infrastructure plans for use by students.
- university and student society purchasing policies that support the growth of local and organic farms.
- the development of institutional frameworks that empower students, faculty, staff and community in a democratic process to manage and improve food security programs.
- the Federation encourages universities to expand curriculums for agriculture, food systems, permaculture and other related disciplines and relate those programs to co-op programs, work studies and practicum work that improves the food security of the post-secondary institution and surrounding community.

The Federation opposes:
- The expansion of post-secondary institutions at the cost of agricultural land., particularly land held in agricultural land reserves or conservation trusts
- Funding cuts to food banks and other programs which support student food security.

2010/11:N37 **MOTION**
Local 44/

Whereas the Members at the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) submitted a valid petition verified by the University Registrar in accordance with the Bylaws of the Canadian Federation of Students asking for a referendum to be held on continued membership; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students has refused to conduct a referendum on continued membership for members of the University of Victoria Students' Society; and

Whereas the University of Victoria Students' Society has resolved to hold a referendum in accordance with the wishes of its members; and

Whereas the University of Victoria Students' Society is fully prepared to challenge the Federation's refusal to hold a referendum and the supposed "debt" that is suddenly claimed by the Federation; and

Whereas if this dispute is resolved through legal means, legal professionals estimate that the cost of resolving this dispute for both organizations will range in the hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees and potentially drag on for years; and

Whereas all legal fees in this dispute will be paid for by students who contribute to both organizations, which would otherwise be spent on important services and campaigns; and

Whereas even if a referendum led to the result of UVSS members choosing not to continue membership, which is not necessarily determined, the Federation and the

Students Society could still hold another referendum to rejoin in the following year (requiring a quorum of only 5%!); therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students conducts a referendum on continued membership for members of the University of Victoria Students' Society, in compliance with CFS bylaws current to when the petition was submitted, to take place in accordance with the direction of a Referendum Oversight Committee.

2010/11:N38 **MOTION**
Local 44/

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students - BC has communicated orally, by email, and through their 2010-2011 budget documents that the University of Victoria Students' Society currently owe $159,186.24 in outstanding member fees for the 2009-2010 fiscal year and have also communicated that CFS national also considers a similar amount of monies to be owing; and

Whereas University of Victoria Students' Society membership fees during that fiscal year are clearly documented to be paid in full; and

Whereas the oral claim provided by a Federation staff member is that the debt has been applied retroactively against previous years in which the students' society had not yet passed a referendum to collect member fees based on inflation; and

Whereas the Federation has failed to issue any claim to the University of Victoria Students Society regarding this supposed debt within either the past six years, or the six year statute of limitations; and

Whereas the Federation also failed to provide registered notice of membership dues as required by the Operations Bylaws; and

Whereas this claim of a decade-old debt, which was not discussed in previous years CFS financial documents, takes place in the context of the efforts of a number of students at the University of Victoria to de-federate, or de-certify, which this "debt" would prevent; and

Whereas it has been verbally communicated there is a similar claim of debt to the CFS national but no records have been forth coming; and

Whereas these claims are not consistent with Section 32 of the Crown Liability and Proceedings Act, the federal law which places a statute of limitations on debt issued to within 6 years; and

Whereas the CFS National Treasurer has been repeatedly asked about the claim of an outstanding debt; and

Whereas it has been more than 45 days since the initial inquiry by the UVSS to the CFS national office about fees claimed, a clear violation of Bylaw 1, Section 3, subsection b, vii, as passed by voting members at the May 2010 Semi-Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas the tactic of imposing a massive debt on a member local is an attack on the very principle of student solidarity and a devastating blow to the credibility of the Federation on the University of Victoria campus; therefore

Be it resolved that the CFS withdraw any claims of outstanding fees and any related interest charges that the Canadian Federation of Students claim from the University of Victoria Students' Society and all membership dues be considered to be paid in full for the 2009-2010 fiscal year; and

Be it further resolved that the CFS hire an independent Chartered accountant to perform a forensic audit of the CFS membership fee collection and accounting practices and write a report to be presented at the next Semi-Annual General Meeting of the CFS-National; and

Be it further resolved that the National Treasurer be censured for failing to meet the requirements set out in the Bylaws.

2010/11:N39 **MOTION**
Local 11/

Whereas water is essential to life and a human right; and

Whereas the majority of Canadians especially in urban areas have access to safe, clean tap water while many rural communities do not have access to the same; and

Whereas some 109 First Nations communities in Canada are without safe drinking water (some for longer than a decade) and many First Nations communities must haul their water, boil their water, drink bottled water, and accept water rations; and

Whereas at the May 2010 National General Meeting the Federation endorsed the Empty Glass For Water campaign that draws attention to the urgent need to address issues relating to access to safe, potable water in First Nations communities; and

Whereas bottled water is more expensive and less regulated, consumes more energy and releases more harmful toxins into the environment than tap water; and

Whereas as part of its ongoing sustainability campaign the Federation works with the Polaris Institute to resist the privatization of public water resources and the proliferation of bottled water on campus; and

Whereas the Federation has been active on the institutional, municipal and provincial level pushing for the phasing out of bottled water where potable water is available; and

Whereas the Federation also advocates for increased investment in water fountains and public water infrastructure; and

Whereas the Federation is currently planning the second annual Bottled Water Free Day with the Sierra Youth Coalition and Polaris institute for March 10, 2011; therefore

Be it resolved that where possible Bottled Water Free Day materials emphasize that the Federation supports increased investment in water fountains, filling stations and public water infrastructure at our institutions and in our communities.

2010/11:N40 **MOTION**
Local 53/

Whereas the detainment of over 1000 individuals demonstrating against the G20 in Toronto, June 26-27, 2010 represents the largest mass arrest in Canadian history; and

Whereas women detained by police during demonstrations against the G20 have publicly reported that they were threatened with sexual assault by G8-G20 Integrated Security Unit personnel; and

Whereas eyewitness accounts indicate that individuals of French and Quebecois ancestry were detained by G8-G20 Integrated Security Unit personnel as a result of ethnic profiling; and

Whereas Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair admits that he deliberately misled the media and public as to the scope of Ontario's Public Works Protection Act; and

Whereas G8-G20 Integrated Security Unit personnel in Toronto used force resulting in injury to peaceful demonstrators; and

Whereas total costs for the G8-G20 are expected to exceed $1.1 billion; and

Whereas all parties in Parliament have agreed to a parliamentary inquiry into the costs and tactics surrounding the G8 and G20 summits; and

Whereas a public inquiry cannot make a legal finding of guilt or liability, nor can it force the government to act according to its advice; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the Ontario government to call a full judicial inquiry into the actions of the G8-G20 Integrated Security Unit and Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair.

2010/11:N41 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 98/

Whereas the Federation's academic freedom policy has not been updated since 2001; therefore

Be it resolved that the post-secondary education policy on "Academic Freedom" be struck and replaced with the following:

Preamble

Public institutions of higher education serve the common good of society through searching for, and disseminating, knowledge; truth; and understanding; and through fostering independent thinking and expression in students, teaching faculty members and academic researchers. The intrusion of proprietary interests into the classroom and research

environments places pressure on public institutions of higher education to alter their mission in order to secure and/or retain funding from private and government sources. Insufficient government operating and research grants cause public institutions to become dependant on private sector funds and therefore private sector goals. Matched funding initiatives such as the Canada Foundation for Innovation are direct measures to bind publicly funded projects to the goals of private industry. Examples of the negative implications of restricted academic freedom include: researchers critical of industry, university, or government practices having positions threatened; courses and research not considered commercially relevant being under-funded or eliminated; and, in general, the democratic voice of dissent becoming increasingly silenced. For colleges and universities to remain true to their mission to pursue knowledge for its own sake and "to promote, through teaching and research, the principles of freedom and justice, of human dignity and solidarity" (UNESCO international conference, 1950), the tenets of academic freedom must be held as indispensable.

Policy

The Federation believes Academic Freedom includes, but is not limited to, the right of members of the academic community – scholars, teachers, and students – to: be openly critical; express without fear of reprisal or institutional censorship, their views through research, teaching and discussion; acquire, preserve, and provide access to academic research and materials in all formats; to do so in accordance with nationally and democratically established ethical and professional standards.

The Federation supports:
- the right of students, teaching faculty members, and academic researchers in all forums to exercise academic freedom.
- a respectful attitude towards others and the right of all people to express their views and opinions in a safe environment.
- collaboration and consultation on academic research matters between the academic. community and community at-large and the administration of public institutions where it ensures academic freedom.

The Federation opposes:
- academic freedom where it is used to discriminate against others.
- any agreement, decision or contract that infringes upon a student, teaching faculty member, or academic researcher's academic freedom including, but not limited to, unilateral decisions to publish results or papers; withhold the release of controversial findings; stifle academic debate or ethical questioning of institutional policies or procedures; close down public institutions, or form legally-binding commitments to private sectors.
- all policies of the federal and provincial governments designed to increase private sector control in any area of post-secondary education.

2010/11:N42 **MOTION**
Local 98/

Whereas humanities programmes offer an important critical lens for viewing the world, making it possible to think beyond our contemporary society context; and

Whereas large numbers of small humanities programmes across the continent are being dismantled or threatened with closure; and

Whereas at the University of Toronto, humanities programmes such as Equity Studies, Disability Studies, African Studies, Near and Middle Eastern Civilisations, and Caribbean Studies have faced major budget cuts in the last five years; and

Whereas at the University of Toronto, South Asian Studies, once a substantial department at the University of Toronto, has lost its autonomy, was partitioned to the Munk School for Global Affairs, and is now offered only as a minor programme; and

Whereas the University of Toronto has proposed that "the Departments of East Asian Studies, Germanic Languages & Literatures, Italian Studies, Slavic Languages and Literatures and Spanish & Portuguese be incorporated into a proposed School of Languages and Literatures, a new unit designed to strengthen the profile of teaching and research in languages in the Faculty," while removing the critical, disciplinary approaches currently taught in these programmes; and

Whereas the University has recently announced that the Centre for Ethics will be closing, four years after a major infrastructural and academic expansion; and

Whereas the History and Philosophy of Education programme at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), one of the most renowned programmes of its type on the continent, is slated to close; and

Whereas the University of Guelph cut eight of its "small" humanities programmes in 2008-09, including Women's Studies; and

Whereas the president of the University at Albany (SUNY - State University of New York) recently announced the elimination of the of the school's programs in Theatre, Classics, Italian, Russian, and French; and

Whereas decisions to amalgamate humanities programmes are incongruent with decisions related to social sciences and sciences programmes, as no school would, for example, propose to amalgamate all of the experiment-based science programmes on the basis that they all use laboratory equipment; and

Whereas the decisions to shut down these programmes are often made by small groups of university administrators that lack any amount of meaningful faculty and student input, such as the case at the University of Toronto and its "Strategic Planning Committee"; and

Whereas federal funding for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) has been limited to those projects that are deemed "commercially viable," thereby removing a significant number of projects that deal with fundamental questions of human existence from potential funding; and

Whereas these decisions are short-signed and ignorant of the complexity, nuance, and importance of humanities teaching and research; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to write letters to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Provost at the University of Toronto opposing the creation of the School of Languages and Literatures and the dismantling of the Centre for Ethics, the Centre for Comparative Literature, and the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies; and

Be it further resolved that provincial and federal governments be called upon to invest in interdisciplinary and humanities teaching and research; and

Be it further resolved that the cuts to humanities and small research programmes, particularly interdisciplinary programmes be opposed; and

Be it further resolved that materials be created with information emphasising the lack of funding, both provincially and nationally, for humanities programmes in post-secondary education.

2010/11:N43 **MOTION**
Local 98/

Whereas student unions offer members cost-saving services to lower the cost of pursuing post-secondary education; and

Whereas student-run book exchanges and used bookstores allow students to save money by buying discounted textbooks and selling their own books to other students; and

Whereas used textbook rental programs have emerged in campus bookstores in many universities and colleges; and

Whereas these rental programs are designed to maximise the profits for the private bookstores and to compete with used bookstores and book exchange programs that are run by student unions; and

Whereas the used textbook rentals are affecting local book exchange programs or used bookstores run by student unions; and

Whereas the rental fee for the books can be above 50% of the price of the book; and

Whereas textbook returns under the rental programs are not guaranteed and subject to approval by program administrators; and

Whereas the summation of processing fees charged in addition to the book rental fee exceed the original cost of the textbook; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation condemn private for-profit textbook rental programmes that interfere with member local services and provide a disincentive for students to use these services to save money; and

Be it further resolved that member locals run a campaign on their campuses to raise awareness about private, for-profit campus services that falsely purport to save students money; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation strike a working group to help member locals improve and expand local book exchange programs.

2010/11:N44 **MOTION**
Local 98/

Whereas the Lord Browne of Madingley released a report commissioned by the British government, titled "Securing a Sustainable Future for Higher Education: An Independent Review of Higher Education Funding & Student Finance" on October 12, 2010; and

Whereas this report was commissioned to inform the current government's development of policy around university tuition fees and funding over the next decade; and

Whereas this report makes strong recommendations for the privatisation of education through the complete deregulation of tuition fees and the introduction of an income-contingent loan repayment scheme while insisting that post-secondary education remain accessible to all students with the capacity to succeed; and

Whereas all existing income-contingent loan repayment schemes have proven to ensure the inaccessibility of post-secondary education through skyrocketing tuition fees and high levels of debt for graduates, leading to a life of interest charges and debt; and

Whereas the Review calls for an unnecessary and wasteful reproduction of the progressive income-tax system through the charging of higher fees to wealthier graduates; and

Whereas the Review consistently refers to the "private benefits" of a post-secondary education and uses this as a justification for the downloading of costs onto students; and

Whereas the Review would commit poorer students who just surpass the income threshold to a debt-repayment contract of over 30 years, after which any remaining balance is written off by the government. For a graduate living at the poverty line, this would ensure a yearly commitment of 10% of their total income for 30 years without affecting the principle fee owed whatsoever; and

Whereas five of the seven members of the Review hail directly from the private sector, specifically from financial institutions or major multi-national industrial corporations, suggesting an incredibly narrow intellectual breadth and capacity; and

Whereas the Federation has policy around the responsibility of governments to fully fund post-secondary institutions and ensure low tuition fees, if any, for greater accessibility; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation oppose the report produced by Lord John Browne of Madingley, "Securing a Sustainable Future for Higher Education: An Independent Review of Higher Education Funding & Student Finance"; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation write a letter to the British Prime Minister, David Cameron, and to the Minister of State for Universities and Science, David Willetts, supporting the British National Union of Students in such opposition; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters.

2010/11:N45 **MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY**
Local 98/

Whereas the Federation's academic freedom policy has not been updated since 2001;

Whereas during the past six years there have been three bills aimed at updating the *Copyright Act*;

Be it resolved that the post-secondary education policy on "Copyright" be struck and replaced with the following:

Preamble

Students both create and use artistic and literary material during their studies. While it is important to protect the rights of creators', the rights of users of copyright material must also be considered because access to works is essential to the learning process. As creators and owners of copyright material (essays, articles, theses and multi-media productions), students need to protect their work from unjust appropriation. But to study, research, write and create new knowledge, students also need ready access, at a reasonable cost, to the copyrighted works of others.

Overly rigid legislation prevents individuals from accessing publicly available materials. It can prevent students, researchers, and scholars from willingly exchanging knowledge and information. Further, copyright laws that fail to clearly define the rights of users are often interpreted by educational institutions in the most strict way possible, as they are weary of an often very litigious content producing and publishing industry.

Those who argue for greater owner rights are frequently private and commercial interests while non-profit groups representing the public interest have fought to keep access to knowledge public. Indeed, a robust and flexible set of users' rights is essential for creators to create. Much of Canada's most innovative research is carried out by graduate students in universities. To be able to properly produce knowledge these graduate researchers and their supervisors need reasonable access to works published by their peers. Any increase in cost or limits to access resulting from restrictive copyright law or unbreakable digital locks, will slow down the rate of innovation and hinder Canada's competitiveness.

Copyright laws should establish an incentive framework that produces an environment where creators are able to create new things, but does not engender a system where the owners and distributors of copyrighted works maintain unnecessarily long-terms of control over their use. Knowledge is at the heart of a dynamic and productive arts and research community and must not be controlled by owners for exceedingly long periods of time if the potential for competition and innovation is to be maximised.

Without a fair balance between the interests of creators, users, and owners there is reduced incentive for investment in the creation of new works and knowledge. Investment in new products and innovation by creators requires that they benefit financially from their works. However, if ownership rights are too severe, they will greatly restrict the ability of the Canadian public to access and make use of these works for fair and reasonable purposes, ones which inspire creativity and future innovation.

Students are served by a Copyright Act that fairly balances the interests of users, creators, and owners of copyright works. It is only with such balance that a robust information commons—a place where information and knowledge exist as our shared heritage—can thrive.

Policy

The Federation Supports:
- copyright legislation that achieves a balance between the rights of creators and users of copyrighted works.
- the move towards an information commons in which ideas and information are not property, but rather are shared heritage of humanity, as integral to Canada's social and economic well-being.
- a notice-and-notice regime for internet service providers.
- a flexible definition of fair dealing, that is interpreted in a broad and liberal manner.
- protection for creators against waiving moral rights as part of any publishing or distribution agreement.
- regulations on the use of anti-circumvention measures, technological protection measures and all other forms of digital locks, that prevent them from being applied in a manner that would violate users' rights.

The Federation Opposes:
- copyright legislation that prevents students from reasonable access to information on the Internet.
- the statutory protection of anti-circumvention measures, technological protection measures and all other forms of digital locks.

- the inclusion of statutory damages for copyright infringement.
- the subsistence of copyright protection on works of the Crown.
- the ratification of international treaties and conventions by Canada that limit users' rights beyond the scope of the Copyright Act.
- specific and limited exceptions for the use of copyrighted works in an educational context.
- extended licensing in educational institutions that lead to increasing ancillary and user fees for access to academic material on the Internet.

2010/11:N46 **MOTION**
Local 98/

Whereas the Canadian University Queer Services Conference (CUQSC) is an annual conference that connects campus queer service and advocacy groups across Canada that was initiated by the University of Ottawa in 2006 and has been held in Winnipeg (2007), Montreal (2008), Guelph (2009) and Victoria (2010); and

Whereas the Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Trans People of the University of Toronto (LGBTOUT), with the assistance of the University of Toronto Students' Union, is hosting the CUQSC Conference in 2011; therefore

Be it resolved that a donation to be determined by the National Executive be allocated to the overall operating costs of CUQSC 2011; and

Be it further resolved that assistance be provided to help conference organizers with outreach to and coordination with member locals and other provincial bodies in order to encourage attendance and solicit financial contributions to CUQSC 2011; and

Be it further resolved that in-kind support and resources be provided to the CUQSC 2011 planning committee; and

Be it further resolved that the feasibility of a travel pool for provincial and national participation be investigated.

c. Motions Submitted by the National Executive

2010/11:N47 **MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**
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Whereas the bylaws currently state that Semi-Annual General Meeting will be held between April 30 and May 31 of each year; and

Whereas the majority of labour, civil society, and social justice organisations hold their general meetings during the month of May, resulting in a lack of available meeting space in the Ottawa-Gatineau region; and

Whereas the bylaws allow for a larger range of days to hold the Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas the current timeline provided in the by-laws has resulted in significant logistical planning issues for the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2, Article 1.a be amended to read as follows:

> The Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Federation will be held between April 30 and June 10 of each year.

12. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

As per Bylaw V, Section 2-f., the National Executive will present a report to the plenary detailing the work of the Federation undertaken since the previous national general meeting.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. RECESS