

Profs pin hopes on Tories

OTTAWA (CUP)—Canadian university teachers hope the new Tory government will make good on its promises to maintain post-secondary funding levels.

Before the Tories painted the electoral map blue, they promised they would fund universities and colleges with a greater degree of cooperation from the provinces.

The Progressive Conservatives assured the Canadian Association of University Teachers that they would negotiate with provincial governments on the basis of the

1977 federal-provincial agreement. The deal called for the creation of a forum between the two levels of government on post-secondary education.

CAUT executive-secretary Donald Savage said he does not expect the Tories to cut education funding but pointed out that they have said they will not restore the losses resulting from amendments to the Established Programs Financing Act (Bill C-12).

Through the bill passed in the spring, the Liberal government

imposed the six and five restraint program on federal transfer payments to education, causing a loss of \$16 million in the 1983-84 funding year and \$250 million in 1984-85. The bill was retroactive.

Savage says he thinks it is ironic that the Tories will not pump more money into education to make up for the loss, when they vigorously criticized the Liberals in Parliament for introducing the bill. PC MP Flora MacDonald, who was re-elected in her riding of Kingston and the Islands, was particularly outspoken. □

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