

NDP Slashes Grants to Universities

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excelsior January 22, 1992

say:

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH



In the last 5 years the federal government has slashed \$3.2 billion from post-secondary education funding... and you're being asked to pay for it!



Joint Statement from the York Community

The quality of our post-secondary education is under attack! We are appalled by the decision of the provincial government to freeze transfer payments to colleges and universities in Ontario for the coming year. This action, which is a cut in real dollar value, compounds the damage done by the federal government who slashed \$3.2 billion from transfer payments that fund post-secondary education.

The failure to adequately fund post-secondary education is mortgaging not only the future of our educational institutions, but the future of our society which desperately needs people with post-secondary training. In an attempt to reach current budgetary goals, we are jeopardizing our economic future. We demand that the federal and provincial governments honour their verbal commitments to providing a high-quality, accessible system of post-secondary education in the province.

This funding decision will allow the critical condition of our institutions to further deteriorate. It will be seen in slashed enrollments, fewer courses being offered, skyrocketing tuition fees, overcrowded classes, diminishing levels of safety on campus, and cuts in support services.

We believe that education is a right, not a privilege! The assault on our system of education has begun. If we wish to avoid the day when only the children of the privileged will have access to post-secondary education, please join us in our fight for accessibility and quality. We will be having an organizing meeting on Monday, January 27 at 4:30 in #1156 Vari Hall. Call the YFS office at 736-5324 for more information.

YORK FEDERATION OF STUDENTS
FÉDÉRATION DES ÉTUDIANT(E)S DE YORK

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FIGHT BACK!

Organizing Meeting for Members of the York Community Concerned with the Quality of Post-Secondary Education:

MONDAY
JANUARY 27th at
4:30 p.m.
in VARI HALL
1 1 5 6

(tentative location: call YFS at 736-5324 for update)

"I think we're looking at a [university] system down the road that is smaller, that does not provide as many opportunities as is it does now. Accessibility is one of the things that will have to be lost."

Peter George
Council of Ontario Universities
President

- Twelve years of decreased funding has drastically crippled the budgets of Ontario universities
- In the last 5 years the federal government has slashed \$3.2 billion from post-secondary education funding.
- Over the past few years tuition fees have outpaced inflation while government funding has dwindled.
- Despite NDP party policy to freeze and gradually eliminate tuition fees the provincial government opted to keep the annual 8% tuition increase.
- In December 1991, the COU released a working paper calling for a \$550 increase in tuition each year for four years to be paid by incoming students as a response to government underfunding.
- Recently the COU predicted enrollment cuts and staff layoffs or a 33% tuition increase to avoid drastic transfer cuts.

Now the provincial government is slashing transfer payments to colleges and universities to their lowest levels ever; 1% the first year, followed by 2% each for the two years following. At least a 7% increase, according to the COU, is necessary to protect the present degree of education, accessibility and jobs in Ontario universities. Ultimately tuition fees will skyrocket and decrease accessibility to post-secondary education. The quality of your education is at stake.

FIGHT BACK!

STOP THE CUTS!