



Media Release

Re: Announcement on Post-Secondary Changes



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For Immediate release
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RE: January 17th, 2019 Ontario Government Announcement Post-secondary Changes

Toronto - On Thursday, January 17, 2019 the Ford Government announced big changes to the post-secondary policy, set to take effect in September 2019. Such changes will result in the following:

1. International students, who pay the highest tuition fees are ineligible for the 10% tuition reduction. Tuition Reduction: Reduce tuition by 10% negatively impacting university and college budgets, and potentially forcing international students to cover the cost as a result of the budget shortfalls.
2. Cutting Six- Month Grace Period: Refocus the Ontario Students Assistance Program (OSAP), interest will begin accumulating immediately after graduation and the six-month grace period will be eliminated
3. Students Choice Initiative: Student Choice Initiative gives students the choice to make payments for all non- tuition fees including discounted gym memberships, Student clubs and organizations, campus newspapers including The Eyeopener and The Ryersonian, as well as our campus radio station CJRU Radio Ryerson. Students now having the option to opt- out of making payments for all non- tuition fees will likely result in Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson cutting programmes, staff, and resources.

The Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson (CESAR) is a strong advocate for the affordability of post-secondary education. Unfortunately, the changes proposed by the Ford government are measures that undermine our mission and dedication to accessible and above all affordable education. We believe these changes will have serious negative consequences for not only Ryerson students, but students across the province.

CESAR is deeply concerned with the changes related to non-tuition fees, also referred to as "ancillary fees". These fees fund vital programs and services which enrich the lives of students, many of them being lasting memories long after graduation. The ancillary fees fund departments like Ryerson Students' Union, Oakham House, The Good Food Centre, Ryerson Sports and Recreation, as well as student clubs, service groups, student societies, and students' unions including CESAR. The risk of significant funding reductions, direct or indirect, will result in cuts to student-centric activities, initiatives, and supportive departments. Ultimately, changing campus life entirely.

CESAR is committed to protecting the students of Ryerson University and the organizations that serve them. We will be working with campus partners and other stakeholders, including Canadian Federation of Students- Ontario, across the province to ensure that changes are made in the best interests of students. We will keep students and the public informed as decisions are reached and as more information becomes available.

In Solidarity,

Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson Executive Committee

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About Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson (CESAR)

Founded in 1979, Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson is the official student group at Ryerson University that services students in continuing education, distance education, off-campus and part-time degree courses. CESAR is a membership driven students' union that represents approximately 16,000 students. We are apart of the Canadian Federation of Students. Today, the Federation is comprised of over half a million students from more than 75 college and university students' associations across Canada.

Press Contact

For all press inquiries, please contact

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