

Opening Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Thursday, August 20 to Sunday, August 23, 2015 - Toronto, Ontario

CALL TO ORDER – Thursday, August 20, 2015

7:17pm - Chairperson Rajean Hoillett called the 2015 Annual General Meeting to order.

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Absent
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Present
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 39	McMaster University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 41	Student Federation of the University of Ottawa	Present
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Absent
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Student Society	Present
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Absent
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Present
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 97	Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union, University of Toronto	Present
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 104	Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-Time Students	Absent
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor	Present
Local 107	Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale	Present
Local 109	University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local 110	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 111	Laurentian Students' Union – Barrie	Present
Local 112	Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Present

Hoillett said that quorum had been reached.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

Hoilett said that no proxies had been received for the meeting.

3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

2015/08:001 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Be it resolved that Sylvia Sioufi be ratified as the Speaker for the Opening Plenary of the 2015 Annual General Meeting; and

Be it further resolved that Sylvia Sioufi be ratified as the Speaker for the Closing Plenary of the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

4. WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Hoilett provided some welcoming remarks.

5. RATIFICATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Sioufi stated there are no new members to ratify.

6. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA

2015/08:002 MOTION

Local 32/Local 109

Be it resolved that the 2015 Annual General Meeting plenary agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

7. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

2015/08:003 MOTION

Local 93/Local 68

Be it resolved that the 2015 Annual General Meeting agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

8. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2015/08:004 MOTION

Local 109/Local 112

Be it resolved that the 2014 General Meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

9. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

Sioufi reviewed plenary procedures and her role as Speaker. She said that the meeting would follow Robert's Rules of Order.

b. Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting

Anti-Harassment Advisors Quinn Blue and Nila Zameni made a presentation on the Federation's harassment policy.

c. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer

Hoilett introduced the staff of the Federation and made a presentation on the collective agreement between the Federation and its employees, members of CUPE 1281.

10. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

a. Ratification of Electoral Officer

2015/08:005 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Be it resolved that National Deputy Chairperson Anne-Marie Roy be appointed as Electoral Officer for the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures

Electoral Officer Anne-Marie Roy outlined the positions for election and the election procedures for the meeting.

11. STRIKING OF PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEES

a. Striking of Plenary Sub-Committees

2015/08:006 MOTION

Local 94/Local 01

Be it resolved that the following sub-committees be struck:

- Budget Committee;
- Campaigns and Government Relations Committee;
- Organizational and Services Development Committee; and
- Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

b. Adoption of Committee Agendas

2015/08:007 MOTION

Local 71/Local 105

Be it resolved that the agendas for the plenary sub-committees be adopted.

CARRIED

12. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

a. Motions Submitted by Member Locals

2015/08:008 MOTION

Local 20/Local 111

Whereas counseling and support services on campuses across Ontario are often under-resourced, inadequate, and are inaccessible to many students; and

Whereas those living with mental health issues are often delayed in completing their studies and face additional financial barriers due to insufficient or poor quality mental health services on campus; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions in the province have seen dramatic decreases in public funding resulting in cuts to counseling and support services available to students on campus; and

Whereas students at Northern Institutions face additional barriers to education which affect their mental health; and

Whereas as the Ontario Graduate Caucus recently launched the “Not in the Syllabus” campaign to gather information from graduate students related to bullying, harassment and mental health issues; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario conduct research on existing mental health support programs and funding from the government and individual institutions; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation lobby the government for additional support for students who are living with mental health issues, as well as encourage member locals to lobby their local Members of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation and member locals demand accountability from the government and individual institutions regarding the issuing and use of government funding for mental health programs; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation initiate research on the major mental health issues affecting students in post-secondary education; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation work with relevant community organizations and the Students with Disabilities constituency group to develop a campaign to promote better understanding of mental health issues, and to combat stigma surrounding mental health.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:009 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:008 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:008 REFERRED

2015/08:010 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students at northern postsecondary institutions face specific challenges which exacerbate those faced by students across Canadian postsecondary institutions, including increased distance from social supports and isolation from family and friends, increased costs of living associated with northern residency, and the higher likelihood of origin in low-income communities; and

Whereas students at northern post-secondary institutions have expressed their need to have reasonable breaks from academic classes during both the fall and winter terms, in order to draw on social supports through traveling to visit family and friends.

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy on “Mental Health” be amended to read:

MENTAL HEALTH

Preamble

Students adapting to a post-secondary institution need to adjust to significant changes, including but not limited to moving to a new area, separation from family and friends, establishing a new social network, managing a budget given the realities of high tuition fees, combining academic study with other commitments, coping with access in a new environment and, for international students, living in a new country and adjusting to a different culture. For students attending northern institutions, these challenges are intensified with regard to distance from family and friends, fewer options for intercity transit, and with regard to increased financial, employment, and housing pressures. Moreover, students for whom English or French is not their first language may have additional difficulty expressing mental health issues and engaging with mental health services on their campus. While these changes can be exciting and challenging and an intrinsic part of the attraction of going to university or college, they can also give rise to anxiety and stress.

Students may face challenges, experience stress and/or a personal crisis, which without appropriate supports inhibit their ability to participate fully in higher education. These difficulties may take the form of long-term or temporary, but debilitating mental health conditions. In addition, some students may arrive at university or college with a pre-existing psychological condition, either declared or undeclared.

Mental health issues can seriously impair academic performance and overall behaviour. Minor difficulties that interfere with a student's capacity to work may also result in distress and undermine academic progress. Post-secondary institutions have a responsibility to provide adequate services and support to promote the mental wellness of students, staff, faculty and other members of their community.

Policy

The Federation supports mental health strategies that:

- Utilize on-campus committees mandated to investigate mental health services and ensure adequate delivery of quality service. These committees should be comprised of representatives of the institution, students' union representatives, student group representatives, faculty associations and staff unions;
- Recognize the diversity of experiences faced by students in post-secondary institutions;
- Consider the impacts of high tuition fees and un/underemployment on students' mental health;
- Adequately fund and provide resources for campus mental health and counselling services, including crisis and trauma centers;
- Work to destigmatize mental health issues within the student population and promote a culture of safety in discussing these issues;
- Respect the confidentiality of personal information provided by students and service-users;
- Recognize the unique needs of northern students; and
- Recognize the need for both fall and winter breaks to allow students time to travel to draw on critical social supports of family and friends.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Policy Review and Development Committee.

2015/08:011 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:010 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:010 REFERRED

2015/08:012 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students attending post-secondary institutions in northern Ontario face increased pressures which exacerbate mental health challenges; and

Whereas differentiation in post-secondary institutions negatively impacts northern students, in that northern students have additional limitations in accessing a wide range of programs within a large region and a diverse population; therefore

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy on “Northern Students’ Issues” be amended to read:

NORTHERN STUDENTS’ ISSUES

Preamble

For a variety of reasons, northern colleges and universities require additional supports, over and above those offered to other institutions, in order to provide high quality post-secondary education. There are a variety of government funding programs that continue to predicate the receipt of public dollars upon the successful leveraging of private resources to co-finance the research and teaching activities of Ontario’s colleges and universities. Such programs have impacted programs ranging from student financial aid to research and capital projects. These programs continue to disadvantage northern institutions that do not often have the endowments, program mix or access to financial centres that are required to maximize matched-funding models.

In addition, students and families who reside in northern and rural regions of Ontario also face barriers that are unique from those faced by students in the southern part of the province and large municipalities. Northern Ontario is home to a significant number of Aboriginal and francophone communities as compared to the rest of Ontario that face particular educational barriers. In general, students who study in the north have to contend with higher prices for commodities, longer commuting distances, lower vacancy rates, fewer employment opportunities and lower than average wages. As a result, people who are from northern communities are more likely to live in poverty and less likely to have access to college or university education. Furthermore, many students attending northern post-secondary institutions face increased pressures on their mental health with regard to ability to access critical social supports through visiting family and friends. It is within this context that the impact of the province’s current policy of high fees and high debt must be considered.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- Increased funding for Ontario Distance Grants;
- Measures to be taken by the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) to take into account the extra expenses incurred by students who attend a post-secondary education institution in northern Ontario;
- An increase in funding to expand the number of upper year French and Indigenous-language courses offered;
- A specific grant for all Aboriginal students who attend college or university;

- Funding to guarantee the availability of public student residence spaces beyond the first-year;
- An increase in funding to expand graduate studies in northern Ontario, with the emphasis on doctoral programs and graduate studies in French and Indigenous languages;
- A credit transfer system that mandates that credits earned in French and Indigenous programs be accepted for equivalent credits at English-language institutions;
- Full passenger rail and bus service in northern Ontario;
- Investments in research and innovation that contribute to the sustainability of the northern Ontario economy including the natural resource and mining sectors;
- The continued development of a wider variety of professional programs in Northern Ontario;
- Increased funding and support for First Nations culture and language programs;
- The construction of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard buildings, in an effort to reduce the environmental impact of capital efforts in northern Ontario; and
- Increased funding and support for mental health initiatives in northern Ontario.

The Federation opposes:

- The migration of entire programs from northern institutions to satellite campuses located in southern Ontario;
- The continued freeze of Northern and Extraordinary Grants;
- The use of satellite campuses as a mechanism strictly used to meet budgetary and/or enrolment projections;
- The phasing out of face-to-face instruction by other means; and
- Differentiation initiatives in northern post-secondary institutions.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Policy Review and Development Committee.

2015/08:013 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:012 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:012 REFERRED

2015/08:014 MOTION
Local 32/Local 41

Whereas the Federation makes a considerable effort to lobby at provincial and national levels; and

Whereas municipalities have real power and provide another important point of access for organizations seeking to influence government decisions; and

Whereas rural and northern municipalities rely on universities and colleges to bring economic prosperity to their regions; and

Whereas northern and rural municipal leaders can be easy to access; and

Whereas Mayors could be powerful advocates on behalf of students; therefore

Be it resolved that a strategy and materials be developed for lobbying northern municipalities in consultation with the Northern Region Caucus.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:015 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:014 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:014 REFERRED

2015/08:016 MOTION

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students in northern Ontario face additional barriers to accessing post-secondary education as compared to students studying in southern Ontario and large urban centres; and

Whereas there are no current campaign materials specific to northern issues; and

Whereas such materials would be beneficial in lobbying to improve access to education in the north; therefore

Be it resolved that campaign materials be created in consultation with the Northern Region Caucus that specifically address students' issues in northern Ontario.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:017 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:016 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:016 REFERRED

2015/08:018 MOTION

Local 99/Local 41

Whereas the Federation currently provides support and material focused on educating students on their rights related to a variety of topics, including tenants rights, labour rights and legal rights when participating in direct action; and

Whereas currently the *Ontario Employment Standards Act* does not apply to an individual who performs work under a program approved by a college of applied arts and technology

or a university for academic credit, allowing for legal unpaid internships, and leaving students vulnerable under many other aspects of the law; and

Whereas students may however find remedies under other policy frameworks such as the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*; and

Whereas among many barriers that may exist for our members accessing the law to seek support there is simply a lack of knowledge and certainty around the rights of an individual; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation update existing resources of the “Know Your Rights” campaign to include the rights of students completing internships, co-ops and other placement programs; and

Be it further resolved that “Know Your Rights” materials be developed with relevant community and advocacy organizations; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation continue to lobby Members of Provincial Parliament for better legislation regarding internship protections for interns and co-op students.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:019 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:018 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:018 REFERRED

2015/08:020 MOTION

Local 99/Local 41

Whereas as a student movement, we are committed to taking an intersectional approach in addressing access to post-secondary education; and

Whereas constituency groups provide a space for self-identifying folks to discuss issues affecting their communities as it relates to post-secondary education; and

Whereas non-women identified folks are offered no alternative session to organize alongside Women’s Constituency; and

Whereas offering no alternative organizing session reflects a society where marginalized identities are required to support and organize within their communities, often without the necessary support of less oppressed identities; therefore

Be it resolved that an alternative session on gender-based issues, consent, allyship, and intersectionality occur during Women’s Constituency; and

Be it further resolved that this session be held in the form of, but not limited to: a panel discussion, anti-oppression training, workshop, or facilitated discussion.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

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2015/08:21 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:020 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:020 REFERRED

2015/08:022 MOTION

Local 78/Local 41

Whereas the Carleton University Board of Governors is proposing changes to the Board Bylaws which would change the eligibility requirements to hold office as a Governor; and

Whereas the proposed eligibility restrictions would exclude members of the executive of a student association from being eligible to hold office as a Governor; and

Whereas undergraduate and graduate students at Carleton (members of Local 1 and Local 78, respectively) have a long history of electing their student union executives as their representatives to the Board; and

Whereas student union executives are the legitimate and democratic representatives of students, are accountable to their constituencies, and have the resources and knowledge to effectively represent students at the Board level; and

Whereas a survey of thirteen universities across Ontario shows that these proposed restrictions are highly unusual, as only Queen's University restricts student association executives from sitting on the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to impose similar restrictions upon the executives and officers of unions representing faculty and staff of the university, who would also be deemed ineligible to sit on the Board; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to remove the right of student unions to nominate their representatives to the Board, giving the university the ability to control all elections; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to restrict access to the Board by banning all members of the Carleton community from observing Open Meetings without explicit invitation from the Secretary; and

Whereas these proposed Bylaw changes reduce the opportunities for students, faculty, and staff at Carleton to participate in the affairs of the university, and undermine the ability of their associations to effectively represent and serve their members; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Carleton University Board of Governors condemning the proposed Bylaw changes as an attack on student and labour representation; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:023 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:022 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:022 REFERRED

2015/08:024 MOTION TO REFER

Local 78/Local 41

Whereas having Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with meetings and workshops scheduled starting early in the morning until late into the night is exhausting and can impede people's ability to fully participate; and

Whereas having long meetings without a meaningful opportunity to rest contributes to harmful cultures that glorify being overworked and celebrate those who push themselves to the point of burnout; and

Whereas the topics discussed at the meetings are often of an emotional nature, that can trigger strong emotional reactions, requiring more involved recovery time; and

Whereas those who often bear the brunt of these harmful cultures and emotional experiences are marginalized populations including, but not limited to: disabled people, those with mental health issues, racialized people and queer and trans people; and

Whereas this is not conducive to building an accessible, inclusive and sustainable student movement because it creates unfair conditions where not everyone feels they can effectively participate; and

Whereas the current structure hinders the ability of some delegates to socialize and make meaningful connections with fellow student-movement activists; and

Whereas the Federation strives to be a progressive voice pushing for accessible education in all forms and is currently developing a campaign on student mental health issues, requiring us to be reflexive of our own practices and the ways they may perpetuate systemic ableism; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive evaluate the structure of, and develop strategies for the restructuring of, the AGMs to ensure greater accessibility; and

Be it further resolved that the Provincial Executive implement any changes as soon as possible and provide a report on its findings.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2015/08:025 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:024 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:024 REFERRED

2015/08:026 MOTION

Local 78/Local 41

Whereas the Council of Ontario Universities and university administrations are increasingly adopting and popularizing the concept of “net tuition”; and

Whereas “net tuition” is a concept that distinguishes between the so-called “sticker price” of education versus “what students actually pay,” intending to suggest that tuition is not actually a significant cost after all available scholarships, grants, and other forms of financial assistance are taken into account; and

Whereas the concept of “net tuition” relies on a series of assumptions that distort the reality of students, which is that post-secondary education is increasingly unaffordable; and

Whereas grants and financial assistance programs, including the 30% tuition rebate offered by Ontario, do not make up for rising tuition costs, especially as many students are ineligible for those programs; and

Whereas the real cost of education is actually much higher than the “sticker price” of tuition when you take into account living expenses, textbooks, transportation, and other costs; and

Whereas “net tuition” does not take into account the high levels of student debt; and

Whereas the concept of “net tuition” does not provide a better understanding of the affordability of post-secondary education, but merely obfuscates the real issues and justifies tuition fee increases by governments and universities; therefore

Be it resolved that a resource be developed that clearly outlines the problems with the concept of “net tuition,” and that will assist locals in pushing back against the use of the concept by government officials and university administrations.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:027 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:026 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:026 REFERRED

2015/08:028 MOTION

Local 54/Local 41

Whereas students are under unprecedented attack with Ontario having the highest tuition fees in the country and post-secondary education institutions across Ontario implementing budget cuts under the differentiation framework; and

Whereas Ontario’s funding formula is set to be renewed in 2017, and discussions from the government of Ontario are pushing for the regressive change of implementing a funding formula based on differentiation and learning outcomes, which would result in greater influence from the private sector in the funding formula and further inhibit students’ needs and priorities from being reflected in our post-secondary education system; and

Whereas days of action for a freeze, reduction, and elimination of tuition fees have been successful in building mass participation from students in previous years; and

Whereas these days of action have increased media attention about student debt and the inaccessibility of education, increasing public support for our cause; and

Whereas these days of action have been criticized for ending abruptly, and not providing space for our student movement to grow beyond days of action; and

Whereas in Quebec student unions and public sector labour unions will be having actions against austerity starting in mid-October and probably continuing into November; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation have a day of action on November 4 where student unions can hold rallies, walkouts, sit-ins, and more calling for a freeze, reduction, and elimination of tuition fees in Ontario, an end to the differentiation process and budget cuts at universities, and stand in solidarity with the Quebec movement against austerity; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation encourage mobilization/action committees and local student unions to participate in these actions; and Be it further resolved that the Federation plan for a second day of action on February 10 with the same demands; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation hold debriefs, both immediately after each action, and at the Winter and Summer general meetings, for student union executive and activists to discuss how we can improve actions in the future and to strategize on how we can continue momentum in our escalating action plan.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:029 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:028 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:028 REFERRED

2015/08:030 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY
Local 54/Local 41

Be it resolved that that Issues Policy on “Racism” be amended to read:

RACISM

Preamble

Racism is a form of oppression based on the social, political, economical and historical construction of race and power that affects the lived experiences of all people, including students. Racism historically is implemented through verbal, psychological, and physical discrimination or harm. Today racism is also systemically manifested in institutions like governments, educational institutions, the criminal justice system and other large organizations that have the power to detrimentally influence the lives of many.

Although the Federation’s findings in the Racialized Impact of Tuition Fees identify economic barriers as the “most significant hindrance to equal access to post-secondary education,” the report indicates “discriminatory practices serve to prevent equitable access to universities and colleges.” The report confirms that racialized people “find themselves as lower income earners on average, and census data

demonstrates that average undergraduate tuition fees are a high percentage of the average income earnings of visible minorities than non-visible minorities.”

Furthermore, the Federation’s findings from the Task Force on Campus Racism conclude that “instances of racism and racial discrimination are not isolated; discrimination toward racialized students, faculty and staff is a systemic feature of Ontario’s post-secondary education system.”

Racism in the criminal justice system also detrimentally impacts the lives of our members. High profile reports such as the 2005 Kingston Data Collection Project, The 2015 Region of Peel and United Way Report on the Consultations into the Well-Being of Black Youth in Peel Region, The Special Report in human rights and racial profiling in the 2013/14 Ontario Human Rights Commission Annual Report, the 2002 Toronto Star analysis of Toronto Police statistics have reported that residents of racialized origins receive harsher treatment than white residents, and are overrepresented in police statistics of charges and arrests. Students attending post-secondary education experience racism in the following forms: harassment and interrogation by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), police brutality and killings, discriminatory treatment based on association or membership in a particular student club or organization, and restrictions on travel based on race, ethnicity or country of origin. Many of our members who are recent immigrants and refugees arriving in Canada are increasingly from racialized communities. They must have the confidence that they would not face discrimination from police or other security and government services both on and off campus.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- Access to an affordable education free from explicit and systemic forms of racism;
- Advocacy and support resources on campuses dedicated to combatting systemic forms of racism and creating safer and accessible spaces for racialized students;
- Diverse student representation on governing bodies of post-secondary institutions;
- Diverse representation of racialized communities in front-line student support services and resources;
- The work of all member locals and community groups that seek to eliminate racism in post-secondary education, the criminal justice system, and other public institutions; and
- All equity-based institutional initiatives that seek to correct the historical injustices of the past and create a level playing ground for racialized students.

The Federation opposes:

- Explicit and systemic racism in campus life;
- Institutional racism in hiring practices and curriculum; including but not limited to: racist micro-aggressions, differential pay based on race, the censorship of issues related to racism from class curricula and publishings;
- Systemic racism in institutional policy and governance;
- Systemic racism in the broader society;
- Discrimination and harassment from police or other security and government services both on and off campus;

- The ongoing criminalization of racialized communities through increased surveillance and disproportionate incarceration rates of racialized communities; and
- The increased surveillance and criminalization of campus groups representing racialized communities.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Policy Review and Development Committee.

2015/08:031 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:030 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:030 REFERRED

2015/08:032 MOTION

Local 54/Local 41

Whereas mobilization/action committees with open membership for anyone who believes education is a right, have been successful at the University of Guelph campus, UOIT, and other post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas, these mobilization/action committees provide a venue for a coalition of students, workers, and individual members to unite and strengthen the movement for free, accessible, high quality education; and

Whereas, they are successful because they provide an avenue for the general membership to engage in strategizing around campaigns for accessible education year-round, and they do not end after an action but continue on so an escalating action plan can be created and successes/ failures of past actions can be analyzed; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation support local unions in creating action/mobilization committees in their communities for students to engage in; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation work with student activists on campuses not affiliated with the Federation to create open mobilization/action committees in order to strengthen united action in the student movement across Ontario.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:033 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:032 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:032 REFERRED

2015/08:034 MOTION TO REFER

Local 68/Local 41

Whereas the Consent Culture forum provided an open and safe space for participants to dissect the issue of gender-based violence and create a consent culture on our campuses; and

Whereas first-time participants were able to share ideas, experiences and suggestions without the pressure of general meeting procedural structures; and

Whereas Annual General Meeting settings are not always the most appropriate spaces to dissect complex issues affecting students, given time constraints and strict agendas; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario is required to have one Annual General Meeting per year; and

Whereas it is important that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario, being the voice of students in the province, provide adequate space to discuss important issues on our campuses and beyond; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive investigate alternatives to the current Annual and Semi-Annual General meeting structure that are more conducive to open and accessible dialogue around current issues in society and the student movement; and

Be it further resolved that the findings of this investigation be presented at the Federation's next Semi-Annual General Meeting in January 2016.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2015/08:035 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:034 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:034 REFERRED

2015/08:036 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 68/Local 41

Be it resolved that the issues policy on "Racial Profiling" be repealed and replaced with the following:

RACIAL PROFILING AND CARDING

Preamble

Racial profiling and the current carding protocols used by law enforcement have significant and negative impacts on specific members of the Canadian population including black and brown youth, and racialized immigrants from marginalized communities. These members are being specifically being targeted and criminalized by law enforcement as they are subjected to random carding and searches. Racial profiling is based on stereotypical assumptions because of one's race, colour, ethnicity, etc.

Carding and racial profiling from law enforcement continues to have severe negative impacts on racialized individuals, ranging from mental health issues, trauma, and police brutality in many cases throughout Ontario. The police carding tactics continue to send especially more black and brown youth into jails and penitentiaries, which continues to work in line with Canada's prison-industrial complex. Criminal profiling,

on the other hand, relies on actual behaviour or on information about suspected activity by someone who meets the description of a specific individual, rather than relying on stereotypes, according to the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC).

Law enforcement, specifically like that of the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS), a branch of the Toronto Police Services (TPS), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and the Harper Administration play a crucial role in on going institutionalized racial discrimination in certain communities. Many carding interactions are not about gathering intelligence, rather about amassing personal details of innocent civilians. Black people and to a lesser extent brown people are disproportionately subjected to this unethical police practices. For example, the ratios of young black males documented and carded in Zone 523 in Toronto is 252:1. For brown young males, the ratio is 65:1, and for young white males the ratio is 23:1.

Institutionalized racism and xenophobic actions of Canada as a state has to be seen in a holistic scope as it is occurring all across Ontario and Canada. Bill C-51, Canada's latest addition to the "Anti-terrorism Act," is an Act of the Parliament of Canada that amends over a dozen Canadian laws, including the Criminal Code, to permit Canadian government agencies to share information about individuals easily. Bill C-51 also gives more broad powers and widens the mandate of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and many other law enforcement agencies in Canada. Bill C-51 will make it easier for government agencies to share information about carded individuals more easily and impede of the human rights and freedoms and privacy of all peoples by creating a context for the implementation of racial profiling.

Many students, specifically racialized students attending post-secondary education have experienced racial profiling in the form of international students being denied access to college or university based on their country of origin, interrogation by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) on campus, interrogation in their organizing circles or differential treatment based on membership in a particular campus club or organization, and restrictions on travel based on race, ethnicity or country of origin.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- The right to live without harassment from law enforcement and the state as a whole;
- Accessible education for all students regardless of race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The right to security of the person and to personal privacy for all peoples; and
- Freedom from discrimination.

The Federation opposes:

- The ongoing carding and racial profiling practises of law enforcement which are mandated by the state
- Marginalized students from certain countries being denied entrance to Canadian universities and colleges based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The presence of law enforcement and security intelligence on university and college campuses to interrogate students based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- University and college administrations granting law enforcement access to student records such as library loan records and research interests;

- Black and Brown youth facing more stringent security measures than those who are not racialized;
- The imposition of stricter regulations on the activities of certain campus clubs and student organizations based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The encouragement of campus police to pay close attention to particular students based on race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship; and
- The encouragement to get police stations on campus, which will result in more carding and racial profiling of racialized students and civilians.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Policy Review and Development Committee.

2015/08:037 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:036 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:036 REFERRED

2015/08:038 MOTION

Local 68/Local 41

Whereas racial profiling and carding in our neighborhoods continue to heavily impact marginalized and racialized communities, and on a more frequent basis than non-racialized areas; and

Whereas specifically black and brown youth, and racialized immigrants in our communities are being targeted and criminalized by law enforcement and are subjected to random carding and searches; and

Whereas the police are using the guise of “community engagement” to move forward with the notion of racial profiling and carding; and

Whereas the effects of racial profiling and carding can range from mental health issues to trauma and violence by the police; and

Whereas the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS) branch of the Toronto Police Services (TPS), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) play a critical role in institutionalized racial discrimination, in addition to the Harper Administration, particularly with the implementation of Bill C-51 and Bill C-24; and

Whereas Toronto’s Mayor John Tory formally stated that he was against police carding but after newly appointed chief of Police Mark Saunders stated that he will continue to implement the policy of carding, Mayor John Tory retracted his statement informally and sent the policy to be reformed at the provincial level; and

Whereas according to a series of investigative reports done by the Toronto Star in 2013, people stopped for the sake of “engagement” between 2008 and 2013 were more likely to be African-Canadian than white and the majority of encounters did not involve an arrest or charges; and

Whereas the institutionalized racism and xenophobic actions of the state must be seen in a holistic scope as it is occurring all around Ontario and negatively affects not only youth, but whole communities, further adding to the Canadian prison-industrial complex; and

Whereas not only has the Federation written policies specific to combatting racism and racial profiling, but it also represents students and members that face racial profiling on constant basis; and

Whereas this also falls in line with the Federation Task Force on Campus Racism which was created in 2008, providing recommendations on how to improve campuses to become spaces free of racism and discrimination; and

Whereas we are representatives of the Federation in our member locals and we play a fundamental role in combatting racial profiling and carding in our respective communities; and

Whereas we are obligated to seek advice from community groups and on-campus groups who actively combat racial profiling on our campuses and neighboring communities on daily basis; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario write a letter to the Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders and Toronto Mayor John Tory regarding their condoning of malicious acts of racism and xenophobia through racial profiling and carding; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Liberal government urging them to condemn racial profiling and carding; and

Be it further resolved that member locals continue to combat racial profiling and carding by providing unconditional support and seeking advice from any community groups and on-campus groups who actively organize against racial discrimination, racial profiling and carding in their respected neighborhoods; and

Be it further resolved that upon receiving advice from community groups, that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario develop a campaign and produce materials to combat racial profiling and carding in our communities.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:039 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:038 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:038 REFERRED

2015/08:040 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas on May 29, 2015 the Senate adopted the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act* through which citizenship of Canadians can be revoked from dual nationals convicted of terrorism, treason and high treason, and/or spying for foreign governments while allowing Canadian citizens who were born in Canada and have no other citizenship to remain in the country even when convicted of the same crimes; and

Whereas Canadian citizenship has always been permanent, whether by birth or by naturalization, and it is protected by the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and

Whereas this Act creates second class citizens in Canada and is a clear act of how the Harper Conservatives are seeking to strip rights and target certain communities and perpetuate racism and Islamophobic stereotypes; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation condemn Bill C-24 and write an open letter to the Prime Minister to repudiate the unlawful nature of this Act; and

Be it further resolved member locals be encouraged to write similar letters to the Prime Minister and their local Member of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with or initiate local coalitions to raise our opposition to Bill C-24 during the federal election and to demand the bill be repealed by the next federal government.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:041 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:040 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:040 REFERRED

2015/08:042 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas Harper's Conservatives passed a dangerous bill known as Bill C-51 with the support of the Liberals, that clearly undermines and attacks fundamental rights and freedoms; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been greatly criticized by many civil liberty groups (such as CCLA) for being a direct attack against our rights and freedoms; and

Whereas we must collectively resist and advocate for our rights and for the society we want; and

Whereas resistance may take a variety of forms including lobbying politicians, holding rallies and occupations, electing a new government and signing online petitions to repeal C-51; and

Whereas students should be actively involved in speaking out loudly and collectively to oppose the passage of Bill C-51; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation and its member locals continue to oppose the passage of Bill C-51; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with local coalitions and initiate campus coalitions to raise awareness and condemn the passage of Bill C-51.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:043 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:042 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:042 REFERRED

2015/08:044 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Be it resolved that the Federation endorse the “Save Canada Post” campaign organized by Canada’s United Postal Workers union to save door-to-door delivery and invest in a public post office, and

Be it further resolved that the Federation provide information and support on the website for the “Save Canada Post” campaign, including a link to downloadable window signs to show support; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation write to the President of Canadian Union of Postal Workers to express the collective support of Ontario students for the campaign; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation ensure that its services, communication and/or distribution of materials be sent through Canada Post using its public postal services and not through private or non-Canadian postal services or agencies, where possible.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:045 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:044 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:044 REFERRED

2015/08:046 MOTION TO ADOPT ISSUES POLICY

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas for the past year and a half, Canada Post established plan designed to eliminate door-to-door mail delivery for 5.1 million Canadian households; and

Whereas on December 11, 2013, Canada Post announced drastic cutbacks to our public postal service; and

Whereas the Conservative government under Harper has supported and encouraged Canada Post's plan to eliminate all door-to-door mail delivery and the dramatic increase in stamp prices; and

Whereas Canada Post is a public service and crown corporation owned by the government and these cuts are a clear attack on our public postal service; and

Whereas the cutting of door-to-door mail has a direct negative and harsh impact that directly targets seniors and persons living with disabilities; and

Whereas hundreds of mayors have complained about the decision to cut door-to-door delivery, and Hamilton and Montreal have already launched their own legal challenges, therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation adopt the following Issues Policy:

DOOR-TO-DOOR MAIL DELIVERY

The Federation supports:

- Public services that are publicly funded, maintained and supported by unionized workers;
- The establishment of fair and reasonable postage rates;
- Accessible delivery of mail for rural and urban communities;
- A greener post office;
- Real public consultation on any changes to the postal service;
- Respect, fairness and decent working conditions for public servants employed at Canada Post; and
- The continuation of Canada Post as a public service

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Policy Review and Development Committee.

2015/08:047 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:046 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:046 REFERRED

2015/08:048 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas the Federation and the Toronto and York Region District Labour Council have partnered to open up affiliation status on the Labour Council to member locals in the GTA; and

Whereas establishing alliances and coalitions with the labour movement is an important mechanism to strengthen our movement for social change; and

Whereas the Federation and its member locals need to find and utilize different opportunities to educate and build awareness about the current and continuing crisis of public post-secondary education and the upfront barriers that greatly impact racialized communities and people with disabilities; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be strongly encouraged to attend local labour meetings and district labour councils as guests, observers and where possible seek affiliate membership to participate in the local labour council; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be supported by the Executive and staff of the Federation to make presentations at their local district labour councils in the area of the member local, and that presentations occur prior to the federal election to raise awareness

about the lack of funding for post-secondary education and the erosion of universities and colleges as a public service; and

Be it further resolved that a template PowerPoint be provided to member locals to present at labour councils and ensure consistency in messaging on the current crisis in post-secondary education, and that this presentation includes: information on the historical context of federal funding to demonstrate the shift and decline in government funding, and how the cost of post-secondary education is a barrier to racialized, Aboriginal communities and people with disabilities; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation also provide resource materials and research to member locals including but not limited to: research on how high fees further systemic racism, sexism, and ableism faced by students currently in post-secondary education and potential students.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:049 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:048 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:048 REFERRED

2015/08:050 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas the Federation previously provided a CD to member locals that contained logos and files of different campaign materials and services related images; and

Whereas in an effort to establish consistency, awareness and identification of the Federation and its member locals, each member local should have a copy of service logos and the correct version of the Federation's logo in a variety of formats; and

Whereas member locals should have access to downloadable resources including campaign materials in a variety of formats and files; and

Whereas awareness and education about the Federation and who are its members locals is key to maintaining a strong presence and vital growth of the Federation; and

Whereas it is common practice in the trade union movement for websites to have a members' section containing resources, materials and contact information; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation investigate the creation of a members' only section on the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website, www.cfsontario.ca, for the purpose of providing downloadable resources to member locals that should include: campaign materials, posters, photos taken at Federation events, meetings, and rallies, and different formats of the Federation logo and services icons or images; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create and provide in a downloadable format a membership guide that explains the benefits of membership, outlines and provides an overview of services and how the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario was established.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2015/08:051 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:050 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:050 REFERRED

2015/08:052 MOTION
Local 105/Local 41

Whereas organizing can be greatly enhanced through the use of social media and mass Twitter or Facebook campaigns; and

Whereas the use of social media should be seen as a tactic as part of a campaign strategy but often is used as the strategy; and

Whereas the Ontario Skills Symposium provides an excellent opportunity to learn, enrich and enhance the skills and knowledge of students and staff at members locals and prospective member locals; and

Whereas Canada introduced new anti-spam legislation in 2014; and

Whereas on January 15, 2015, sections of the Act related to the unsolicited installation of computer programs or software came into force that may impact students' unions and campaign organizing; and

Whereas beginning on July 1, 2017, the law will also allow individuals and organizations who allege to be affected by an act or omission that is in contravention of the law to bring a private court action against individuals and organizations whom they allege have violated the law; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation's annual Skills Symposium include a session on how to effectively use social media as part of an organizing strategy for campaigns and membership awareness; and

Be it further resolved that the Skills Symposium include information or materials related to Canada's new anti-spam legislation that was passed in 2014 and any related privacy legislation that governs individuals and organizations which release mass emails.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2015/08:053 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:052 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:052 REFERRED

2015/08:054 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students publicly condemned the corporate right-wing attacks and the use of scab labour by the Employer at Crown Metal Packaging Ltd that forced the unionized employees of United Steelworkers (USW) local 9176 to be on strike for almost two years; and

Whereas the Employer forced the workers to be on strike and continued to use scab labour that prolonged the strike and further that the employer threatened to only offer a tentative deal if all the current workers and union organizers could be terminated from their current employment; and

Whereas the Federation supported the striking workers at USW local 9176 to raise awareness about this issue and supported the boycott of canned beer and partnered to create and distribute “Bottles Not Cans” coasters; and

Whereas the USW local 9176 reached a tentative deal on July 9, almost 22 months after being on strike but the financial hardship of the local and these workers will have a long-term devastating impact; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation make a contribution to the United Steelworkers (USW) local 9176 hardship fund in the amount of \$300; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation send a letter of solidarity to the President and Recording Secretary of USW local 9176 to acknowledge the long and devastating strike that occurred over 21 months as a result of their American scab employer Crown Metal Packings Limited.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:055 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:054 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:054 REFERRED

2015/08:056 MOTION

Local 109/Local 41

Whereas Bill C-24, the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act* will:

- Make it much more difficult to obtain citizenship;
- Make obtaining citizenship more expensive;
- Replace Judges as decision makers with Immigration officers; and
- Make it easier for citizenship to be revoked or stripped from Canadians; and

Whereas Bill C-24 will also:

- Extend the costly language test to include those aged 14 - 64 (currently, only those aged 18 - 55 take the test);

- Give Immigration officers authority to deny citizenship if they so much as speculate that the applicant may not reside in Canada in the future;
- Increase the residency requirement during which an applicant must be in Canada as a Permanent Resident from 3 to 4 years and does not allow the applicant to count any of the time spent in Canada prior to obtaining permanent residency;
- Triple the application fee price;
- Remove a person's right to appeal a negative citizenship decision;
- Strip the right to an oral hearing in front of a judge for those who are having their citizenship revoked (it will make so this decision is made by a bureaucrat without holding a hearing);
- Strip citizenship from those who did not obtain citizenship by birth if an official believes that the person never intended to live in Canada; and
- Strip citizenship from dual citizens even if they were born in Canada if convicted of certain crimes, even if those convictions occurred outside Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their local Member of Parliament and candidates in the upcoming federal elections to commit to repeal amendments to the *Citizenship Act* or any other consequential amendments to other Acts (short title: *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act*) that empower the government to introduce barriers in the way of obtaining Canadian citizenship: and allowing the government to arbitrarily strip persons of this status as morally, legally and ethically wrong; and

Be it further resolved that members be encouraged to collaborate with coalition partners through a campaign to condemn the amendments as described in the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act*.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:057 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:056 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:056 REFERRED

2015/08:058 MOTION
Local 109/Local 41

Whereas Bill C-51 will undermine our basic rights and put every Canadian at risk of having their private information collected and stored in government databases; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as reckless - the bill has a vague definition of terrorism that could be abused by governments and spy agencies to shut down dissent; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as dangerous - the bill would shred our privacy by allowing information gathered through widespread spying on Canadians to be shared broadly within government. It would also give CSIS new powers to intervene in the day to

day life of Canadians, with actions that could break the law and violate the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as ineffective - the bill fails to use proven counter-radicalization strategies, and contains no proper oversight to prevent abuses; and

Whereas Canada's privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien has warned, in particular, about the information-sharing aspect of C-51; and

Whereas on Feb. 23, 2015, a group of more than 100 academics wrote an open letter outlining five specific concerns with C-51, including concerns over privacy rights and freedom of speech; and

Whereas the Conservative controlled House of Commons and Senate just passed Bill C-51 despite massive opposition from hundreds of thousands of everyday Canadians and the country's top privacy experts; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their local Member of Parliament and candidates in the upcoming federal elections to commit to repeal Bill C-51, a bill that empowers the government to enact a new security intelligence information-sharing statute of vast scope with no enhanced protections for privacy and from abuse; and

Be it further resolved that members be encouraged to collaborate with coalition partners through a campaign to condemn Bill C-51.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:059 MOTION TO REFER
Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:058 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:058 REFERRED

2015/08:060 MOTION
Local 109/Local 41

Whereas there is a societal stigma surrounding the process of menstruation, allowing females to grow up with a sense of shame and embarrassment for what is nothing but a natural bodily process; and

Whereas it is imperative to respect women's bodies in all its entirety, including removing the repulsive connotations menstruation entails, and instead embracing this natural process of the human body, and essentially helping our fellow women and trans community by bringing their issues regarding the agency of their bodies and its processes to the political table; and

Whereas Effective July 1, 2015, the Canadian federal government has issued the removal of GST and HST taxes on tampons, and other feminine hygiene products; and

Whereas this is a major stride against gender-based discrimination in Canada, the prices for these products remain high, and thus attainment of these products prove to be an issue for women, girls, and the trans community who come from low-income households; and

Whereas, although a natural bodily function, requires the need for proper feminine hygiene products in order for menstruating individuals to be able to continue their daily activities uninterrupted; and

Whereas a failure to have access to these products not only prevents them full functionality of their week due to a natural process that they are forced to undergo, but in addition, the profits made from the Canadian government of these highly priced essential products targeted specifically to menstruating individuals can be seen as being both gender based exploitation of the female body, as well as classist based discrimination of low-income families; and

Whereas the proposal for free feminine hygiene products is designated to label tampons, pads, and menstrual cups as non-luxury items, and to distribute these products free of charge within our university/ college campuses; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation look into the feasibility of providing member locals with free tampons and pads to provide to students.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2015/08:061 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:060 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:060 REFERRED

2015/08:062 MOTION

Local 109/Local 41

Whereas the Federation includes a United for Equity campaign that recognizes systemic oppression in our society; and

Whereas the equity campaign highlights all forms of discrimination and oppression as an issue; and

Whereas the equity material challenges the axis of oppression separately; and

Whereas the recognition of all forms of discrimination and oppression are related and salient as a collective; and

Whereas intersectionality is a framework for understanding how sets of social relations such as race, class, gender, sex, religion, immigration/citizenship status, which are defined by power, function simultaneously as interlinking systems of oppression; and

Whereas intersectionality acknowledges that an additive approach, which focuses on social relations separately, is counter-productive; and

Whereas additive approaches concludes universal experiences for marginalized communities; and

Whereas additive approaches ignores intersectionality and obscures the actuality of systemic oppression; and

Whereas equity and anti-oppression trainings at the general meetings discuss white privilege; and

Whereas adding intersectional approaches to the equity and anti-oppression trainings create productive spaces for unlearning; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario update their equity material so that it explicitly acknowledges and discusses intersectionality; and

Be it further resolved that the Provincial Executive committee explore opportunities and/or spaces for discussion on intersectionality within general meetings; and

Be it further resolved that intersectionality is used as a basis for the equity and anti-oppression trainings.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:063 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:062 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:062 REFERRED

2015/08:064 MOTION

Local 88/Local 41

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission finalized its mandate this summer and have produced a report of calls to action the Government of Canada to redress the legacy of residential schools, and;

Whereas these calls to action include recommendations towards accessible postsecondary education for all eligible Indigenous learners, and;

Whereas in June 2015, the National Aboriginal Caucus of the Canadian Federation of Students voted to endorse the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Report, and;

Whereas Indigenous students recognize that these calls to action will happen through community education and mobilisation; therefore

Be it resolved that the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Report be adopted; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to educate their membership about the history of colonialism in Canada and the importance of following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations using tactics such as outreach and organising workshops, panels and/or other events.

It is recommended that this motion be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

2015/08:065 MOTION TO REFER

Local 109/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2015/08:064 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

CARRIED

2015/08:064 REFERRED

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13. PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2015/08:066 MOTION

Local 41/Local 99

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee report be accepted.

Chairperson Rajean Hoillett, National Executive Representative Gab Ross-Marquette and Treasurer Sami Pritchard presented the report of the Executive Committee.

CARRIED

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gab Ross-Marquette provided logistical announcements.

15. RECESS

2015/08:067 MOTION

Local 110/Local 109

Be it resolved that plenary recess until 10:00 a.m. Sunday, August 23, 2015.

CARRIED

9:02 p.m. – The meeting recessed.

Closing Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Thursday, August 20 to Sunday, August 23, 2015 - Toronto, Ontario

CALL TO ORDER

10:25 am - Plenary Speaker Sylvia Sioufi called the Closing Plenary to order.

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Absent
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Present
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 39	McMaster University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 41	Student Federation of the University of Ottawa	Present
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Present
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Student Society	Present
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Present
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Absent
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Present
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 97	Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union, University of Toronto	Present
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 104	Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-Time Students	Absent
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor	Present
Local 107	Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale	Absent
Local 109	University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local 110	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 111	Laurentian Students' Union – Barrie	Present
Local 112	Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Present

Sioufi stated that quorum had been reached.

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2. BUSINESS TABLED FROM OPENING PLENARY

Business carried forward from Opening Plenary will be dealt with at this time.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Treasurer Sami Pritchard presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

2015/08:B01 MOTION

Local 41/Local 49

Be it resolved that the 2015-2016 budget be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

2015/08:068 MOTION

Local 41/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Budget Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Rajean Hoilett presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

2015/08:08 MOTION

Local 20/Local 111

Whereas counseling and support services on campuses across Ontario are often under-resourced, inadequate, and are inaccessible to many students; and

Whereas those living with mental health issues are often delayed in completing their studies and face additional financial barriers due to insufficient or poor quality mental health services on campus; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions in the province have seen dramatic decreases in public funding resulting in cuts to counseling and support services available to students on campus; and

Whereas students at Northern Institutions face additional barriers to education which affect their mental health; and

Whereas as the Ontario Graduate Caucus recently launched the “Not in the Syllabus” campaign to gather information from graduate students related to bullying, harassment and mental health issues; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario conduct research on existing mental health support programs and funding from the government and individual institutions; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation lobby the government for additional support for students who are living with mental health issues, as well as encourage member locals to lobby their local Members of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation and member locals demand an increase in public funding and accountability from the government and individual institutions regarding the issuing and use of government funding for mental health programs; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation initiate research on the major mental health issues affecting students in post-secondary education; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation also work in conjunction with aboriginal-based health practice centres, such as Indian Friendship Centres, to provide non-medical and culturally appropriate treatments for students; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation work with other relevant bilingual community organizations and the Students with Disabilities constituency group to develop a campaign to promote better understanding of mental health issues, and to combat stigma surrounding mental health.

CARRIED

2015/08:014

MOTION

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas the Federation makes a considerable effort to lobby at provincial and national levels; and

Whereas municipalities have real power and provide another important point of access for organizations seeking to influence government decisions; and

Whereas rural and northern municipalities rely on universities and colleges to bring economic prosperity to their regions; and

Whereas northern and rural municipal leaders can be easy to access; and

Whereas Mayors could be powerful advocates on behalf of students; therefore

Be it resolved that a strategy and materials be developed for lobbying northern municipalities in consultation with the Northern Region Caucus.

CARRIED

2015/08:016

MOTION

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students in northern Ontario face additional barriers to accessing post-secondary education as compared to students studying in southern Ontario and large urban centres; and

Whereas there are no current campaign materials specific to northern issues; and

Whereas such materials would be beneficial in lobbying to improve access to education in the north; therefore

Be it resolved that campaign materials be created in consultation with the Northern Region Caucus that specifically address students' issues in northern Ontario.

CARRIED

2015/08:018

MOTION

Local 99/Local 41

Whereas the Federation currently provides support and material focused on educating students on their rights related to a variety of topics, including tenants rights, labour rights and legal rights when participating in direct action; and

Whereas currently the *Ontario Employment Standards Act* does not apply to an individual who performs work under a program approved by a college of applied arts and technology or a university for academic credit, allowing for legal unpaid internships, and leaving students vulnerable under many other aspects of the law; and

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Whereas students may however find remedies under other policy frameworks such as the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*; and

Whereas among many barriers that may exist for our members accessing the law to seek support there is simply a lack of knowledge and certainty around the rights of an individual; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation update existing resources of the “Know Your Rights” campaign to include the rights of students completing internships, co-ops and other placement programs; and

Be it further resolved that “Know Your Rights” materials be developed with relevant community and advocacy organizations; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation continue to lobby Members of Provincial Parliament for better legislation regarding internship protections for interns and co-op students and to amend the Employment Standards Act to legislate and apply the ESA provisions to all interns.

CARRIED

2015/08:022

MOTION

Local 78/Local 41

Whereas the Carleton University Board of Governors is proposing changes to the Board Bylaws which would change the eligibility requirements to hold office as a Governor; and

Whereas the proposed eligibility restrictions would exclude members of the executive of a student association from being eligible to hold office as a Governor; and

Whereas undergraduate and graduate students at Carleton (members of Local 1 and Local 78, respectively) have a long history of electing their student union executives as their representatives to the Board; and

Whereas student union executives are the legitimate and democratic representatives of students, are accountable to their constituencies, and have the resources and knowledge to effectively represent students at the Board level; and

Whereas a survey of thirteen universities across Ontario shows that these proposed restrictions are highly unusual, as only Queen’s University restricts student association executives from sitting on the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to impose similar restrictions upon the executives and officers of unions representing faculty and staff of the university, who would also be deemed ineligible to sit on the Board; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to remove the right of student unions to nominate their representatives to the Board, giving the university the ability to control all elections; and

Whereas the Board is also proposing to restrict access to the Board by banning all members of the Carleton community from observing Open Meetings without explicit invitation from the Secretary; and

Whereas these proposed Bylaw changes reduce the opportunities for students, faculty, and staff at Carleton to participate in the affairs of the university, and undermine the ability of their associations to effectively represent and serve their members; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Carleton University Board of Governors condemning the proposed Bylaw changes as an attack on student and labour representation; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters; and

Be it further resolved that member locals provide information to the Federation through the provincial executive committee to conduct a democracy audit of universities and colleges across the province to assess the level of student participation and influence in the policy making and governing procedure at campuses across Ontario; and

Be it further resolved that within the audit, member locals provide information on international student representation on their respective Board of Governors; and

Be it further resolved that the democracy audit be used to develop a report card that grades the quality of academic governance of universities and colleges in Ontario.

CARRIED

2015/08:026

MOTION

Local 78/ Local 41

Whereas the Council of Ontario Universities and university administrations are increasingly adopting and popularizing the concept of “net tuition”; and

Whereas “net tuition” is a concept that distinguishes between the so-called “sticker price” of education versus “what students actually pay,” intending to suggest that tuition is not actually a significant cost after all available scholarships, grants, and other forms of financial assistance are taken into account; and

Whereas the concept of “net tuition” relies on a series of assumptions that distort the reality of students, which is that post-secondary education is increasingly unaffordable; and

Whereas grants and financial assistance programs, including the 30% tuition rebate offered by Ontario, do not make up for rising tuition costs, especially as many students are ineligible for those programs; and

Whereas the real cost of education is actually much higher than the “sticker price” of tuition when you take into account living expenses, textbooks, transportation, and other costs; and

Whereas “net tuition” does not take into account the high levels of student debt; and

Whereas the concept of “net tuition” does not provide a better understanding of the affordability of post-secondary education, but merely obfuscates the real issues and justifies tuition fee increases by governments and universities; therefore

Be it resolved that a resource be developed that clearly outlines the problems with the concept of “net tuition,” and that will assist locals in pushing back against the use of the concept by government officials and university administrations.

CARRIED

2015/08:032

MOTION

Local 54/Local 41

Whereas mobilization/action committees with open membership for anyone who believes education is a right, have been successful at the University of Guelph campus, UOIT, and other post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas, these mobilization/action committees provide a venue for a coalition of students, workers, and individual members to unite and strengthen the movement for free, accessible, high quality education; and

Whereas, they are successful because they provide an avenue for the general membership to engage in strategizing around campaigns for accessible education year-round, and they do not end after an action but continue on so an escalating action plan can be created and successes/ failures of past actions can be analyzed; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation support local unions in creating action/mobilization committees in their communities for students to engage in; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation work with student activists on campuses not affiliated with the Federation, where requested, to create open mobilization/action committees in order to strengthen united action in the student movement across Ontario.

CARRIED

2015/08:038

MOTION

Local 68/Local 41

Whereas racial profiling and carding in our neighbourhoods continue to heavily impact marginalized and racialized communities, and on a more frequent basis than non-racialized areas; and

Whereas specifically black and brown youth, and racialized immigrants in our communities are being targeted and criminalized by law enforcement and are subjected to random carding and searches; and

Whereas the police are using the guise of “community engagement” to move forward with the notion of racial profiling and carding; and

Whereas the effects of racial profiling and carding can range from mental health issues to trauma and violence by the police; and

Whereas the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS) branch of the Toronto Police Services (TPS), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) play a critical role in institutionalized racial discrimination, in addition to the Harper Administration, particularly with the implementation of Bill C-51 and Bill C-24; and

Whereas Toronto’s Mayor John Tory formally stated that he was against police carding but after newly appointed chief of Police Mark Saunders stated that he will continue to implement the policy of carding, Mayor John Tory retracted his statement informally and sent the policy to be reformed at the provincial level; and

Whereas according to a series of investigative reports done by the Toronto Star in 2013, people stopped for the sake of “engagement” between 2008 and 2013 were more likely to be African-Canadian than white and the majority of encounters did not involve an arrest or charges; and

Whereas the institutionalized racism and xenophobic actions of the state must be seen in a holistic scope as it is occurring all around Ontario and negatively affects not only youth, but whole communities, further adding to the Canadian prison-industrial complex; and

Whereas not only has the Federation written policies specific to combatting racism and racial profiling, but it also represents students and members that face racial profiling on constant basis; and

Whereas this also falls in line with the Federation Task Force on Campus Racism which was created in 2008, providing recommendations on how to improve campuses to become spaces free of racism and discrimination; and

Whereas we are representatives of the Federation in our member locals and we play a fundamental role in combatting racial profiling and carding in our respective communities; and

Whereas we are obligated to seek advice from community groups and on-campus groups who actively combat racial profiling on our campuses and neighbouring communities on daily basis; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario write a letter to the Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders and Toronto Mayor John Tory regarding their condoning of malicious acts of racism and xenophobia through racial profiling and carding; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Liberal government urging them to condemn racial profiling and carding; and

Be it further resolved member locals write a letter to their local MPP to urge them to take a position and condemn racial profiling and carding and continue to combat racial profiling and carding by providing unconditional support and seeking advice from any community groups and on-campus groups who actively organize against racial discrimination, racial profiling and carding in their respected neighbourhoods; and

Be it further resolved that upon receiving advice from community groups, that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario develop a campaign and produce materials to combat racial profiling and carding in our communities.

CARRIED

2015/08:040 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas on May 29, 2015 the Senate adopted the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act* through which citizenship of Canadians can be revoked from dual nationals convicted of terrorism, treason and high treason, and/or spying for foreign governments while allowing Canadian citizens who were born in Canada and have no other citizenship to remain in the country even when convicted of the same crimes; and

Whereas Canadian citizenship has always been permanent, whether by birth or by naturalization, and it is protected by the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and

Whereas this Act creates second class citizens in Canada and is a clear act of how the Harper Conservatives are seeking to strip rights and target certain communities and perpetuate racism and Islamophobic stereotypes; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation condemn Bill C-24 and write an open letter to the Prime Minister to repudiate the unlawful nature of this Act; and

Be it further resolved member locals be encouraged to write similar letters to the Prime Minister and their local Member of Parliament; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with or initiate local coalitions to raise our opposition to Bill C-24 during the federal election and to demand the bill be repealed by the next federal government.

CARRIED

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2015/08:042 MOTION

Local 105/ Local 41

Whereas Harper's Conservatives passed a dangerous bill known as Bill C-51 with the support of the Liberals, that clearly undermines and attacks fundamental rights and freedoms; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been greatly criticized by many civil liberty groups (such as CCLA) for being a direct attack against our rights and freedoms; and

Whereas we must collectively resist and advocate for our rights and for the society we want; and

Whereas resistance may take a variety of forms including lobbying politicians, holding rallies and occupations, electing a new government and signing online petitions to repeal C-51; and

Whereas students should be actively involved in speaking out loudly and collectively to oppose the passage of Bill C-51; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation and its member locals continue to oppose the passage of Bill C-51; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with local coalitions and initiate campus coalitions to raise awareness and condemn the passage of Bill C-51.

CARRIED

2015/08:044 MOTION

Local 105/ Local 41

Be it resolved that the Federation endorse the "Save Canada Post" campaign organized by Canada's United Postal Workers union to save door-to-door delivery and invest in a public post office, and

Be it further resolved that the Federation provide information and support on the website for the "Save Canada Post" campaign, including a link to downloadable window signs to show support; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation write to the President of Canadian Union of Postal Workers to express the collective support of Ontario students for the campaign; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation ensure that its services, communication and/or distribution of materials be sent through Canada Post using its public postal services and not through private or non-Canadian postal services or agencies, where possible.

CARRIED

2015/08:048 MOTION

Local 105/ Local 41

Whereas the Federation and the Toronto and York Region District Labour Council have partnered to open up affiliation status on the Labour Council to member locals in the GTA; and

Whereas establishing alliances and coalitions with the labour movement is an important mechanism to strengthen our movement for social change; and

Whereas the Federation and its member locals need to find and utilize different opportunities to educate and build awareness about the current and continuing crisis of

public post-secondary education and the upfront barriers that greatly impact racialized communities and people with disabilities; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be strongly encouraged to attend local labour meetings and district labour councils as guests, observers and where possible seek affiliate membership to participate in the local labour council; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be supported by the Executive and staff of the Federation to make presentations at their local district labour councils in the area of the member local, and that presentations occur prior to the federal election to raise awareness about the lack of funding for post-secondary education and the erosion of universities and colleges as a public service; and

Be it further resolved that a template PowerPoint be provided to member locals to present at labour councils and ensure consistency in messaging on the current crisis in post-secondary education, and that this presentation includes: information on the historical context of federal funding to demonstrate the shift and decline in government funding, and how the cost of post-secondary education is a barrier to racialized, Aboriginal communities and people with disabilities; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation also provide resource materials and research to member locals including but not limited to: research on how high fees further systemic racism, sexism, and ableism faced by students currently in post-secondary education and potential students.

CARRIED

2015/08:054

MOTION

Local 105/ Local 41

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students publicly condemned the corporate right-wing attacks and the use of scab labour by the Employer at Crown Metal Packaging Ltd that forced the unionized employees of United Steelworkers (USW) local 9176 to be on strike for almost two years; and

Whereas the Employer forced the workers to be on strike and continued to use scab labour that prolonged the strike and further that the employer threatened to only offer a tentative deal if all the current workers and union organizers could be terminated from their current employment; and

Whereas the Federation supported the striking workers at USW local 9176 to raise awareness about this issue and supported the boycott of canned beer and partnered to create and distribute “Bottles Not Cans” coasters; and

Whereas the USW local 9176 reached a tentative deal on July 9, almost 22 months after being on strike but the financial hardship of the local and these workers will have a long-term devastating impact; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation make a contribution to the United Steelworkers (USW) local 9176 hardship fund in the amount of \$300; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation send a letter of solidarity to the President and Recording Secretary of USW local 9176 to acknowledge the long and devastating strike that occurred over 21 months as a result of their American scab employer Crown Metal Packings Limited.

CARRIED

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2015/08:056 MOTION

Local 109/ Local 41

Whereas Bill C-24, the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act* will:

- Make it much more difficult to obtain citizenship;
- Make obtaining citizenship more expensive;
- Replace Judges as decision makers with Immigration officers; and
- Make it easier for citizenship to be revoked or stripped from Canadians; and

Whereas Bill C-24 will also:

- Extend the costly language test to include those aged 14 - 64 (currently, only those aged 18 - 55 take the test);
- Give Immigration officers authority to deny citizenship if they so much as speculate that the applicant may not reside in Canada in the future;
- Increase the residency requirement during which an applicant must be in Canada as a Permanent Resident from 3 to 4 years and does not allow the applicant to count any of the time spent in Canada prior to obtaining permanent residency;
- Triple the application fee price;
- Remove a person's right to appeal a negative citizenship decision;
- Strip the right to an oral hearing in front of a judge for those who are having their citizenship revoked (it will make so this decision is made by a bureaucrat without holding a hearing);
- Strip citizenship from those who did not obtain citizenship by birth if an official believes that the person never intended to live in Canada; and
- Strip citizenship from dual citizens even if they were born in Canada if convicted of certain crimes, even if those convictions occurred outside Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their local Member of Parliament and candidates in the upcoming federal elections to commit to repeal amendments to the *Citizenship Act* or any other consequential amendments to other Acts (short title: *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act*) that empower the government to introduce barriers in the way of obtaining Canadian citizenship: and allowing the government to arbitrarily strip persons of this status as morally, legally and ethically wrong; and

Be it further resolved that members be encouraged to collaborate with coalition partners through a campaign to condemn the amendments as described in the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act*.

CARRIED

2015/08:058 MOTION

Local 109/ Local 41

Whereas Bill C-51 will undermine our basic rights and put every Canadian at risk of having their private information collected and stored in government databases; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as reckless - the bill has a vague definition of terrorism that could be abused by governments and spy agencies to shut down dissent; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as dangerous - the bill would shred our privacy by allowing information gathered through widespread spying on Canadians to be shared broadly within government. It would also give CSIS new powers to intervene in the day to day life of Canadians, with actions that could break the law and violate the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and

Whereas Bill C-51 has been described as ineffective - the bill fails to use proven counter-radicalization strategies, and contains no proper oversight to prevent abuses; and

Whereas Canada's privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien has warned, in particular, about the information-sharing aspect of C-51; and

Whereas on Feb. 23, 2015, a group of more than 100 academics wrote an open letter outlining five specific concerns with C-51, including concerns over privacy rights and freedom of speech; and

Whereas the Conservative controlled House of Commons and Senate just passed Bill C-51 despite massive opposition from hundreds of thousands of everyday Canadians and the country's top privacy experts; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their local Member of Parliament and candidates in the upcoming federal elections to commit to repeal Bill C-51, a bill that empowers the government to enact a new security intelligence information-sharing statute of vast scope with no enhanced protections for privacy and from abuse; and

Be it further resolved that members be encouraged to collaborate with coalition partners through a campaign to condemn Bill C-51.

CARRIED

2015/08:062 MOTION

Local 109/ Local 41

Whereas the Federation includes a United for Equity campaign that recognizes systemic oppression in our society; and

Whereas the equity campaign highlights all forms of discrimination and oppression as an issue; and

Whereas the equity material challenges the axis of oppression separately; and

Whereas the recognition of all forms of discrimination and oppression are related and salient as a collective; and

Whereas intersectionality is a framework for understanding how sets of social relations such as race, class, gender, sex, religion, immigration/citizenship status, which are defined by power, function simultaneously as interlinking systems of oppression; and

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Whereas intersectionality acknowledges that an additive approach, which focuses on social relations separately, is counter-productive; and

Whereas additive approaches concludes universal experiences for marginalized communities; and

Whereas additive approaches ignores intersectionality and obscures the actuality of systemic oppression; and

Whereas equity and anti-oppression trainings at the general meetings discuss white privilege; and

Whereas adding intersectional approaches to the equity and anti-oppression trainings create productive spaces for unlearning; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario update their equity material so that it explicitly acknowledges and discusses intersectionality; and

Be it further resolved that the Provincial Executive committee explore opportunities and/or spaces for discussion on intersectionality within general meetings; and

Be it further resolved that intersectionality and the understanding of decolonization is used as a basis for the equity and anti-oppression trainings.

CARRIED

2015/08:064

MOTION

Local 88/ Local 32

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission finalized it's mandate this summer and have produced a report of calls to action the Government of Canada to redress the legacy of residential schools, and;

Whereas these calls to action include recommendations towards accessible postsecondary education for all eligible Indigenous learners, and;

Whereas in June 2015, the National Aboriginal Caucus of the Canadian Federation of Students voted to endorse the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Report, and;

Whereas Indigenous students recognize that these calls to action will happen through community education and mobilisation; therefore

Be it resolved that the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation report be endorsed and publicly supported by the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to support calls to action in the report and educate their membership about the history of colonialism in Canada and the importance of following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations using tactics such as outreach and organising workshops, panels and/or other events; and

Be it further resolved that in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation that the *Challenge Colonialism* material for the *United for Equity* campaign recognizes Canada as a settler state which profits off of Indigenous and racialised communities.

CARRIED

2015/08:028 MOTION

Local 54/Local 41

Whereas students are under unprecedented attack with Ontario having the highest tuition fees in the country and post-secondary education institutions across Ontario implementing budget cuts under the differentiation framework; and

Whereas Ontario's funding formula is set to be renewed in 2017, and discussions from the government of Ontario are pushing for the regressive change of implementing a funding formula based on differentiation and learning outcomes, which would result in greater influence from the private sector in the funding formula and further inhibit students' needs and priorities from being reflected in our post-secondary education system; and

Whereas days of action for a freeze, reduction, and elimination of tuition fees have been successful in building mass participation from students in previous years; and

Whereas these days of action have increased media attention about student debt and the inaccessibility of education, increasing public support for our cause; and

Whereas these days of action have been criticized for ending abruptly, and not providing space for our student movement to grow beyond days of action; and

Whereas in Quebec student unions and public sector labour unions will be having actions against austerity starting in mid-October and probably continuing into November; therefore

Be it resolved that the federation and its member locals organize a day of action, prior to the federal election on October 19 2015 against austerity and cuts to public services where member locals can hold campus actions that could include: rallies, teach-ins, walkouts, sit-ins, or demonstrations that demand funding for public services and direct funding for post-secondary education from the federal government to ensure a reduction and elimination of tuition fees; and

Be it further resolved that pending the outcome of the federal election the Ontario Executive recommend further appropriate mobilization and escalated actions for member locals to continue to demand direct funding to elimination of tuition fees; and

Be it further resolved that with the support of the CFS Ontario Executive, member locals participate in a teleconference meeting to debrief after the day of action and also after the outcome of the federal election, towards planning a day of action in winter 2016 and that this meeting be open to member local executive members, staff and activists to discuss how to improve on actions in the future and how to escalate this plan to demand the elimination of tuition fees.

CARRIED

2015/08:069 MOTION

Local 93/Local 48

Be it resolved that the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

National Executive Representative Gab Ross-Marquette presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

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2015/08:020 MOTION

Local 99/Local 41

Whereas as a student movement, we are committed to taking an intersectional approach in addressing access to post-secondary education; and

Whereas constituency groups provide a space for self-identifying folks to discuss issues affecting their communities as it relates to post-secondary education; and

Whereas non-women identified folks are offered no alternative session to organize alongside Women's Constituency; and

Whereas offering no alternative organizing session reflects a society where marginalized identities are required to support and organize within their communities, often without the necessary support of less oppressed identities; therefore

Be it resolved that a session on gender-based issues, consent, allyship and intersectionality occur at the next meeting; and

Be it further resolved that this session be held in the form of, but not limited to: a panel discussion, anti-oppression training, workshop or facilitated discussion.

CARRIED

2015/08:024 MOTION

Local 78/Local 41

Whereas having Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with meetings and workshops scheduled starting early in the morning until late into the night is exhausting and can impede people's ability to fully participate; and

Whereas having long meetings without a meaningful opportunity to rest contributes to harmful cultures that glorify being overworked and celebrate those who push themselves to the point of burnout; and

Whereas the topics discussed at the meetings are often of an emotional nature, that can trigger strong emotional reactions, requiring more involved recovery time; and

Whereas those who often bear the brunt of these harmful cultures and emotional experiences are marginalized populations including, but not limited to: disabled people, those with mental health issues, racialized people and queer and trans people; and

Whereas this is not conducive to building an accessible, inclusive and sustainable student movement because it creates unfair conditions where not everyone feels they can effectively participate; and

Whereas the current structure hinders the ability of some delegates to socialize and make meaningful connections with fellow student-movement activists; and

Whereas the Federation strives to be a progressive voice pushing for accessible education in all forms and is currently developing a campaign on student mental health issues, requiring us to be reflexive of our own practices and the ways they may perpetuate systemic ableism; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive evaluate the structure of, and develop strategies for the restructuring of, the AGMs to ensure greater accessibility; and

Be it further resolved that the Provincial Executive implement any short-term changes as soon as possible and provide a report on long-term recommendations at the next general meeting.

CARRIED

2015/08:034 MOTION

Local 68/Local 41

Whereas the Consent Culture forum provided an open and safe space for participants to dissect the issue of gender-based violence and create a consent culture on our campuses; and

Whereas first-time participants were able to share ideas, experiences and suggestions without the pressure of general meeting procedural structures; and

Whereas Annual General Meeting settings are not always the most appropriate spaces to dissect complex issues affecting students, given time constraints and strict agendas; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario is required to have one Annual General Meeting per year; and

Whereas it is important that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario, being the voice of students in the province, provide adequate space to discuss important issues on our campuses and beyond; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive investigate alternatives to the current Annual and Semi-Annual General meeting order of the agenda, workshop structure and social structure that are more conducive to open and accessible dialogue around current issues in society and the student movement; and

Be it further resolved that the findings of this investigation be presented at the Federation's next Semi-Annual General Meeting in January 2016.

CARRIED

2015/08:050 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas the Federation previously provided a CD to member locals that contained logos and files of different campaign materials and services related images; and

Whereas in an effort to establish consistency, awareness and identification of the Federation and its member locals, each member local should have a copy of service logos and the correct version of the Federation's logo in a variety of formats; and

Whereas member locals should have access to downloadable resources including campaign materials in a variety of formats and files; and

Whereas awareness and education about the Federation and who are its members locals is key to maintaining a strong presence and vital growth of the Federation; and

Whereas it is common practice in the trade union movement for websites to have a members' section containing resources, materials and contact information; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation investigate the creation of a members' only section on the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website, www.cfsontario.ca, for the purpose of providing downloadable resources to member locals that should include: campaign materials, posters, photos taken at Federation events, meetings, and rallies, and different formats of the Federation logo and services icons or images; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create and provide in a downloadable format a membership guide that explains the benefits of membership, outlines and provides an

overview of services and how the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario was established.

CARRIED

2015/08:052 MOTION

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas organizing can be greatly enhanced through the use of social media and mass Twitter or Facebook campaigns; and

Whereas the use of social media should be seen as a tactic as part of a campaign strategy but often is used as the strategy; and

Whereas the Ontario Skills Symposium provides an excellent opportunity to learn, enrich and enhance the skills and knowledge of students and staff at members locals and prospective member locals; and

Whereas Canada introduced new anti-spam legislation in 2014; and

Whereas on January 15, 2015, sections of the Act related to the unsolicited installation of computer programs or software came into force that may impact students' unions and campaign organizing; and

Whereas beginning on July 1, 2017, the law will also allow individuals and organizations who allege to be affected by an act or omission that is in contravention of the law to bring a private court action against individuals and organizations whom they allege have violated the law; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation's annual Skills Symposium include a session on how to effectively use social media as part of an organizing strategy for campaigns and membership awareness; and

Be it further resolved that the Skills Symposium include information or materials related to Canada's new anti-spam legislation that was passed in 2014 and any related privacy legislation that governs individuals and organizations which release mass emails.

CARRIED

2015/08:060 MOTION

Local 109/Local 41

Whereas there is a societal stigma surrounding the process of menstruation, allowing females to grow up with a sense of shame and embarrassment for what is nothing but a natural bodily process; and

Whereas it is imperative to respect women's bodies in all its entirety, including removing the repulsive connotations menstruation entails, and instead embracing this natural process of the human body, and essentially helping our fellow women and trans community by bringing their issues regarding the agency of their bodies and its processes to the political table; and

Whereas Effective July 1, 2015, the Canadian federal government has issued the removal of GST and HST taxes on tampons, and other feminine hygiene products; and

Whereas this is a major stride against gender-based discrimination in Canada, the prices for these products remain high, and thus attainment of these products prove to be an issue for women, girls, and the trans community who come from low-income households; and

Whereas, although a natural bodily function, requires the need for proper feminine hygiene products in order for menstruating individuals to be able to continue their daily activities uninterrupted; and

Whereas a failure to have access to these products not only prevents them full functionality of their week due to a natural process that they are forced to undergo, but in addition, the profits made from the Canadian government of these highly priced essential products targeted specifically to menstruating individuals can be seen as being both gender based exploitation of the female body, as well as classist based discrimination of low-income families; and

Whereas the proposal for free feminine hygiene products is designated to label tampons, pads, and menstrual cups as non-luxury items, and to distribute these products free of charge within our university/ college campuses; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation look into the feasibility of providing member locals with tampons, menstrual cups and pads to provide to students; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation provide a report of its findings at the next January 2016 Semi-Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

2015/08:070

MOTION

Local 41/Local 68

Be it resolved that the Organizational and Services Development Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION OF THE POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Policy Coordinator Alice Wu presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

2015/08:010

MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students at northern postsecondary institutions face specific challenges which exacerbate those faced by students across Canadian postsecondary institutions, including increased distance from social supports and isolation from family and friends, increased costs of living associated with northern residency, and the higher likelihood of origin in low-income communities; and

Whereas students at northern post-secondary institutions have expressed their need to have reasonable breaks from academic classes during both the fall and winter terms, in order to draw on social supports through traveling to visit family and friends.

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy on “Mental Health” be amended to read:

MENTAL HEALTH

Preamble

Students adapting to a post-secondary institution need to adjust to significant changes, including but not limited to moving to a new area, separation from family and friends, establishing a new social network, managing a budget given the realities of high tuition fees, combining academic study with other commitments, coping with access in a new environment and, for international students, living in a new country and adjusting to a different culture. For students attending northern institutions, these challenges are intensified with regard to distance from family and friends, fewer

options for intercity transit, and with regard to increased financial, employment, and housing pressures. Moreover, students for whom English or French is not their first language may have additional difficulty expressing mental health issues and engaging with mental health services on their campus. Lastly, students who are marginalized may experience minority stress and as a result face additional barriers. While these changes can be exciting and challenging and are intrinsic parts of the attraction of going to university or college, they can also give rise to anxiety and stress.

Students may face challenges, experience stress and/or a personal crisis, which without appropriate supports inhibit their ability to participate fully in higher education. These difficulties may be long-term or temporary but nonetheless debilitating for students' mental health. In addition, some students may arrive at university or college with a pre-existing psychological condition, either declared or undeclared.

Mental health issues can seriously impair academic performance and overall well-being. Minor difficulties that interfere with a student's capacity to work may also result in distress, undermine academic progress and compromise academic success. Post-secondary institutions have a responsibility to provide adequate services and support, and to raise awareness to promote the mental wellness of students, staff, faculty and other members of their community.

Policy

The Federation supports mental health strategies that:

- Utilize on-campus committees mandated to investigate mental health services and ensure delivery of quality service. These committees should be comprised of representatives of the institution, students' union representatives, student group representatives, faculty associations and staff unions;
- Recognize and address the diversity of experiences faced by students in post-secondary institutions;
- Prioritize the representation of individuals with lived experience of mental health barriers who may be able to significantly contribute to the discussion to improve mental health services on campus;
- Recognize the impact of racism, xenophobia, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, colonialism and other forms of oppression on the mental health of members of marginalized communities;
- Recognize the unique needs of mature and part-time, graduate, and distance education students as well as students operating outside of a first-language context;
- Recognize the unique needs of northern students;
- Recognize the need for both fall and winter breaks to allow students time to travel to access and draw on personal means of support;
- Address the impacts of high tuition fees, underemployment, unemployment and precarious employment on students' mental health;
- Adequately fund and provide resources for campus mental health and counselling services, including crisis and trauma centers;
- Work to destigmatize mental health issues within the student population and to promote safe spaces to address these issues;
- Respect the confidentiality of personal information provided by students and service-users;
- Are jointly funded and administered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and/or individual institutions; and

- Acknowledge and respect traditional ways of spiritual healing.

CARRIED

2015/08:012 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 32/Local 41

Whereas students attending post-secondary institutions in northern Ontario face increased pressures which exacerbate mental health challenges; and

Whereas differentiation in post-secondary institutions negatively impacts northern students, in that northern students have additional limitations in accessing a wide range of programs within a large region and a diverse population; therefore

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy on “Northern Students’ Issues” be amended to read:

NORTHERN STUDENTS’ ISSUES

Preamble

For a variety of reasons, northern colleges and universities require additional supports, over and above those offered to other institutions, in order to provide high quality post-secondary education. There are a variety of government funding programs that continue to predicate the receipt of public dollars upon the successful leveraging of private resources to co-finance the research and teaching activities of Ontario's colleges and universities. Such programs have impacted initiatives ranging from student financial aid to research and capital projects. These programs continue to disadvantage northern institutions that do not often have the endowments, program mix or access to financial centres that are required to maximize matched-funding models.

In addition, students and families who reside in northern and rural regions of Ontario also face barriers that are distinct from those faced by students in the southern part of the province and large municipalities. Compared to the rest of the province, Northern Ontario is home to a significant number of Aboriginal and francophone communities that face particular educational barriers. In general, students who study in the north have to contend with higher prices for commodities, longer commuting distances, lower vacancy rates, fewer employment opportunities and lower than average wages. As a result, people who are from northern communities are more likely to live in poverty and less likely to have access to college or university education. Furthermore, many students attending northern post-secondary institutions face increased pressures on their mental health with regard to ability to access personal means of support. It is within this context that the impact of the province's current policy of high fees and high debt must be considered.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- Increased funding for Ontario Distance Grants;
- Measures to be taken by the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) to take into account the extra expenses incurred by students who attend a post-secondary education institution in northern Ontario;
- An increase in funding to expand the number of upper-year French and Indigenous-language courses offered;
- A specific grant for all Aboriginal students who attend college or university;
- Funding to guarantee the availability of public student residence spaces beyond the first year;

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- An increase in funding to expand graduate studies in northern Ontario, with the emphasis on doctoral programs and graduate studies in French and Indigenous languages;
- A credit transfer system that mandates that credits earned in French and Indigenous programs be accepted for equivalent credits at English-language institutions;
- Full passenger rail and bus service in northern Ontario;
- Investments in research and innovation that contribute to the sustainability of the northern Ontario economy including the natural resource and mining sectors;
- The continued development of a wider variety of professional programs in Northern Ontario;
- Increased funding and support for Aboriginal culture and language programs;
- The construction of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard buildings, in an effort to reduce the environmental impact of capital projects in northern Ontario; and
- Increased funding and support for mental health initiatives in northern Ontario.

The Federation opposes:

- The migration of entire programs from northern institutions to satellite campuses located in southern Ontario;
- The continued freeze of Northern and Extraordinary Grants;
- The use of satellite campuses as a mechanism strictly used to meet budgetary and/or enrolment projections;
- The phasing out of face-to-face instruction by other means; and
- Differentiation initiatives in northern post-secondary institutions.

CARRIED

2015/08:030 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 54/Local 41

Be it resolved that that Issues Policy on “Racism” be amended to read:

RACISM

Preamble

Racism is a form of oppression based on the social, political, economic and historical construction of race and power that affects the lived experiences of all people, including students. Racism works to disadvantage racialized people and further advantage members of the dominant group. It is historically implemented through verbal, psychological, and physical discrimination or harm. Today, racism is also systemically manifested in institutions like governments, educational institutions, the criminal justice system and other large organizations that have the power to detrimentally influence the lives of many.

Although the Federation’s findings in the Racialized Impact of Tuition Fees identify economic barriers as the most significant hindrance to equal access to post-secondary education, the report indicates “discriminatory practices serve to prevent equitable access to universities and colleges.” The report confirms that racialized people “find themselves as lower income earners on average, and census data demonstrates that average undergraduate tuition fees are a high percentage of the average income earnings of visible minorities than non-visible minorities.” Furthermore, the Federation’s findings from the Task Force on Campus Racism conclude that “instances of racism and racial discrimination are not isolated;

discrimination toward racialized students, faculty and staff is a systemic feature of Ontario's post-secondary education system.”

Racism in the criminal justice system also detrimentally impacts the lives of our members. High profile reports such as the 2005 Kingston Data Collection Project, The 2015 Region of Peel and United Way Report on the Consultations into the Well-Being of Black Youth in Peel Region, The Special Report in human rights and racial profiling in the 2013/14 Ontario Human Rights Commission Annual Report, the 2002 Toronto Star analysis of Toronto Police statistics have reported that residents of racialized identities receive harsher treatment than white residents and are overrepresented in police statistics of charges and arrests. Students attending post-secondary institutions experience racism in the following forms: harassment and interrogation by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), police brutality and killings, discriminatory treatment based on association or membership in a particular student club or organization, and restrictions on travel based on race, ethnicity or country of origin. Many of our members who are immigrants and refugees arriving in Canada are increasingly from racialized communities. They must have the confidence that they will not face discrimination from police or other security and government services both on and off campus.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- Access to education free from overt, covert and systemic forms of racism;
- Advocacy and support resources on campuses dedicated to combatting systemic forms of racism as well as creating safer and accessible spaces for racialized students;
- Diverse student representation on governing bodies of post-secondary institutions;
- Diverse representation of racialized communities in front-line student support services and resources;
- The work of all member locals and community groups that seek to eliminate racism, particularly anti-black racism, in post-secondary education, the criminal justice system, and all other institutions; and
- All equity-based institutional initiatives that seek to correct the historical injustices and create equitable conditions for racialized students.

The Federation opposes:

- Overt, covert and systemic racism in campus life;
- Institutional racism in hiring practices and curriculum; including but not limited to: racist micro-aggressions, differential pay based on race and the censorship of issues related to racism from class curricula and publishings;
- Systemic racism in institutional policy and governance;
- Systemic racism in the broader society and global community;
- Discrimination and harassment from police or other security and government services both on and off campus;
- The ongoing criminalization of racialized communities through increased surveillance and disproportionate incarceration rates of racialized community members; and
- The increased surveillance and criminalization of campus groups representing racialized communities.

CARRIED

2015/08:036 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 68/ Local 41

Be it resolved that the issues policy on “Racial Profiling” be repealed and replaced with the following:

RACIAL PROFILING AND CARDING

Preamble

Racial profiling and the current carding protocols used by law enforcement have significant and negative impacts on specific members of the Canadian population including black and brown youth, and racialized immigrants from marginalized communities. These members are disproportionately targeted and criminalized by law enforcement as they are subjected to random carding and searches. Racial profiling is based on stereotypical assumptions because of one’s race, colour, ethnicity, etc.

Carding and racial profiling from law enforcement continues to have severe negative impacts on racialized individuals, ranging from mental health issues, trauma, and police brutality in many cases throughout Ontario. The police carding tactics continue to send especially more black and brown youth into jails and penitentiaries, which continues to work in line with Canada’s prison-industrial complex. Criminal profiling, on the other hand, relies on actual behaviour or on information about suspected activity by someone who meets the description of a specific individual, rather than relying on stereotypes, according to the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC).

Law enforcement, specifically like that of the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS), a branch of the Toronto Police Services (TPS), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) play a crucial role in on going institutionalized racial discrimination in certain communities. Many carding interactions are not about gathering intelligence, rather about amassing personal details of innocent civilians. Black people and to a lesser extent brown people are disproportionately subjected to unethical police practices. For example, the ratios of young black males documented and carded in Zone 523 in Toronto is 252:1. For young brown males, the ratio is 65:1, and for young white males the ratio is 23:1.

Institutionalized racism and xenophobic actions of the Canadian state have to be seen in a holistic scope as they are occurring across Ontario and Canada. The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2015 amends over a dozen Canadian laws, including the Criminal Code, to permit Canadian government agencies to share information about individuals easily. The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2015 also gives more broad powers and widens the mandate of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and many other law enforcement agencies in Canada. The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2015 makes it easier for government agencies to share information about carded individuals and violates human rights and freedoms and privacy of all peoples by creating a context for the implementation of racial profiling.

Many students, specifically racialized students attending post-secondary education, have experienced racial profiling in the form of international students being denied access to college or university based on their country of origin, interrogation by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) on campus, interrogation in their organizing circles or differential treatment based on membership in a particular campus club or organization, and restrictions on travel based on race, ethnicity or country of origin.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- The right to live without harassment from law enforcement and from other state agents;
- Accessible education for all students regardless of race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The right to security of the person and to personal privacy for all peoples; and
- Freedom from discrimination.

The Federation opposes:

- The ongoing state-mandated carding and racial profiling practises of law enforcement;
- Marginalized students being denied entrance to Canadian universities and colleges based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The presence of law enforcement and security intelligence on university and college campuses to interrogate students based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- University and college administrations granting law enforcement access to student records such as library loan records and research interests;
- Black and Brown youth facing more stringent security measures than those who are not racialized;
- The imposition of stricter regulations on the activities of certain campus clubs and student organizations based on their race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship;
- The focus of campus police on particular students based on race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, country of origin or citizenship; and
- The presence of police stations on campus, which will result in more carding and racial profiling of racialized students and other civilians.

CARRIED

2015/08:046 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY

Local 105/Local 41

Whereas for the past year and a half, Canada Post established plan designed to eliminate door-to-door mail delivery for 5.1 million Canadian households; and

Whereas on December 11, 2013, Canada Post announced drastic cutbacks to our public postal service; and

Whereas the Conservative government under Harper has supported and encouraged Canada Post's plan to eliminate all door-to-door mail delivery and the dramatic increase in stamp prices; and

Whereas Canada Post is a public service and crown corporation owned by the government and these cuts are a clear attack on our public postal service; and

Whereas the cutting of door-to-door mail has a direct negative and harsh impact that directly targets seniors and persons living with disabilities; and

Whereas hundreds of mayors have complained about the decision to cut door-to-door delivery, and Hamilton and Montreal have already launched their own legal challenges, therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation adopt the following Issues Policy:

DOOR-TO-DOOR MAIL DELIVERY

Preamble

The Canada Post Corporation Act of 1981 contains a mandate to provide mail services in a reliable manner and to ensure the corporation's financial security and independence.

Canadians rely upon affordable door-to-door mail services throughout the year. On December 11, 2013, with the support of the federal government, Canada Post announced drastic cutbacks to our public postal service, designed to eliminate door-to-door mail delivery for 5.1 million Canadian households, as well as significantly increase the cost of postage. Canada Post is a public service and crown corporation therefore these cuts are a clear attack on our public postal service. A cut of door-to-door mail service negatively and disproportionately impacts seniors and persons with disabilities. Hundreds of mayors have complained about the decision to cut door-to-door delivery, and Hamilton and Montreal have already launched their own legal challenges.

Policy

The Federation supports:

- Public services that are publicly funded, maintained and supported by unionized workers;
- The establishment of fair and reasonable postage rates;
- Accessible delivery of mail for rural and urban communities;
- Postal service practices that reinforce ecological sustainability;
- The implementation of postal banking to serve rural and urban communities;
- Substantive public consultation on any changes to the postal service;
- Respect, fairness and decent working conditions for public servants employed at Canada Post; and
- The continuation of Canada Post as a public service.

CARRIED

2015/08:071

MOTION

Local 93/Local 106

Be it resolved that the Policy Review and Development Committee Report be accepted.

CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Electoral Officer Anne-Marie Roy presented the Electoral Report.

2015/08:072

MOTION

Local 99/Local 78

Be it resolved that Tori Maas be ratified as the Constituency Commissioner for the 2015-2016 term.

CARRIED

2015/08:073

MOTION

Local 41/Local 99

Be it resolved that Rabbia Ashraf be ratified as the Women's Commissioner for the 2015-2016 term.

CARRIED

2015/08:074

MOTION

Local 88/Local 110

Be it resolved that Ian McRae be ratified as the Northern Region Commissioner for the 2015-2016 term.

CARRIED

2015/08:075

MOTION

Local 94/Local 19

Be it resolved that Michael Bueckert be ratified as the Ontario Graduate Caucus Chairperson for the 2015-2016 term.

CARRIED

2015/08:076

MOTION

Local 78/Local 27

Be it resolved that Amanda-Lynn Duchesne-Wales be ratified as the Francophone and Bilingual Caucus Chairperson for the 2015-2016 term.

CARRIED

2015/08:077

MOTION

Local 109/Local 94

Be it resolved that the report of the Chief Returning Officer be accepted.

CARRIED

Electoral Officer Anne-Marie Roy also announced the constituency group representatives for 2015-2016.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

2015/08:078

MOTION

Local 99/Local 88

Whereas as of July over 700 black people have been killed by police in this year alone; and

Whereas the rate of black people dying by police is every eight hours; and

Whereas 5 black trans women have been killed in July alone; and

Whereas the Toronto police card black people at a rate of 252 black person for everyone 1; and

Whereas the SIU, Ontario's Special Investigations Unit doesn't track race-based data in deaths of black people; and

Whereas black people are targeted more now than during the Jim Crow era; and

Whereas in the past 2 years, Toronto Police have killed 7 black people and the SIU had pressed charges against any of those offices; and

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Whereas these instances of anti-black racism exist in communities across Ontario; and

Whereas Black Lives Matter Toronto responded to the emergency crisis of black folks by having a solidarity rally for Mike Brown after the no indictment verdict was reached; and

Whereas BLMTO responded to the murder of Eric Garner following the no-indictment verdict by holding a die-in at Yonge and Dundas; and

Whereas BLMTO responded to the murder of Toronto-native Jermaine Carby by holding a rally at police headquarters and holding a sit in at the U.S. consulate; and

Whereas BLMTO joined the community by holding a vigil for the murder of Andrew Loku, a 45 year old refugee who was a student at George Brown who suffered PTSD from being a child soldier; and

Whereas BLMTO created a list of demands to hold Mayor John Tory, Police Chief Mark Saunders and the Toronto Police accountable for the murders of black people in the city; and

Whereas when the demands weren't met BLMTO and the community occupied and shut down both sides of the Allen Expressway for 2 hours; and

Whereas the BLMTO's Justice For Loku, Justice for Jermaine Carby, and anti-carding campaigns continue to be ongoing; and

Whereas black people are in a state of emergency; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario endorse BLMTO's active campaigns; and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario donate \$2,500 to Black Lives Matter-Toronto; and

Be it further resolved that member locals actively work in solidarity with community organizations who are working to challenge anti-black racism within their communities; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to endorse and donate to BLMTO.

CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT

2015/08:079 MOTION

Local 99/Local 93

Be it resolved that plenary adjourn.

CARRIED