



For Immediate Release

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McMaster Students Union Demands Commitment to Tuition Freeze in Upcoming Provincial Campaign

HAMILTON - McMaster Students Union (MSU) President David Campbell announces today in a letter sent out to all three party leaders in the Ontario government that the MSU strongly advocates for a commitment in the upcoming campaign to freeze all tuition and supplementary fees for students over the next four years. The MSU seeks assurance that should they be elected, Andrea Horwath, Kathleen Wynne, and Tim Hudak leaders of the NDP, Liberal, and conservative parties will commit to the freeze.

“The MSU recognizes that a tuition freeze is the only appropriate answer to increasing concerns over rising student debt, graduate employment uncertainty, and the economic pressures being faced by both students and their families,” stated David Campbell, President of the MSU. “Past solutions most commonly end in government assistance programs, however for those ineligible for the programs the problem remains the same”.

In a recent document released by the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA), the long-term ramifications that result from tuition increase appear to be synonymous with an entire student movement. This year, Ontario claimed both highest tuition increase and tuition rate in the country. The result of this is two-fold in the way that it affects not only the students, but the Ontario government as well.

High tuition costs contribute to the already existent problem of unequal access to post-secondary education. This gives rise to the pressure for governments to invest more in financial assistance for students to who need it. According to the Ministry of Finance, Ontario already invests over 1 billion dollars in financial support programs for students.

This year, the MSU aims to concentrate on working with provincial leaders to ease the pressures faced by students as a result of high tuition costs. The MSU stands grounded in their belief that in the long run, a tuition freeze will not only benefit students, but elected officials and the Ontario budget as well.

The MSU is the central undergraduate student government at McMaster University and employs more than 30 operational departments. Further information including details on services and governance can be found at www.msucmcmaster.ca

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