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### **TO OUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS:**

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

BEHOLD! THE ANGELS SAID: "O MARY! ALLAH (GOD) GIVES YOU GLAD TIDINGS OF A WORD FROM HIM:

HIS NAME WILL BE CHRIST JESUS, THE SON OF MARY, HELD IN HONOUR IN THIS WORLD AND THE HEREAFTER AND OF THE COMPANY OF THOSE NEAREST TO ALLAH (GOD);

HE SHALL SPEAK TO THE PEOPLE IN CHILDHOOD AND IN MATURITY. AND HE SHALL BE OF THE COMPANY OF THE RIGHTEOUS." SHE SAID "O MY LORD! HOW SHALL I HAVE A SON WHEN NO MAN HAS TOUCHED ME?" HE SAID: "EVEN SO; ALLAH (GOD) CREATES WHAT HE WILLS WHEN HE HAS DECREED A MATTER,

HE BUT SAYS TO IT, 'BE,'

AND IT IS!

chapter 3, verses 45-49 the Qur-an

VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE SEASON

THE MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION AT DALHOUSIE

# THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

is looking at changing Canada's social programs including federal support to post-secondary education.



### FACTS

Canada spends more of its Gross National Product on post-secondary education than any other industrialized country. Canadian university students now pay only about 20% of the costs of their education. They can expect to earn 40% more over their lifetime — an average of \$11,700 more per year — than those with no university diploma. Over 25% of people in the workforce want to upgrade their skills but can't afford it. It's also a fact that all governments are facing a financial squeeze and have to review their programs.

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## THE CHALLENGE

# WE NEED TO MAINTAIN A FAIR, ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM. HERE'S ONE OF THE OPTIONS ON THE TABLE:

An expanded student aid program that would put more money in a new system of student loans and grants. **Repayment of loans would be based on income after graduation**.

Right now, the federal government's spending includes both student aid and transfers to provinces in the form of cash and tax points. The tax transfers will continue — and grow by an estimated \$2 billion over the next decade. That money will replace the cash portion which will run out over the next 10 years.



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**One idea**: the federal government could replace the cash transfer with a new permanent \$2 billion loans and grants system. This option could put about \$10 billion more into the post-secondary system over a ten-year period and improve access to post-secondary education.

Nothing is etched in stone. If you have comments on these ideas — or other ideas — we want to hear from you. Get your free copy of the Discussion Paper, the Summary or the booklet "**Have your say**". Fill in the pull-out question-and-answer section of the booklet and return it to us. To order or for more information:

Call 1-800-735-3551

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE OUR SOCIAL PROGRAMS. HAVE YOUR SAY.

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