

## Opening Plenary Minutes

Semi-Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario  
Thursday, January 17 to Sunday, January 20, 2013 - Markham, Ontario

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### CALL TO ORDER—Thursday, January 17, 2013

7:28 p.m. - Chairperson Sarah Jayne King called the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting to order.

#### 1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Absent
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Absent
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Present
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Absent
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 Students' Society	Absent
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	Absent
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Proxy
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Absent
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Proxy
Local 97	Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Absent
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	Absent
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	Absent
Local 110	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 111	Laurentian Students' Union – Barrie	Absent
	Thames Students Incorporated	Absent

King said that quorum had been reached.

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### **2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES**

King announced that the following proxies had been received for this meeting:

- Local 84 had designated Local 68 as its proxy for Opening Plenary; and
- Local 94 had designated Local 78 as its proxy.

### **3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER**

#### **2013/01:001 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 82

Be it resolved that Sarah Jayne King be ratified as the Opening Plenary Speaker for the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting; and

Be it further resolved that George Soule be ratified as the Closing Plenary Speaker for the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**CARRIED**

### **4. WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

King welcomed delegates to the 2012 Annual General Meeting and introduced Cat, a traditional Cayugan of the Six Nations, who opened the general meeting and welcomed participants.

King provided opening remarks.

### **5. RATIFICATION OF NEW MEMBERS**

### **6. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA**

#### **2013/01:002 MOTION**

Local 47/Local 24

Be it resolved that the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting plenary agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **7. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

#### **2013/01:003 MOTION**

Local 41/Local 107

Be it resolved that the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **8. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **2012/08:004 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 32

Be it resolved that the 2012 Annual General Meeting minutes be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**9. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES**

**a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures**

King 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 Advisor Sarah Chhibber made a presentation on the Federation's harassment policy.

**c. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer**

Whitfield 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**

**2013/01:005 MOTION**

Local 78/Local 49

Be it resolved that National Internal Coordinator Brent Farrington be appointed as Electoral Officer for the 2013 Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**CARRIED**

**b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures**

Electoral Officer Brent Farrington outlined the positions for election and the election procedures for the meeting.

**11. STRIKING OF PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEES**

**a. Striking of Plenary Sub-Committees**

**2013/01:006 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 109

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**

**2013/01:007 MOTION**

Local 84/Local 97

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**

The following motions were served by member locals with notice and shall be considered at the meeting.

**2013/01:008 MOTION**

Local 32/Local 97

Whereas the Federation recognizes that quality in education is related to the universal availability of certain conditions and services, including accessible affordable good quality food; and

Whereas student food banks help students in immediate financial need by providing free food, personal items, resources and support; and

Whereas raising awareness about food security in Canada is an important way to work towards eliminating the systemic barriers to accessing quality food; and

Whereas students at Lakehead University have organized FoodRide — a student-driven nationwide cycling tour to bring attention to food security issues at post-secondary institutions across the country; and

Whereas the goal of FoodRide is to support the work of student- and community-run food banks by holding mass food drives in communities across all provinces; therefore

Be it resolved that the FoodRide initiative be supported with a monetary donation of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to assist with expenses associated with FoodRide; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to contribute by providing resources to FoodRide in the form of: letters of support, financial contributions, accommodations, local food drive organizers and volunteers, media contacts, advertising, and any other resources that will contribute to the success of the initiative.

**2013/01:009 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:008 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:008 REFERRED**

**2013/01:010 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas the 2012 Ontario Budget threatened thousand of public service jobs and recommended deep cuts to public and social services; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal government, with the support for the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario, passed Bill 115, which stripped public teachers and education workers of their right to strike and collectively bargain with their employers; and

Whereas Education Minister Laurel Broten has threatened to force teachers back to work should they engage in a job action; and

Whereas this bill sets a dangerous precedent for all public workers in the province of Ontario and across Canada; and

Whereas budget cuts will result in decreased access to vital social and public services, relied upon mostly by low-income and marginalized communities such as racialized, immigrant, undocumented, Aboriginal, queer and trans people, persons with disabilities and women; and

Whereas upon resignation, Premier Dalton McGuinty suspended the Ontario Legislature, effectively stopping the work of government until a successor is chosen; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal government has engaged in reckless and narrow-minded education policy, such as the selective Ontario Tuition Grant program and the discussion paper by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities that sought to fundamentally alter higher education in the province; and

Whereas the Ontario government has consistently refused to address skyrocketing tuition fees and mounting student debt; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal Party has called a convention to be held at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto from January 25 to the 27; and

Whereas at this convention, the Ontario Liberal Party will choose their next leader; and

Whereas the Ontario Federation of Labour has called for a demonstration at the Ontario Liberal Convention on Saturday, January 26 to protest the party's affront to workers rights and cuts to social services; therefore

Be it resolved that the January 26 "Rally for Rights and Democracy" organized by the Ontario Federation of Labour be endorsed; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to endorse the rally; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to organize contingents of members to attend the rally in solidarity with workers and communities across Ontario.

**2013/01:011 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:010 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:010 REFERRED**

**2013/01:012 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas the Provincial Government increased the minimum wage to \$10.25 an hour in 2010; and

Whereas the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives has released three reports in October and November of 2012 highlighting the concept of a living wage titled "Enhancing Democratic Citizenship, Deepening Distributive Justice: The Living

Wage Movement”, “A Living Wage As a Human Right”, and “Corporate Social Responsibility and Living Wage”; and

Whereas a living wage is the minimum hourly wage necessary based on actual expenses for each of two workers living in a family of four to meet basic needs and to participate in the civic/social life of their community; and

Whereas in order to earn a living wage, a minimum wage of between \$16 and \$18 is needed for a couple with two young children living in the province of Ontario; and

Whereas in British Columbia, a broad-based coalition has been working towards the goal of a living wage with some successes; and

Whereas living wages form the foundation of a society in which people can earn an equitable standard of living and a level of income necessary for a given family type to become independent; therefore

Be it resolved that the findings of the three reports be supported; and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario work with Labour Councils across Ontario, the Good Jobs for All Coalition and other organizations to endorse and work on a Living Wage Campaign; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to do work on their campuses regarding a Living Wage Campaign.

**2013/01:013 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:012 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:012 REFERRED**

**2013/01:014 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 68/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy entitled “Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women on Campus” be amended to read as follows:

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ON CAMPUS**

**Preamble**

When sexual assault and violence against women occur at a post-secondary educational institution, it is the responsibility of the campus community to provide a safe and inclusive environment by responding in support of the survivor(s) and working towards eradicating the causes of sexual assault and violence against all women. Too often, post-secondary institutions have publicly downplayed incidences of sexual violence on their campuses in order to protect the institution’s reputation. Such efforts hinder the ability for campus communities to engage in meaningful and open dialogue to address matters related to sexual violence on their campuses. Institutional policies and practices that prioritize knowledge and education and acknowledge a full range of experiences are critical to ending discrimination and violence. Such policies and practices should be rooted in the recognition of sexism and misogyny as mechanisms of oppression. Sexism and misogyny are

intensified by racism, classism, homophobia, transphobia and ableism, as well as a range of other experiences that affect all women's responses to the trauma of sexual violence.

In some institutional and police responses to sexual violence, visual representations of alleged perpetrators have focused on racialized characteristics. Such responses serve to target racialized groups rather than provide meaningful information such as age, height, and behaviour to aid in identifying the perpetrator. In addressing sexual violence on campuses, it is also important for institutions to acknowledge that most perpetrators of sexual violence are known to the survivors rather than "strangers" who are not members of the campus community. Certain institutional and police notifications of sexual violence also emphasize personal precautions as preventative measures against violence. It is important to recognize that prioritizing personal precautionary measures can promote a culture of victim blaming, as the responsibility is placed on women to keep themselves safe.

Furthermore, it is important that institutions inform the campus community of ongoing developments in investigations in a timely manner to ensure that students are not left in a state of fear.

### **Policy**

The Federation Supports:

- Regular safety audits. These audits should be undertaken annually, must be community-driven and must examine safety holistically. Safety audits should address safety areas that include but may not be limited to the social environment, security services and the physical environment;
- On-campus safety committees mandated to improve safety and fulfill safety audit recommendations. These committees should be composed of representatives of the institution, students' unions, student group representatives, representatives from marginalized groups, faculty associations and staff unions;
- Incident reporting mechanisms that respect the rights and decisions of survivors, promote campus safety and inform the campus community of immediate risks;
- Increased funding and other resources for campus health and counseling services, including sexual assault crisis and trauma services, and public education on ending sexism and gendered violence;
- The inclusion in staff training and faculty professional development sessions of diversity and gender equality awareness education, especially for those staff and faculty working in security and frontlines service provision;
- The provision of adequately funded campus safewalk services;
- On-campus sexual violence reporting systems established through the collaboration of university and college administrative bodies, students' unions, faculty associations, staff unions, and local sexual assault support centres and rape crisis centres;
- Institutional policies and practices that recognize the importance of campus safety measures while at the same time promoting education, awareness and accountability with the goal of eradicating sexism, gendered violence and systemic forms of oppression that exist within post-secondary institutions;

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- Institutional safety policies and practices that recognize the fact that a majority of sexual assaults occur between acquaintances;
- Student-run sexual assault support services including, but not limited to emotional support, outreach activities and awareness-building campaigns;
- Community Service Groups that challenge various forms of oppression including but not limited to homophobia, transphobia, racism, sexism and ableism;
- Public memorials to commemorate victims and survivors of gender based violence including missing and murdered Aboriginal women, trans women and racialized women;
- Student run initiatives that promote consent and healthy relationships;
- Initiatives to promote pro-social bystander behaviour;
- The establishment of a social environment and policies within the institution that provide a safer space for survivors to come forward to seek support or report incidents of sexual violence.

The Federation opposes:

- Reporting systems that use visual representations of the alleged perpetrators that reinforce racial profiling;
- Technology-driven safety initiatives that prioritize monitoring over collective education and responsibility;
- Security measures that include an off-campus police presence;
- The perpetuation of the ‘stranger danger’ mentality;
- Campaigns that place responsibility on women to prevent sexual violence;
- The promotion of rape culture through language or actions that trivialize, condone or tolerate any form of sexual violence;
- Groups that seek to challenge ideologies of gender equity, women’s bodily autonomy and denounce the work of feminism and the women’s movement. Often these groups operate under the guise of “men’s awareness” groups.

### **2013/01:015 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:014 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

### **2013/01:014 REFERRED**

### **2013/01:016 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 68/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy entitled “Environmental Sustainability” be replaced with the following:

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**Preamble**



Climate change poses one of the biggest challenges and threats to humanity. Increased greenhouse gas emissions have caused the average temperatures across the world to rise, intensifying the frequency and severity of natural disasters, contributing to rising sea levels, and causing worldwide drought, famine and flooding. The effects of ecological degradation are felt particularly hard in communities of the Global South, who bear little to no responsibility for impending climate change. The very future of life on earth hangs in the balance, but world leaders have either been unwilling or unable to come to a practical agreement on how to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

Concentration of gasses in the atmosphere is measured by parts per million (ppm), which also measures the ratio of carbon dioxide to other gasses in the air. Until the advent of the industrial revolution, earths atmosphere contained approximately 275 parts per million, which kept important gasses from escaping the earths atmosphere and kept the earth warm enough to make life possible and sustainable. As of 2012, the earths atmosphere contains 392 parts per million, with scientists advising that the planet must be below 350 parts per million to continue sustaining life. Scientists from dozens of countries, domestic, regional and international agencies, including the United Nations, have all sounded the alarm on climate change; warning swift action must be taken lest the planet risk massive ecological disaster.

Since the beginning of the new millennium, Canada has risen to become one of the planets top polluters. After abandoning the Kyoto Protocol, the Federal government began a massive expansion of the toxic Tar Sands project in Northern Alberta, which forcibly infringed upon the sovereign land of Indigenous peoples and has seen a rise in cancer and other illnesses in the areas surrounding the project. Canada has consistently undermined international efforts to reduce carbon emissions, such as in 2007, when it blocked a Commonwealth resolution binding industrialized countries to emission reduction targets. Proposals to expand oil and gas pipelines across the fragile Northern British Columbia wilderness in 2012 further display the governments callous disregard for the ecological health of the country and the planet.

The Federation believes strongly that a generation educated by affordable, accessible and public colleges and universities can turn the tide on climate change before it is too late. The Federation stands in solidarity with students, faculty, staff, scientists, researchers, politicians, Indigenous communities, activists and concerned people around the world working tirelessly to reverse the effects of climate change and build sustainable, inclusive and open communities.

### **Policy**

The Federation supports:

- Local, provincial, national, regional and international efforts to slow climate change by investing in renewable energy generation mechanisms and a phasing out of fossil fuel consumption;
- International agreements that encourage cooperation between countries and regions to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and transition to sustainable economies;
- The mass expansion of affordable and accessible public transit through a National Transit Strategy that discourages reliance on cars for personal transportation;

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- The introduction of feed-in tariffs that provide tax incentives to personal home and business renovations that generate sustainable power and heating for residences and businesses;
- Investments in public post-secondary education and research to evaluate the challenges posed by climate change and propose thoughtful solutions to the threats it poses;
- The transition towards a green economy, with focus on localized production and sustainable manufacturing;
- Grassroots mobilizations and civil disobedience to halt the expansion of ecologically harmful projects and shift public policy on climate change, energy, waste and the environment; and
- Broad-based coalitions to students' unions, labour unions, Indigenous communities, scientists and researchers, and other concerned communities designed to challenge climate change denial and the influence of natural resource corporations on public policy.

The Federation opposes:

- The continued reliance upon fossil fuels for power generation;
- The influence of oil, gas and other natural resource extraction corporations on public policy and government at municipal, provincial, national, regional and international levels;
- The unfair demand placed upon countries in the Global South to pay the same cost for climate change prevention and reversal as industrialized nations in the Global North;
- Ecologically hazardous natural resource extraction projects such as the Tar Sands that pollute the environment, infringe upon the sovereignty of Indigenous communities and cause personal, social, environmental and economic harm to those living and working in or near extraction sites;
- Natural resource projects that displace Indigenous communities from their sovereign lands and communities;
- Cuts to public science and research efforts designed to examine ecological health, climate change and the impact of fossil fuels; and
- Muzzling of scientists, civil servants and politicians wishing to speak out on the ecological health of the planet.

### **2013/01:017 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:016 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

### **2013/01:016 REFERRED**

### **2013/01:018 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas there are over 300 000 members of the Federation across the province of Ontario; and

Whereas the Federation has a relationship with individual members and therefore should work to ensure democratic decisions made at closing plenaries are accessible to them; and

Whereas the motions passed by the Federation are important for informing members of the direction of the Federation; and

Whereas the process of discussion and debate that motions go through often produce several lengthily proposals for amendments, many of which do not make it to the final motion if adopted; and

Whereas the final vote on individual motions reflect these discussions and present the stance of the Federation in a clear, concise and accessible format; and

Whereas summary minutes provide the information necessary to view final motions as adopted at Federation general meetings; and

Whereas members should be able to access the auditors summary notes to understand the Federation's finances; and

Whereas posting summary minutes and auditors summary notes will help to keep the membership informed about the direction of campaigns and services of the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that the summary general meeting minutes and auditor's summary notes be posted to the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website.

**2013/01:019 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:018 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:018 REFERRED**

**2013/01:020 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas in early November, a military offensive against Gaza was initiated; and

Whereas the United Nations has reported that over 100 civilians were killed; and

Whereas an ongoing occupation and blockade has created a humanitarian crisis in Gaza, restricting freedom of movement and access to trade, food, medicine and education; and

Whereas a negotiated ceasefire called upon the blockade of the Gaza strip to be lifted; and

Whereas the Canadian government unequivocally supported the military offensive; therefore

Be it resolved that the military offensive on Gaza be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that the lifting of the blockade of Gaza as stipulated in the ceasefire be supported; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Foreign Minister John Baird condemning their unequivocal support for the military offensive against Gaza; and

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

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**2013/01:021 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:020 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:020 REFERRED**

**2013/01:022 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the increase in the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) budget is insufficient to account for the projected increase in graduate student enrolment, thus worsening the chances of graduate students being awarded an OGS; and

Whereas Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funding priorities have been shifted to industry-related research, thus making Tri-Council support substantially more difficult to obtain for students engaged in pure or fundamental research; and

Whereas mandatory applications for NSERC, SSHRC, and OGS grants represent a substantial investment of time and effort on behalf of both the university and individual students; and

Whereas many graduate schools have highlighted time to completion as a core concern; and

Whereas mandatory scholarship applications take time away from coursework and research, making grants more difficult to achieve, while also making students less likely to apply for grants from other institutions; and

Whereas mandatory scholarship applications are a significant source of unnecessary stress for graduate students; and

Whereas the transcript fees associated with scholarship applications represent an unfair annual expense for graduate students; therefore

Be it resolved that any departmental or institutional policy mandating grant or scholarship applications be opposed, including punitive measures taken against students who do not submit grant or scholarship applications; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation make its position known to institutions maintaining such a policy; and

Be it further resolved that that in cases where institutions continue to mandate grant or scholarship applications, that the Federation apply pressure for reimbursement of the associated transcript fees.

**2013/01:023 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:022 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:022 REFERRED**

**2013/01:024 MOTION TO AMEND OPERATIONS POLICY**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the founding and sponsorship of advocacy groups has become a favoured tactic of corporations hoping to manufacture mass support, or the appearance of mass support, for their financial interests; and

Whereas such advocacy groups are essentially well-disguised marketing campaigns; and

Whereas the Federation is committed to social and economic justice - aims that are largely incompatible with those of corporate-sponsored campaigns; therefore

Be it resolved that the Operations Policy on “Coalition Work” be amended to include the following:

The Federation shall not work in coalition with organizations whose aims and funding represent, or can reasonably be suspected to represent, a conflict of economic and social interests.

**2013/01:025 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:024 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:024 REFERRED**

**2013/01:026 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas students frequently need to take a leave from their studies for various reasons, including to recover from mental illness; and

Whereas students taking such a leave may lose their funding, therefore producing additional financial stress and creating a disincentive to take a leave in the first place, to the possible detriment of their health; therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities demanding that students with Ontario Graduate Scholarships and other forms of Ontario Student Aid Program assistance be allowed to take leaves of absence without fear of losing their funding; and

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

Be it further resolved that this demand be added to lobby documents and other government-lobbying efforts.

**2013/01:027 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:026 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:026 REFERRED**

**2013/01:028 MOTION**

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Local 27/Local 97

Whereas online resources are now the primary method by which information is distributed; and

Whereas easy access to motion deadlines will allow ordinary members of the Federation to plan ahead and bring their needs to their student union representatives, in order that they may in turn bring them to the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that motion deadlines for upcoming General Meetings be posted on the Federation website.

**2013/01:029 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:028 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:028 REFERRED**

**2013/01:030 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas Ontario students seeking to change their status from international student to domestic student must do so on or before firm deadlines mandated by the Ontario government (four deadlines per year for undergraduate students, three per year for graduate students); and

Whereas failure to change status by one of these deadlines can result in an international student paying exorbitant international student tuition fees for an additional semester; and

Whereas barriers exist that prevent students from being aware of these deadlines, including the lack of international student counseling services in educational institutions or awareness of international student issues among supervisors of graduate students; therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities calling for an end to these deadlines and instead mandating flexibility from educational institutions regarding the switching of statuses; and

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

Be it further resolved that the demand to end these deadlines be included in lobby documents and other government-lobbying efforts.

**2013/01:031 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:030 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:030 REFERRED**

**2013/01:032 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the Federation has a "Healthcare Without Borders" campaign, advocating for international student access to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP); and

Whereas, effective April 2012, Manitoba became the fifth Canadian province to include international students in its provincial health coverage; and

Whereas, according to the website of the Manitoba component of the Federation, "In 2010, the Presidents of the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, Université de Saint-Boniface and Brandon University submitted letters to the provincial government, in support of students' campaigns. In October 2011, the [Manitoba] government announced their plans to include international students under public health insurance;" and

Whereas international student recruitment continues to be a priority for the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC); therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the President of the COU calling for the endorsement of international students' access to OHIP; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Chair of the AUCC's Standing Advisory Committee on International Relations (SACIR) requesting the support of the Committee and of the AUCC for the cause of extending OHIP coverage to international students; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters to the heads of their institutions and to their institutions' COU and AUCC representatives, as well as to the President of COU and the Chair of SACIR.

**2013/01:033 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:032 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:032 REFERRED**

**2013/01:034 MOTION**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas Enbridge Line 9, a proposed pipeline project, plans to change the direction of a pipeline that currently brings oil from Montreal to Sarnia Ontario; and

Whereas in addition to the proposed northern gateway pipeline in northern British Columbia, this proposed project is part of a broader \$12 billion expansion program to accommodate rising production from the Alberta oil sands; and

Whereas this proposed plan to change the direction of flow would allow tar sands bitumen access to refineries on the east coast of the United States, as well as tanker exports of tar sands bitumen to U.S. refineries near the Gulf of Mexico; and

Whereas this pipeline could burst and rupture, leading to spills of oil and minerals onto farms and arable land; and

Whereas in 2010, a pipeline very similar to Line 9 ruptured in Kalamazoo Michigan, spilling 3 million litres of diluted bitumen into the Kalamazoo River; and a smaller pipeline rupture took place in Hamilton in 2001, spilling 95,000 litres into a farmers field; and

Whereas like many other pipelines, this would violate treaty rights and have a detrimental affect on many First Nations communities, including the Nation of Aamjiwnaang, a community just outside of Sarnia, Ontario; and

Whereas environmentalists see this as a first step towards monopolizing tar sands oil as Ontario's only source of crude; and

Whereas the extraction and development of the tar sands leads to deforestation, water contamination, land erosion, wildlife depletion and extinction, and increased greenhouse gas emissions; therefore

Be it resolved that the Pipeline 9 Reversal Project be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Minister of Natural Resources, Joe Oliver, and Enbridge Inc. condemning the Pipeline Reversal project and projects of its nature; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters and take action on their campuses.

**2013/01:035 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:034 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:034 REFERRED**

**2013/01:036 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas the "Commercialization of Research" Issues Policy has not been updated since 2004; therefore

Be it resolved that the third paragraph of the "Preamble" of the "Commercialization of Research" Issues Policy be amended to read:

The negative effects of commercialization of public research are recognized by faculty internationally and in Canada. The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) commits to safeguarding and supporting the integrity of academic research and campaigns to defend the freedom of academic researchers to pursue their work. The CAUT also opposes attempts by corporations or any other funders to suppress academic research results that they deem as unacceptable; and

Be it further resolved that the following be added to end of the "Preamble:"

The establishment and expansion of "incubators" at post-secondary institutions are typically supported by government and threaten the academic integrity of research.

These incubators – marketed as entrepreneurship mentoring centres for students – serve as additional levers for institutions to obtain private funding. As a result, public money and institutional space that goes into establishing



these incubators is used to subsidize private companies who greatly profit from the use of students' skills; and

Be it further resolved that the following be added to the "Federation opposes" section:

- The subsidization of private entrepreneurship incubators by public colleges and universities.

**2013/01:037 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:036 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:036 REFERRED**

**2013/01:038 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas there has been an increase in the presence of "Men's Rights Awareness Groups" on campuses in Ontario and across the country; and

Whereas these groups provide environments for sexism, patriarchy and misogyny to manifest and be perpetuated on campus, which should be safe(r) spaces for students; and

Whereas these groups promote misogynist, hateful views towards women and ideologies that promote gender inequity, challenges women's bodily autonomy, justifies sexual assault, and decries feminism as violent; and

Whereas messages from these groups claim to be of equality, but are in fact messages that are misogynist, sexist, cissexist, heterosexist and homophobic responses to the challenge of cis-male privilege in society; and

Whereas "Men's Rights Awareness Groups" are attempting to establish chapters and service centres across Canadian colleges and universities; and

Whereas a "Men's Rights Awareness Group" at the University of Toronto recently held a meeting, which was protested by women and allies, prompting a barrage of threats and attacks on several women on campus and the students' union for taking part in protesting this group and its meetings; therefore

Be it resolved that the "Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women on Campus" Issues Policy be amended to include the following, under the "Federation opposes" section:

- Groups, meetings or events whose purpose is to frighten, intimidate and/or target women students on campus; and
- College and University administration's lack of response to calls for public support and protection of students being threatened, stalked and/or attacked on campus.

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**2013/01:039 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:038 be referred to the Policy Review and Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:038 REFERRED**

**2013/01:040 MOTION**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas public-private partnerships (P3s) occur when a government service or private business venture is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies; and

Whereas public-private partnerships often times cost more since private funding is more costly and risky than public financing; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions in Ontario have used lack of proper public funding as an excuse to turn to public-private partnerships; and

Whereas examples of public-private partnerships can be found on many campuses across Ontario including at Ryerson University where examples include partnering with Aramark for food services on campus, the MPI group for a new residence, and Global Spectrum and Mattamy Homes for the new athletic centre; and

Whereas most instances of public-private partnerships have proven to be about giving private investors and financiers high returns with low risks, at the long-term expense of taxpayers and the public; and

Whereas there have been a number of instances where public-private partnerships have proven less beneficial than fully public projects including an instance with the Brampton Civic Hospital where Ontario's Auditor-General revealed the public-private partnership cost the public \$200 million more than if it had been publically funded and built directly by the province; and

Whereas another example of the negative impacts of public-private partnerships can be found at the Université de Québec à Montréal where a public-private partnership failed and doubled the cost to the public from \$200 million to \$400 million; and

Whereas often times few details of the public-private partnerships our colleges and universities enter into are publicized; and

Whereas public-private partnerships contribute to the privatization of our public services including the privatization of post-secondary education which leads to higher tuition fees and lower quality education; therefore

Be it resolved that public-private partnerships and the further privatization of post-secondary education be opposed; and

Be it further resolved that informational materials on public-private partnerships be created that can be used to educate our members; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to file Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) requests regarding the details public-private partnerships on their campus.

**2013/01:041    MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:040 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:040    REFERRED**

**2013/01:042    MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the provincial government has started a \$5 million dollar campaign to advertise the Ontario Tuition Grant; and

Whereas the Ontario Tuition Grant is not really 30% off and close to 7/9th of students are not eligible for it in the province; and

Whereas the provincial governments cut grants like the Queen Elizabeth II and grants to study in French in the last budget; and

Whereas the \$5 million could have been spent in better ways to improve access to education; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities condemning the ad campaign and showing ways the money could have been better spent; and

Be it further resolved that the letter also reaffirm the stance that having an upfront tuition fee reduction for all would work better than the Ontario Tuition Grant; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to send letters to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and University to show how the money could have been better spent.

**2013/01:043    MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:042 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:042    REFERRED**

**2013/01:044    MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the Federation's structure includes constituency groups to provide safe spaces to discuss motions and issues based on identity; and

Whereas the women's constituency group is a safe space for women to discuss issues and motions; and

Whereas the queer constituency group is a safe space to discuss issues as they relate to queer students, historically based on sexual orientation; and

Whereas sexual orientation and gender expression are oftentimes combined but require individual space for representation and discussion; therefore

Be it resolved that the formation of a constituency group based on gender for people who identify as (but not limited to) trans\*, genderqueer and gender-nonconforming, be investigated.

**2013/01:045 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:044 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:044 REFERRED**

**2013/01:046 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the people of Beaver Lake Cree Nation signed Treaty 6 in 1876 in exchange for access to their lands and were guaranteed the right to fish and hunt for all time; and

Whereas the 1982 Constitution and recent Canadian court cases establish that the meaningful exercise of treaty rights requires protection of sufficient natural habitat for the animals and fish to thrive; and

Whereas Beaver Lake Cree Nation says that their land is being destroyed by the heavy oil industry; and

Whereas the Beaver Lake Cree Nation are suing the Canadian and Alberta governments for the health of their culture, for the health of the boreal forest and the habitat that has sustained their people for generations, and for the health of the millions of other peoples whose lives are affected by tar sands development; and

Whereas the tar sands are commonly referred to as North America's "other oil spill" and are vigorously being contested on multiple fronts; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter to both the Ontario and Alberta government supporting the people of the Beaver Lake Cree Nation be written; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write a letter to both the Ontario and Alberta government supporting the people of the Beaver Lake Cree Nation.

**2013/01:047 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:046 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:046 REFERRED**

**2013/01:048 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) has expressed interest in opening up a new Casino in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA); and

Whereas in a 1997 City of Toronto referendum, over 70 per cent of residents voted against the opening and operation of a casino in Toronto; and

Whereas studies show that casinos have the greatest potential to increase crime out of all forms of gambling; and

Whereas studies also show that the social problems created by casinos far outweigh the economic benefits; and

Whereas casinos do not integrate into the fabric of a city, thus negatively contributing to city-building; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Finance Minister and Premier of Ontario opposing a Casino in the GTA; and

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

**2013/01:049 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:048 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:048 REFERRED**

**2013/01:050 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas on Wednesday November 28, a group of students at the University of Jaffna were assaulted by the Sri Lankan military for commemorating those who lost their lives in the struggle for a Tamil nation in a silent march; and

Whereas the president of the Jaffna students' union was arrested days later and the Sri Lanka government is demanding the University hand over other student leaders; and

Whereas the militarization of campuses to suppress dissent is a threat to access to education; therefore

Be it resolved that the actions of the Sri Lankan government be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with local Tamil student organizations to support the Jaffna University students.

**2013/01:051 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:050 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:050 REFERRED**

**2013/01:052 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas a possible provincial election might occur in the spring; and

Whereas a new Liberal leader and Premier will be chosen in the next couple of weeks; and

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Whereas the "Take It Over" campaign put post-secondary education issues into the platform of all the major political parties; and

Whereas over 90 per cent of people in Ontario believe that tuition fees should be frozen or reduced; and

Whereas the changing political climate is a great opportunity to help push post-secondary education issues into the forefront of conversations; therefore

Be it resolved that an action plan be developed to prepare for the possible provincial elections; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to mobilize in the event of a provincial election.

**2013/01:053 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:052 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:052 REFERRED**

**2013/01:054 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**

Local 110/Local 97

Whereas there is currently little discussion on the issues of poor, homeless and impoverished people and students in Ontario within the Federation; and

Whereas the Ontario Government continues to cut social assistance programs, despite the direct actions of groups like the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty; and

Whereas the Federation already takes a firm stance on the right of education and the need for its accessibility; and

Whereas there are many students in Ontario who make many sacrifices to attend post-secondary education, both personally and financially, and have relied on these services; and

Whereas there is currently no space within the meetings of the Federation for these students to discuss these issues; therefore

Be it resolved that the Mature and Part-Time Constituency Group be renamed the Mature, Part-Time and Low Income Constituency Group to facilitate these discussions.

**2013/01:055 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:054 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:054 REFERRED**

**2013/01:056 MOTION**

Local 49/Local 97

Whereas students across Ontario have taken up the cause of condemning and fighting against human rights violations across the world; and

Whereas students across Ontario have collectively joined together to form solidarity groups in support of Palestinian human rights; and

Whereas Palestinian Solidarity Groups (PSGs) or their equivalents exist at many member local associations; and

Whereas an Ontario Palestinian Solidarity Coalition (OPSC) has been formed to deal with ongoing struggles in Palestine; and

Whereas a conference is to be held in February in London, Ontario, the goal of which is to build a connection between all the PSGs in Ontario and hold workshops to educate and train executives of PSG or their equivalents; and

Whereas the Federation condemned the violence in Gaza at the last national general meeting; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals encourage executives of PSGs or their equivalents on their campuses to get involved with the OPSC and attend the conference in February in London, Ontario; and

Be it further resolved that \$2000 be donated to the conference; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to sponsor PSGs or their equivalents to assist with travel and other expenses, such as but not limited to accommodation; and

Be it further resolved that a delegation be sent to the conference on February 24 to participate and facilitate a workshop on why being involved in student unions in the context Palestinian Solidarity is important.

**2013/01:057 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:056 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:056 REFERRED**

**2013/01:058 MOTION**

Local 49/

Whereas a motion to put online minutes and auditors summaries passed at the National General Meeting, therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario's online minutes and auditor summaries be posted on the Federation's Ontario website under a section called "minutes and auditor summaries."

Local 49 delegate Mohammed Akbar said that the motion was being withdrawn.

**2013/01:058 WITHDRAWN BY MOVER**

**2013/01:060 MOTION**

Local 19/

Whereas freedom of expression has been suppressed both by the administration of universities in Ontario and student groups as documented in this article:

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“McMaster and Laurier have both banned the word “Israeli Apartheid” from their campuses. The University of Prince Edward Island refused to publish a campus newspaper with an image of Muhammad. Carleton University has arrested pro-life group members for expressing their views on campus. U of T, Western, and Carleton received “F”s for forcing pro-life groups to express their views in an isolated part of campus rather than in high-traffic areas (<http://thenewspaper.ca/the-news/item/980-canadian-universities-get-modest-%E2%80%98%E2%80%99-grade-in-campus-freedom>);” therefore

Be it resolved that resources be created in collaboration with the Canadian Civil Liberties Association regarding freedom of expression on campus.

Local 19 delegate Erin Oldynski said that the motion was being withdrawn.

**2013/01:060 WITHDRAWN BY MOVER**

**2013/01:061 MOTION**

Local 19/

Whereas student groups need to outreach to other students on campus who do not hold their opinions and views and need to stop holding events where only people who agree with their own opinions are present, and need to stop fostering dogmatism, group-think and habitual thinking; therefore

Be it resolved that resources be produced (including posters, pamphlets, etc.) to encourage students who disagree with the positions of student groups to attend events and feel comfortable as dissenting voices so as to foster an environment of discussion and argumentation as opposed to dogmatism and group-think.

Local 19 delegate Erin Oldynski said that the motion was being withdrawn.

**2013/01:061 WITHDRAWN BY MOVER**

**2013/01:062 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas academic freedom is a major issue for students; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Student’s-Ontario has no campaign around this issue; and

Whereas public funding for research is constantly decreasing, forcing students to look for funding from private corporations, thus turning a public good (i.e. our research) into a private good; therefore

Be it resolved that resources be created to advocate for increased public funding to research and a decreased need to rely on private funding; and

Be it further resolved that materials be created to educate and inform students about the potential harms to academic freedom, etc. from private corporate funding of research and education.

**2013/01:063 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:062 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:062 REFERRED**



**2013/01:064 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas fees after the candidacy period for PhD's and MA's are high during a period in which graduate students are already heavily in debt and may not have any funding; therefore

Be it resolved that an action be organized to withhold fees for all students paying tuition fees after the candidacy period during the 2013/14 year.

**2013/01:065 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:064 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:064 REFERRED**

**2013/01:066 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the Access Copyright license agreement is extremely legally troubling and serves as a redundant license due to fair dealing regulations; therefore

Be it resolved that educational/information materials be created to help educate students about fair dealing and copyright law in collaboration with lawyers and law professors such as, but not limited to, Ariel Katz, Samuel Trosow, Michael Geist and Howard Knopf.

**2013/01:067 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:066 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:066 REFERRED**

**2013/01:068 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the most recent budget and tuition frameworks left students with even higher tuition fees; and

Whereas the NDP, Liberals and Conservatives had the capability of acting to stop those increases during the budget negotiations; and

Whereas no political party has demonstrated a strong pro-student stance in Ontario; and

Whereas there are many political elections within parties that would allow students to vote for more student friendly politicians to lead those parties; and

Whereas it generally benefits all students to have more students involved in the political process; therefore

Be it resolved that materials be provided to locals that will help their members understand how parties operate and how they can alter their preferred party in a manner that helps students; and

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Be it further resolved that resources be provided to locals that would help their members self-organize for general and party-internal elections; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to operate in a fashion that encourages political participation from all students and that is respectful of those that choose not to participate; and

Be it further resolved that this be done in a non-partisan fashion that supports all parties.

**2013/01:069 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:068 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:068 REFERRED**

**2013/01:070 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas graduate students in several European countries are now considered employees; and

Whereas Eurodoc has taken the strong position that doctoral candidates should be viewed as employees; and

Whereas doctoral candidates in the Netherlands have tried to fight off efforts to convert doctoral candidates from employees to students; and

Whereas many doctoral candidates in Canada are already treated as employees in everything except pay and rights; and

Whereas international students are being put in precarious positions near the end of their degrees as a result of funding through non-stable funding sources like scholarships; therefore

Be it resolved that a commission be established through the Ontario Graduate Caucus to investigate the employment model for Canadian doctoral candidates; and

Be it further resolved that each graduate member local association be encouraged to nominate one doctoral candidate for the commission by the end of February 2013; and

Be it further resolved that the commission report its recommendations by the end of August 2013; and

Be it further resolved that sufficient resources be provided to fully research the topic, including personal, travel and communication resources necessary for commission members to be fully informed on the topic.

**2013/01:071 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:070 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:070    REFERRED**

**2013/01:072    MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas doctoral candidates spend most of their time doing research; and

Whereas international doctoral candidates are being publicly viewed as “costs” to the post-secondary education system instead of productive researchers; therefore

Be it resolved that a media listserv be started that aims to respond to articles on research to highlight the role of student researchers in research being described by media; and

Be it further resolved that the role of doctoral students as researchers be advertised; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation try to work with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and similar bodies to highlight the research of international doctoral students.

**2013/01:073    MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:072 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:072    REFERRED**

**2013/01:074    MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the current name of the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group is exclusive and non-inclusive of the diversity of the community; and

Whereas the current language could be updated to reflect the diversity of the community; therefore

Be it resolved that the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group be renamed the Disabled, Deaf and Mad Students Constituency Group; and

Be it further resolved that the appropriate changes to Bylaw VII be made to properly reflect the intent of the above clause.

**2013/01:075    MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:074 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:074    REFERRED**

**2013/01:076    MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the national campaign on Ableism and accessibility is currently shifting its focus from ‘We Are All Able’ to ‘Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds’; and

Whereas the Ontario component has a unique opportunity to blend aspects of the national campaign with particular areas of a more local context, such as with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA); and

Whereas the implementation of the AODA, its various standards and multiple faulty government promises require greater explanation and dissemination to our members; therefore

Be it resolved that the proposed national 'Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds' campaign be actively supported and adopted; and

Be it further resolved that a guide and related promotional materials be developed through the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group to highlight the successes, failures, weaknesses and application of the AODA.

**2013/01:077 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:076 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:076 REFERRED**

**2013/01:078 MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas affordable, public transit is a necessity for communities across the country; and

Whereas there have been efforts to privatize public transit systems in part, or in whole; and

Whereas public transit systems outside of urban centres require increased public support; and

Whereas public transit systems are often not fully accessible to differently abled persons; and

Whereas the community organizing around public transit initiatives is growing throughout Ontario; and

Whereas the establishment of a national transit strategy would standardize much of the disparity amongst the quality of public transit systems; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation support public transit coalitions by seeking membership in active organizations.

**2013/01:079 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:078 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:078 REFERRED**

**2013/01:080 MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas on November 16, 2012, a so-called “men’s rights awareness” group at the University of Toronto invited Warren Farrell to campus to give a talk; and

Whereas Warren Farrell promotes misogynist, hateful views towards women and ideologies that promote gender inequity, challenges women’s bodily autonomy, justifies sexual assault and decries feminism as violent; and

Whereas students at the University of Toronto made the situation known to the University of Toronto administration, asking for action to be taken due to Farrell’s flagrant violation of the Ontario Human Rights Code; and

Whereas the University of Toronto administration refused to act; and

Whereas in the absence of action from the university, students organized a petition and protest in response; and

Whereas in response, police were called to campus and violently attacked and harmed activists; and

Whereas members of the so-called “men’s rights awareness” group also violently attacked and harmed activists; and

Whereas a woman student who was outspoken at the rally has since been targeted by “men’s rights” activists online, who are calling for her surveillance by men at the University of Toronto and for her actions to be detailed at an online blog which contains many hateful ideas about women; and

Whereas men have, as a result, begun to harass this woman and the students’ unions who support her; and

Whereas this group has made it clear that they wish to have Farrell tour other schools to spread the “men’s rights” message and hateful ideology; and

Whereas this group is attempting to establish chapters and service centres across Canadian colleges and universities; and

Whereas the message from these groups claims to be of ‘equality’ but is in fact a message that is a misogynist, sexist, cissexist, heterosexist and homophobic response to the challenge of cis-male privilege in society; therefore

Be it resolved that that a letter be written to the University of Toronto administration calling for the University to take action to protect its students from hate speech, hateful actions and police repression and violence; and

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

**2013/01:081    MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:080 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:080    REFERRED**

**2013/01:082    MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas the use of mid-session prorogation of parliament is increasingly being exploited to stifle opposition to and discussion of important and controversial acts, bills, and legislature at multiple levels of government; and

Whereas on October 15, 2012 Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty prorogued the Ontario Legislature; and

Whereas over 70 bills have died on the floor as a result; and

Whereas these bills include the Anti-Bullying Act and the Protection of Public Participation Act; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature has taken place at a time when the Ontario Government is facing multiple scandals, including the charge of contempt of Parliament against Minister Chris Bentley, the ORNGE emergency transportation fiasco, and failed labour negotiations; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature has occurred in tandem with the resignation of Premier McGuinty; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature is an action that is obviously geared towards favouring partisan politics over the business of the legislature; therefore,

Be it resolved that the all attempts to prorogue any level of government mid-session for partisan purposes be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be issued to Premier McGuinty and the Ontario Liberals condemning the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature, urging Members of Provincial Parliament to reinstate legislature immediately.

**2013/01:083 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 99/Local 109

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:082 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:082 REFERRED**

**13. PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**2013/01:084 MOTION**

Local 85/Local 68

Be it resolved that Executive Committee report be accepted.

**2013/01:085 MOTION TO POSTPONE**

Local 68/Local 32

Be it resolved that consideration of the Executive Committee report be postponed until Closing Plenary.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:084 POSTPONED**

**14. OTHER BUSINESS**

**2013/01:086 EMERGENCY MOTION**

Local 78/Local 54

Whereas the City of Ottawa has told numerous low-income graduate students at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa that they have been denied the ability to apply for the city's childcare subsidy; and

Whereas the city has said they will no longer provide graduate students childcare subsidies as of May 2013; and

Whereas the City of Ottawa says that first degree students will be prioritized in the subsidy selection system; and

Whereas affordable childcare is an important aspect of access to post secondary education for student parents and a lack of childcare can result in higher drop-out rates, longer time to completion and unsafe childcare for children; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation write and encourage member locals to write letters of solidarity to the mayor and city councillors of Ottawa to condemn the policy and ask for it to be repealed; and

Be it further resolved the Federation write and encourage member locals to write letters to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to ask for written confirmation that low-income graduate students will not be excluded from any childcare subsidies in the province of Ontario.

**2013/01:087 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 78/Local 54

Be it resolved that Motion 2012/08:086 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:086 REFERRED**

**2013/01:088 EMERGENCY MOTION**

Local 24/Local 92

Be it resolved that the January 28 Idle No More day of action be endorsed.

**2013/01:089 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 24/Local 92

Be it resolved that Motion 2012/08:088 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:088 REFERRED**

**15. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**16. RECESS**

**2013/01:090 MOTION**

Local 85/Local 68

Be it resolved that plenary recess until 10:00 a.m. Sunday, January 20, 2013.

**CARRIED**

8:21 p.m. – The meeting recessed.





## Closing Plenary Minutes

Semi-Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario  
Thursday, January 17 to Sunday, January 20, 2013 - Markham, Ontario

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

10:19 a.m. – Plenary Speaker George Soule called Closing Plenary to order.

### 2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Absent
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Absent
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Present
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 Students' Society	Absent
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	Absent
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	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Absent
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Proxy
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	Present
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	Absent
	Thames Students Incorporated*	Absent

\*Prospective Member

Soule said that quorum had been reached.

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**3. PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**2013/01:084 MOTION**

Local 85/Local 68

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee report be accepted.

Chairperson Sarah Jayne King, National Executive Representative Toby Whitfield and Treasurer Désirée Lamoureux presented the report of the Executive Committee.

**2013/01:084 CARRIED**

**4. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT**

Treasurer Désirée Lamoureux presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

**2013/01:091 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 107

Be it resolved that the 2011-2012 financial statements be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:092 MOTION**

Local 41/Local 92

Be it resolved that the 2012-2013 revised budget be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:093 MOTION**

Local 107/Local 97

Be it resolved that the report of the Budget Committee be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**5. PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairperson Sarah Jayne King presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

**2013/01:008 MOTION**

Local 32/Local 97

Whereas the Federation recognizes that quality in education is related to the universal availability of certain conditions and services, including accessible affordable good quality food; and

Whereas student food banks help students in immediate financial need by providing free food, personal items, resources and support; and

Whereas raising awareness about food security in Canada is an important way to work towards eliminating the systemic barriers to accessing quality food; and

Whereas students at Lakehead University have organized FoodRide — a student-driven nationwide cycling tour to bring attention to food security issues at post-secondary institutions across the country; and

Whereas the goal of FoodRide is to support the work of student- and community-run food banks by holding mass food drives in communities across all provinces; therefore

Be it resolved that the FoodRide initiative be supported with a monetary donation of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to assist with expenses associated with FoodRide; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to contribute by providing resources to FoodRide in the form of: letters of support, financial contributions, accommodations, local food drive organizers and volunteers, media contacts, advertising, and any other resources that will contribute to the success of the initiative.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:010**

**MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas the 2012 Ontario Budget threatened thousand of public service jobs and recommended deep cuts to public and social services; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal government, with the support for the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario, passed Bill 115, which stripped public teachers and education workers of their right to strike and collectively bargain with their employers; and

Whereas Education Minister Laurel Broten has threatened to force teachers back to work should they engage in a job action; and

Whereas this bill sets a dangerous precedent for all public workers in the province of Ontario and across Canada; and

Whereas budget cuts will result in decreased access to vital social and public services, relied upon mostly by low-income and marginalized communities such as racialized, immigrant, undocumented, Aboriginal, queer and trans people, persons with disabilities and women; and

Whereas upon resignation, Premier Dalton McGuinty suspended the Ontario Legislature, effectively stopping the work of government until a successor is chosen; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal government has engaged in reckless and narrow-minded education policy, such as the selective Ontario Tuition Grant program and the discussion paper by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities that sought to fundamentally alter higher education in the province; and

Whereas the Ontario government has consistently refused to address skyrocketing tuition fees and mounting student debt; and

Whereas the Ontario Liberal Party has called a convention to be held at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto from January 25 to the 27; and

Whereas at this convention, the Ontario Liberal Party will choose their next leader; and

Whereas the Ontario Federation of Labour has called for a demonstration at the Ontario Liberal Convention on Saturday, January 26 to protest the party's affront to workers rights and cuts to social services; therefore

Be it resolved that the January 26 "Rally for Rights and Democracy" organized by the Ontario Federation of Labour be endorsed; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to endorse the rally; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to organize contingents of members to attend the rally in solidarity with workers and communities across Ontario.

**CARRIED**

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**2013/01:012 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas the Provincial Government increased the minimum wage to \$10.25 an hour in 2010; and

Whereas the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives has released three reports in October and November of 2012 highlighting the concept of a living wage titled “Enhancing Democratic Citizenship, Deepening Distributive Justice: The Living Wage Movement”, “A Living Wage As a Human Right”, and “Corporate Social Responsibility and Living Wage”; and

Whereas a living wage is the minimum hourly wage necessary based on actual expenses for each of two workers living in a family of four to meet basic needs and to participate in the civic/social life of their community; and

Whereas in order to earn a living wage, a minimum wage of between \$16 and \$18 is needed for a couple with two young children living in the province of Ontario; and

Whereas in British Columbia, a broad-based coalition has been working towards the goal of a living wage with some successes; and

Whereas living wages form the foundation of a society in which people can earn an equitable standard of living and a level of income necessary for a given family type to become independent; therefore

Be it resolved that the findings of the three reports be supported; and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario work with Labour Councils across Ontario, the Good Jobs for All Coalition and other organizations to endorse and work on a Living Wage Campaign; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to do work on their campuses regarding a Living Wage Campaign.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:020 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas in early November, a military offensive against Gaza was initiated; and

Whereas the United Nations has reported that over 100 civilians were killed; and

Whereas an ongoing occupation and blockade has created a humanitarian crisis in Gaza, restricting freedom of movement and access to trade, food, medicine and education; and

Whereas a negotiated ceasefire called upon the blockade of the Gaza strip to be lifted; and

Whereas the Canadian government unequivocally supported the military offensive; therefore

Be it resolved that the military offensive on Gaza be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that the lifting of the blockade of Gaza as stipulated in the ceasefire be supported; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Foreign Minister John Baird condemning their unequivocal support for the military offensive against Gaza; and

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

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:022 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the increase in the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) budget is insufficient to account for the projected increase in graduate student enrolment, thus worsening the chances of graduate students being awarded an OGS; and

Whereas Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funding priorities have been shifted to industry-related research, thus making Tri-Council support substantially more difficult to obtain for students engaged in pure or fundamental research; and

Whereas mandatory applications for NSERC, SSHRC, and OGS grants represent a substantial investment of time and effort on behalf of both the university and individual students; and

Whereas many graduate schools have highlighted time to completion as a core concern; and

Whereas mandatory scholarship applications take time away from coursework and research, making grants more difficult to achieve, while also making students less likely to apply for grants from other institutions; and

Whereas mandatory scholarship applications are a significant source of unnecessary stress for graduate students; and

Whereas the transcript fees associated with scholarship applications represent an unfair annual expense for graduate students; therefore

Be it resolved that any departmental or institutional policy mandating grant or scholarship applications be opposed, including punitive measures taken against students who do not submit grant or scholarship applications; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation make its position known to institutions maintaining such a policy; and

Be it further resolved that that in cases where institutions continue to mandate grant or scholarship applications, that the Federation apply pressure for reimbursement of the associated transcript fees.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:026**

**MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas students frequently need to take a leave from their studies for various reasons, including to recover from mental illness; and

Whereas students taking such a leave may lose their funding, therefore producing additional financial stress and creating a disincentive to take a leave in the first place, to the possible detriment of their health; therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities demanding that students with Ontario Graduate Scholarships and other forms of Ontario Student Aid Program assistance be allowed to take leaves of absence without fear of losing their funding; and

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

Be it further resolved that this demand be added to lobby documents and other government-lobbying efforts.

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**2013/01:094 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 27/Local 78

Be it resolved that the first clause of Motion 2013/01:026 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities demanding that students with Ontario Graduate Scholarships and other forms of Ontario Student Aid Program assistance be allowed to take leaves of absence and parental leave without fear of losing their funding; and”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:026 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:030 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas Ontario students seeking to change their status from international student to domestic student must do so on or before firm deadlines mandated by the Ontario government (four deadlines per year for undergraduate students, three per year for graduate students); and

Whereas failure to change status by one of these deadlines can result in an international student paying exorbitant international student tuition fees for an additional semester; and

Whereas barriers exist that prevent students from being aware of these deadlines, including the lack of international student counseling services in educational institutions or awareness of international student issues among supervisors of graduate students; therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities calling for an end to these deadlines and instead mandating flexibility from educational institutions regarding the switching of statuses; and

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

Be it further resolved that the demand to end these deadlines be included in lobby documents and other government-lobbying efforts.

**2013/01:095 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 97/Local 109

Be it resolved that the second clause of Motion 2013/01:030 be amended to read:

“Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters and investigate working with community advocacy groups; and”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:030 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:032 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the Federation has a "Healthcare Without Borders" campaign, advocating for international student access to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP); and

Whereas, effective April 2012, Manitoba became the fifth Canadian province to include international students in its provincial health coverage; and

Whereas, according to the website of the Manitoba component of the Federation, "In 2010, the Presidents of the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, Université de Saint-Boniface and Brandon University submitted letters to the provincial government, in support of students'

campaigns. In October 2011, the [Manitoba] government announced their plans to include international students under public health insurance;" and

Whereas international student recruitment continues to be a priority for the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC); therefore

Be it resolved that an open letter be written to the President of the COU calling for the endorsement of international students' access to OHIP; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Chair of the AUCC's Standing Advisory Committee on International Relations (SACIR) requesting the support of the Committee and of the AUCC for the cause of extending OHIP coverage to international students; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters to the heads of their institutions and to their institutions' COU and AUCC representatives, as well as to the President of COU and the Chair of SACIR.

**2013/01:096 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 109/Local 98

Be it resolved that the following clause be added to Motion 2013/01:032:

"Be it further resolved that an open letter be written to the Ministry of Health calling for the inclusion of international students under OHIP."

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:032 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:034 MOTION**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas Enbridge Line 9, a proposed pipeline project, plans to change the direction of a pipeline that currently brings oil from Montreal to Sarnia Ontario; and

Whereas in addition to the proposed northern gateway pipeline in northern British Columbia, this proposed project is part of a broader \$12 billion expansion program to accommodate rising production from the Alberta oil sands; and

Whereas this proposed plan to change the direction of flow would allow tar sands bitumen access to refineries on the east coast of the United States, as well as tanker exports of tar sands bitumen to U.S. refineries near the Gulf of Mexico; and

Whereas this pipeline could burst and rupture, leading to spills of oil and minerals onto farms and arable land; and

Whereas in 2010, a pipeline very similar to Line 9 ruptured in Kalamazoo Michigan, spilling 3 million litres of diluted bitumen into the Kalamazoo River; and a smaller pipeline rupture took place in Hamilton in 2001, spilling 95,000 litres into a farmers field; and

Whereas like many other pipelines, this would violate treaty rights and have a detrimental affect on many First Nations communities, including the Nation of Aamjiwnaang, a community just outside of Sarnia, Ontario; and

Whereas environmentalists see this as a first step towards monopolizing tar sands oil as Ontario's only source of crude; and

Whereas the extraction and development of the tar sands leads to deforestation, water contamination, land erosion, wildlife depletion and extinction, and increased greenhouse gas emissions; therefore

Be it resolved that the Pipeline 9 Reversal Project be condemned; and

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Be it further resolved that a letter be written to the Minister of Natural Resources, Joe Oliver, and Enbridge Inc. condemning the Pipeline Reversal project and projects of its nature; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters and take action on their campuses.

Local 85 delegate Sean Maguire recused himself from the meeting for discussion of this motion.

**2013/01:097 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 97/Local 32

Be it resolved that the final clause of Motion 2013/01:034 be amended to read:

“Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write similar letters, take action on their campuses and provide additional support to indigenous communities engaged in resisting the Pipeline 9 Reversal Project.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:034 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:040 MOTION**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas public-private partnerships (P3s) occur when a government service or private business venture is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies; and

Whereas public-private partnerships often times cost more since private funding is more costly and risky than public financing; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions in Ontario have used lack of proper public funding as an excuse to turn to public-private partnerships; and

Whereas examples of public-private partnerships can be found on many campuses across Ontario including at Ryerson University where examples include partnering with Aramark for food services on campus, the MPI group for a new residence, and Global Spectrum and Mattamy Homes for the new athletic centre; and

Whereas most instances of public-private partnerships have proven to be about giving private investors and financiers high returns with low risks, at the long-term expense of taxpayers and the public; and

Whereas there have been a number of instances where public-private partnerships have proven less beneficial than fully public projects including an instance with the Brampton Civic Hospital where Ontario’s Auditor-General revealed the public-private partnership cost the public \$200 million more than if it had been publically funded and built directly by the province; and

Whereas another example of the negative impacts of public-private partnerships can be found at the Université de Québec à Montréal where a public-private partnership failed and doubled the cost to the public from \$200 million to \$400 million; and

Whereas often times few details of the public-private partnerships our colleges and universities enter into are publicized; and

Whereas public-private partnerships contribute to the privatization of our public services including the privatization of post-secondary education which leads to higher tuition fees and lower quality education; therefore

Be it resolved that public-private partnerships and the further privatization of post-secondary education be opposed; and



Be it further resolved that informational materials on public-private partnerships be created that can be used to educate our members; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to file Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) requests regarding the details of public-private partnerships on their campus.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:042**

**MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the provincial government has started a \$5 million dollar campaign to advertise the Ontario Tuition Grant; and

Whereas the Ontario Tuition Grant is not really 30% off and close to 7/9th of students are not eligible for it in the province; and

Whereas the provincial governments cut grants like the Queen Elizabeth II and grants to study in French in the last budget; and

Whereas the \$5 million could have been spent in better ways to improve access to education; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities condemning the ad campaign and showing ways the money could have been better spent; and

Be it further resolved that the letter also reaffirm the stance that having an upfront tuition fee reduction for all would work better than the Ontario Tuition Grant; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to send letters to the Minister of Training, Colleges, and University to show how the money could have been better spent.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:046**

**MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the people of Beaver Lake Cree Nation signed Treaty 6 in 1876 in exchange for access to their lands and were guaranteed the right to fish and hunt for all time; and

Whereas the 1982 Constitution and recent Canadian court cases establish that the meaningful exercise of treaty rights requires protection of sufficient natural habitat for the animals and fish to thrive; and

Whereas Beaver Lake Cree Nation says that their land is being destroyed by the heavy oil industry; and

Whereas the Beaver Lake Cree Nation are suing the Canadian and Alberta governments for the health of their culture, for the health of the boreal forest and the habitat that has sustained their people for generations, and for the health of the millions of other peoples whose lives are affected by tar sands development; and

Whereas the tar sands are commonly referred to as North America's "other oil spill" and are vigorously being contested on multiple fronts; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter to both the Ontario and Alberta government supporting the people of the Beaver Lake Cree Nation be written; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write a letter to both the Ontario and Alberta government supporting the people of the Beaver Lake Cree Nation.

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Local 85 delegate Sean Maguire recused himself from the meeting for discussion of this motion.

**2013/01:098 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 97/Local 19

Be it resolved that the following clauses be added to Motion 2013/01:046:

“Be it further resolved that a letter of support be written to the Beaver Lake Cree Nation expressing solidarity for their resistance to tar sands development; and

Be it further resolved that members locals be encouraged to write letters of support to the Beaver Lake Cree Nation expressing solidarity for their resistance to tar sands development.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:098 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:048 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) has expressed interest in opening up a new Casino in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA); and

Whereas in a 1997 City of Toronto referendum, over 70 per cent of residents voted against the opening and operation of a casino in Toronto; and

Whereas studies show that casinos have the greatest potential to increase crime out of all forms of gambling; and

Whereas studies also show that the social problems created by casinos far outweigh the economic benefits; and

Whereas casinos do not integrate into the fabric of a city, thus negatively contributing to city-building; therefore

Be it resolved that a letter be written to the Finance Minister and Premier of Ontario opposing a Casino in the GTA; and

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

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:050 MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas on Wednesday November 28, a group of students at the University of Jaffna were assaulted by the Sri Lankan military for commemorating those who lost their lives in the struggle for a Tamil nation in a silent march; and

Whereas the president of the Jaffna students' union was arrested days later and the Sri Lanka government is demanding the University hand over other student leaders; and

Whereas the militarization of campuses to suppress dissent is a threat to access to education; therefore

Be it resolved that the actions of the Sri Lankan government be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to work with local Tamil student organizations to support the Jaffna University students.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:052    MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas a possible provincial election might occur in the spring; and

Whereas a new Liberal leader and Premier will be chosen in the next couple of weeks; and

Whereas the "Take It Over" campaign put post-secondary education issues into the platform of all the major political parties; and

Whereas over 90 per cent of people in Ontario believe that tuition fees should be frozen or reduced; and

Whereas the changing political climate is a great opportunity to help push post-secondary education issues into the forefront of conversations; therefore

Be it resolved that an action plan be developed to prepare for the possible provincial elections; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to mobilize in the event of a provincial election.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:056    MOTION**

Local 49/Local 97

Whereas students across Ontario have taken up the cause of condemning and fighting against human rights violations across the world; and

Whereas students across Ontario have collectively joined together to form solidarity groups in support of Palestinian human rights; and

Whereas Palestinian Solidarity Groups (PSGs) or their equivalents exist at many member local associations; and

Whereas an Ontario Palestinian Solidarity Coalition (OPSC) has been formed to deal with ongoing struggles in Palestine; and

Whereas a conference is to be held in February in London, Ontario, the goal of which is to build a connection between all the PSGs in Ontario and hold workshops to educate and train executives of PSG or their equivalents; and

Whereas the Federation condemned the violence in Gaza at the last national general meeting; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals encourage executives of PSGs or their equivalents on their campuses to get involved with the OPSC and attend the conference in February in London, Ontario; and

Be it further resolved that \$2000 be donated to the conference; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to sponsor PSGs or their equivalents to assist with travel and other expenses, such as but not limited to accommodation; and

Be it further resolved that a delegation be sent to the conference on February 24 to participate and facilitate a workshop on why being involved in student unions in the context Palestinian Solidarity is important.

**2013/01:099    MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 98/Local 97

Be it resolved that the final clause of Motion 2013/01:056 be amended to read:

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“Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to send delegations to the conference on February 24 to participate and facilitate a workshop on why being involved in student unions in the context Palestinian Solidarity is important.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:056 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:062 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas academic freedom is a major issue for students; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Student’s-Ontario has no campaign around this issue; and

Whereas public funding for research is constantly decreasing, forcing students to look for funding from private corporations, thus turning a public good (i.e. our research) into a private good; therefore

Be it resolved that resources be created to advocate for increased public funding to research and a decreased need to rely on private funding; and

Be it further resolved that materials be created to educate and inform students about the potential harms to academic freedom, etc. from private corporate funding of research and education.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:064 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas fees after the candidacy period for PhD’s and MA’s are high during a period in which graduate students are already heavily in debt and may not have any funding; therefore

Be it resolved that an action be organized to withhold fees for all students paying tuition fees after the candidacy period during the 2013/14 year.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:066 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the Access Copyright license agreement is extremely legally troubling and serves as a redundant license due to fair dealing regulations; therefore

Be it resolved that educational/information materials be created to help educate students about fair dealing and copyright law in collaboration with lawyers and law professors such as, but not limited to, Ariel Katz, Samuel Trosow, Michael Geist and Howard Knopf.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:068 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the most recent budget and tuition frameworks left students with even higher tuition fees; and

Whereas the NDP, Liberals and Conservatives had the capability of acting to stop those increases during the budget negotiations; and

Whereas no political party has demonstrated a strong pro-student stance in Ontario; and

Whereas there are many political elections within parties that would allow students to vote for more student friendly politicians to lead those parties; and

Whereas it generally benefits all students to have more students involved in the political process; therefore

Be it resolved that materials be provided to locals that will help their members understand how parties operate and how they can alter their preferred party in a manner that helps students; and

Be it further resolved that resources be provided to locals that would help their members self-organize for general and party-internal elections; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to operate in a fashion that encourages political participation from all students and that is respectful of those that choose not to participate; and

Be it further resolved that this be done in a non-partisan fashion that supports all parties.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:070**

**MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas graduate students in several European countries are now considered employees; and

Whereas Eurodoc has taken the strong position that doctoral candidates should be viewed as employees; and

Whereas doctoral candidates in the Netherlands have tried to fight off efforts to convert doctoral candidates from employees to students; and

Whereas many doctoral candidates in Canada are already treated as employees in everything except pay and rights; and

Whereas international students are being put in precarious positions near the end of their degrees as a result of funding through non-stable funding sources like scholarships; therefore

Be it resolved that a commission be established through the Ontario Graduate Caucus to investigate the employment model for Canadian doctoral candidates; and

Be it further resolved that each graduate member local association be encouraged to nominate one doctoral candidate for the commission by the end of February 2013; and

Be it further resolved that the commission report its recommendations by the end of August 2013; and

Be it further resolved that sufficient resources be provided to fully research the topic, including personal, travel and communication resources necessary for commission members to be fully informed on the topic.

**2013/01:100**

**MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 47/Local 32

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:070 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that research into the employment model for Canadian doctoral candidates be incorporated into the Federation’s existing research on post-residency fees; and

Be it further resolved that this research be presented to the Ontario Graduate Caucus at the August Annual General Meeting.”

**CARRIED**

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**2013/01:070 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:072 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas doctoral candidates spend most of their time doing research; and

Whereas international doctoral candidates are being publicly viewed as “costs” to the post-secondary education system instead of productive researchers; therefore

Be it resolved that a media listserv be started that aims to respond to articles on research to highlight the role of student researchers in research being described by media; and

Be it further resolved that the role of doctoral students as researchers be advertised; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation try to work with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and similar bodies to highlight the research of international doctoral students.

**2013/01:101 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 19/Local 47

Be it resolved that the first clause of Motion 2013/01:072 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that a listserv be started for interested member local associations to engage in discussion and to aid in the formation of local responses to articles and other media which discusses post-secondary education research.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:072 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:076 MOTION**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the national campaign on Ableism and accessibility is currently shifting its focus from ‘We Are All Able’ to ‘Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds’; and

Whereas the Ontario component has a unique opportunity to blend aspects of the national campaign with particular areas of a more local context, such as with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA); and

Whereas the implementation of the AODA, its various standards and multiple faulty government promises require greater explanation and dissemination to our members; therefore

Be it resolved that the proposed national ‘Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds’ campaign be actively supported and adopted; and

Be it further resolved that a guide and related promotional materials be developed through the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group to highlight the successes, failures, weaknesses and application of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

**2013/01:102 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 98/Local 54

Be it resolved that the following clause be added to Motion 2013/01:076:

“Be it further resolved that a best practises document be developed and distributed in order to assist member locals with compliance with AODA and with setting and/or surpassing those standards on local campuses.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:076 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:078 MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas affordable, public transit is a necessity for communities across the country; and

Whereas there have been efforts to privatize public transit systems in part, or in whole; and

Whereas public transit systems outside of urban centres require increased public support; and

Whereas public transit systems are often not fully accessible to differently abled persons; and

Whereas the community organizing around public transit initiatives is growing throughout Ontario; and

Whereas the establishment of a national transit strategy would standardize much of the disparity amongst the quality of public transit systems; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation support public transit coalitions by seeking membership in active organizations.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:080 MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas on November 16, 2012, a so-called “men’s rights awareness” group at the University of Toronto invited Warren Farrell to campus to give a talk; and

Whereas Warren Farrell promotes misogynist, hateful views towards women and ideologies that promote gender inequity, challenges women’s bodily autonomy, justifies sexual assault and decries feminism as violent; and

Whereas students at the University of Toronto made the situation known to the University of Toronto administration, asking for action to be taken due to Farrell’s flagrant violation of the Ontario Human Rights Code; and

Whereas the University of Toronto administration refused to act; and

Whereas in the absence of action from the university, students organized a petition and protest in response; and

Whereas in response, police were called to campus and violently attacked and harmed activists; and

Whereas members of the so-called “men’s rights awareness” group also violently attacked and harmed activists; and

Whereas a woman student who was outspoken at the rally has since been targeted by “men’s rights” activists online, who are calling for her surveillance by men at the University of Toronto and for her actions to be detailed at an online blog which contains many hateful ideas about women; and

Whereas men have, as a result, begun to harass this woman and the students’ unions who support her; and

Whereas this group has made it clear that they wish to have Farrell tour other schools to spread the “men’s rights” message and hateful ideology; and

Whereas this group is attempting to establish chapters and service centres across Canadian colleges and universities; and

Whereas the message from these groups claims to be of 'equality' but is in fact a message that is a misogynist, sexist, cissexist, heterosexist and homophobic response to the challenge of cis-male privilege in society; therefore

Be it resolved that that a letter be written to the University of Toronto administration calling for the University to take action to protect its students from hate speech, hateful actions and police repression and violence; and

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

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:082**

**MOTION**

Local 98/Local 97

Whereas the use of mid-session prorogation of parliament is increasingly being exploited to stifle opposition to and discussion of important and controversial acts, bills, and legislature at multiple levels of government; and

Whereas on October 15, 2012 Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty prorogued the Ontario Legislature; and

Whereas over 70 bills have died on the floor as a result; and

Whereas these bills include the Anti-Bullying Act and the Protection of Public Participation Act; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature has taken place at a time when the Ontario Government is facing multiple scandals, including the charge of contempt of Parliament against Minister Chris Bentley, the ORNGE emergency transportation fiasco, and failed labour negotiations; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature has occurred in tandem with the resignation of Premier McGuinty; and

Whereas the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature is an action that is obviously geared towards favouring partisan politics over the business of the legislature; therefore,

Be it resolved that the all attempts to prorogue any level of government mid-session for partisan purposes be condemned; and

Be it further resolved that a letter be issued to Premier McGuinty and the Ontario Liberals condemning the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature, urging Members of Provincial Parliament to reinstate legislature immediately.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:103**

**EMERGENCY MOTION**

Local 78/Local 54

Whereas the City of Ottawa has told numerous low-income graduate students at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa that they have been denied the ability to apply for the city's child care subsidy; and

Whereas the city has said they will no longer provide graduate students child care subsidies as of May 2013; and

Whereas the City of Ottawa says that first degree students will be prioritized in the subsidy selection system; and

Whereas affordable child care is an important aspect of access to post secondary education for student parents and a lack of child care can result in higher drop-out rates, longer time to completion and unsafe child care for children; therefore



Be it resolved that the Federation write and encourage member locals to write letters of solidarity to the mayor and city councillors of Ottawa to condemn the policy and ask for it to be repealed; and

Be it further resolved the Federation write and encourage member locals to write letters to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to ask for written confirmation that low-income graduate students will not be excluded from any child care subsidies in the province of Ontario.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:104 EMERGENCY MOTION**

Local 24/Local 92

Be it resolved that the January 28 Idle No More day of action be endorsed.

Local 85 delegate Sean Maguire recused himself from the meeting for discussion of this motion.

**2013/01:104 CARRIED**

**2013/01:105 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 24

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

**CARRIED**

**6. PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

National Executive Representative Toby Whitfield presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

**2013/01:018 MOTION**

Local 68/Local 97

Whereas there are over 300 000 members of the Federation across the province of Ontario; and

Whereas the Federation has a relationship with individual members and therefore should work to ensure democratic decisions made at closing plenaries are accessible to them; and

Whereas the motions passed by the Federation are important for informing members of the direction of the Federation; and

Whereas the process of discussion and debate that motions go through often produce several lengthily proposals for amendments, many of which do not make it to the final motion if adopted; and

Whereas the final vote on individual motions reflect these discussions and present the stance of the Federation in a clear, concise and accessible format; and

Whereas summary minutes provide the information necessary to view final motions as adopted at Federation general meetings; and

Whereas members should be able to access the auditors summary notes to understand the Federation's finances; and

Whereas posting summary minutes and auditors summary notes will help to keep the membership informed about the direction of campaigns and services of the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that the summary general meeting minutes and auditor's summary notes be posted to the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website.

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**2013/01:106 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 97/Local 27

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:018 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that the summary and complete general meeting minutes and auditor’s summary notes be posted to the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website.”

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:107 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 85/Local 27

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:018 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that the summary general meeting minutes and annual approved audit be posted to the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario website.”

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:018 CARRIED**

**2013/01:024 MOTION TO AMEND OPERATIONS POLICY**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas the founding and sponsorship of advocacy groups has become a favoured tactic of corporations hoping to manufacture mass support, or the appearance of mass support, for their financial interests; and

Whereas such advocacy groups are essentially well-disguised marketing campaigns; and

Whereas the Federation is committed to social and economic justice - aims that are largely incompatible with those of corporate-sponsored campaigns; therefore

Be it resolved that the Operations Policy on “Coalition Work” be amended to include the following:

The Federation shall not work in coalition with organizations whose aims and funding represent, or can reasonably be suspected to represent, a conflict of economic and social interests.

**2013/01:108 MOTION TO REFER**

Local 68/Local 98

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:024 be referred to the Executive Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:109 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 97/Local 85

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:108 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:024 be referred to the Executive Committee and returned by the 2013 Annual General Meeting.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:024 REFERRED**

**2013/01:028 MOTION**

Local 27/Local 97

Whereas online resources are now the primary method by which information is distributed; and

Whereas easy access to motion deadlines will allow ordinary members of the Federation to plan ahead and bring their needs to their student union representatives, in order that they may in turn bring them to the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that motion deadlines for upcoming General Meetings be posted on the Federation website.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:044**

**MOTION**

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas the Federation's structure includes constituency groups to provide safe spaces to discuss motions and issues based on identity; and

Whereas the women's constituency group is a safe space for women to discuss issues and motions; and

Whereas the queer constituency group is a safe space to discuss issues as they relate to queer students, historically based on sexual orientation; and

Whereas sexual orientation and gender expression are oftentimes combined but require individual space for representation and discussion; therefore

Be it resolved that the formation of a constituency group based on gender for people who identify as (but not limited to) trans\*, genderqueer and gender-nonconforming, be investigated.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:054**

**MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**

Local 110/Local 97

Whereas there is currently little discussion on the issues of poor, homeless and impoverished people and students in Ontario within the Federation; and

Whereas the Ontario Government continues to cut social assistance programs, despite the direct actions of groups like the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty; and

Whereas the Federation already takes a firm stance on the right of education and the need for its accessibility; and

Whereas there are many students in Ontario who make many sacrifices to attend post-secondary education, both personally and financially, and have relied on these services; and

Whereas there is currently no space within the meetings of the Federation for these students to discuss these issues; therefore

Be it resolved that the Mature and Part-Time Constituency Group be renamed the Mature, Part-Time and Low Income Constituency Group to facilitate these discussions.

**DEFEATED**

**2013/01:074**

**MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**

Local 19/Local 97

Whereas the current name of the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group is exclusive and non-inclusive of the diversity of the community; and

Whereas the current language could be updated to reflect the diversity of the community; therefore

Be it resolved that the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group be renamed the Disabled, Deaf and Mad Students Constituency Group; and

Be it further resolved that the appropriate changes to Bylaw VII be made to properly reflect the intent of the above clause.

**2013/01:110 MOTION TO POSTPONE**

Local 97/Local 98

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:074 be postponed until the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:110 POSTPONED**

**2013/01:111 MOTION**

Local 54/Local 109

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

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:112 MOTION**

Local 41/Local 19

Be it resolved that the meeting recess for 30 minutes.

**CARRIED**

12:42 p.m. – The meeting recessed.

1:15 p.m. – The meeting reconvened.

**7. PRESENTATION OF THE POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ontario Researcher Michael Yam presented the report on behalf of the Committee.

**2013/01:014 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 68/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy entitled “Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women on Campus” be amended to read as follows:

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ON CAMPUS**

**Preamble**

When sexual assault and violence against women occur at a post-secondary educational institution, it is the responsibility of the campus community to provide a safe and inclusive environment by responding in support of the survivor(s) and working towards eradicating the causes of sexual assault and violence against all women. Too often, post-secondary institutions have publicly downplayed incidences of sexual violence on their campuses in order to protect the institution’s reputation. Such efforts hinder the ability for campus communities to engage in meaningful and open dialogue to address matters related to sexual violence on their campuses. Institutional policies and practices that prioritise knowledge and education and acknowledge a full range of experiences are critical to ending discrimination and violence. Such policies and practices should be rooted in the recognition of sexism and misogyny as mechanisms of oppression. Sexism and misogyny are intensified by racism, classism, homophobia, transphobia and ableism, as well as a range of other experiences that affect all women’s responses to the trauma of sexual violence.

In some institutional and police responses to sexual violence, visual representations of alleged perpetrators have focused on racialised characteristics. Such responses serve to target racialised groups rather than provide meaningful information such as age, height, and behaviour to aid in identifying the perpetrator. In addressing sexual

violence on campuses, it is also important for institutions to acknowledge that most perpetrators of sexual violence are known to the survivors rather than “strangers” who are not members of the campus community. Certain institutional and police notifications of sexual violence also emphasise personal precautions as preventative measures against violence. It is important to recognise that prioritising personal precautionary measures can promote a culture of victim blaming, as the responsibility is placed on women to keep themselves safe.

Furthermore, it is important that institutions inform the campus community of ongoing developments in investigations in a timely manner to ensure that students are not left in a state of fear.

### **Policy**

The Federation Supports:

- Regular safety audits. These audits should be undertaken annually, must be community-driven and must examine safety holistically. Safety audits should address safety areas that include but may not be limited to the social environment, security services and the physical environment;
- On-campus safety committees mandated to improve safety and fulfill safety audit recommendations. These committees should be composed of representatives of the institution, students’ unions, student group representatives, representatives from marginalised groups, faculty associations and staff unions;
- Incident reporting mechanisms that respect the rights and decisions of survivors, promote campus safety and inform the campus community of immediate risks;
- Increased funding and other resources for campus health and counseling services, including sexual assault crisis and trauma services, and public education on ending sexism and gendered violence;
- The inclusion in staff training and faculty professional development sessions of diversity and gender equality awareness education, especially for those staff and faculty working in security and frontlines service provision;
- The provision of adequately funded campus safewalk services;
- On-campus sexual violence reporting systems established through the collaboration of university and college administrative bodies, students’ unions, faculty associations, staff unions, and local sexual assault support centres and rape crisis centres;
- Institutional policies and practices that recognise the importance of campus safety measures while at the same time promoting education, awareness and accountability with the goal of eradicating sexism, gendered violence and systemic forms of oppression that exist within post-secondary institutions;
- Institutional safety policies and practices that recognise the fact that a majority of sexual assaults occur between acquaintances;
- Student-run sexual assault support services including, but not limited to emotional support, outreach activities and awareness-building campaigns;
- Community Service Groups that challenge various forms of oppression including but not limited to homophobia, transphobia, racism, sexism and ableism;
- Public memorials to commemorate victims and survivors of gender based violence including missing and murdered Aboriginal women, trans women and racialised women;
- Student run initiatives that promote consent and healthy relationships;
- Initiatives to promote pro-social bystander behaviour;

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- The establishment of a social environment and policies within the institution that provide a safer space for survivors to come forward to seek support or report incidents of sexual violence.

The Federation opposes:

- Reporting systems that use visual representations of the alleged perpetrators that reinforce racial profiling;
- Technology-driven safety initiatives that prioritise monitoring over collective education and responsibility;
- Security measures that include an off-campus police presence;
- The perpetuation of the ‘stranger danger’ mentality;
- Campaigns that place responsibility on women to prevent sexual violence;
- The promotion of rape culture through language or actions that trivialise, condone or tolerate any form of sexual violence;
- Groups that seek to challenge ideologies of gender equity, women’s bodily autonomy and denounce the work of feminism and the women’s movement. Often these groups operate under the guise of “men’s awareness” groups.

**2013/01:113 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 19/Local 68

Be it resolved that the 11<sup>th</sup> bullet point under “The Federation supports:” in Motion 2013/01:014 be amended to read:

- “- Campus and community groups that challenge various forms of oppression, including but not limited to, homophobia, transphobia, racism, sexism and ableism; “

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:114 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 82/Local 19

Be it resolved that the 13<sup>th</sup> bullet point under “The Federation supports:” in Motion 2013/01:014 be amended to read:

- “- Student controlled initiatives that promote consent and healthy relationships;”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:115 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 19/Local 97

Be it resolved that the 7<sup>th</sup> bullet point under “The Federation opposes:” in Motion 2013/01:014 be amended to read:

- “- Groups that attack principles of gender equity and women’s bodily autonomy, and which denounce, misrepresent, and/or agitate against the work of feminism and the women’s movement. Often these groups operate under the guise of “men’s awareness” and/or “men’s rights” groups.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:116 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 19/Local 32

Be it resolved that a new bullet point under “The Federation opposes:” in Motion 2013/01:014 be added to read:

“- the cooptation of initiatives that are intended to promote consent and healthy relationships in ways that are against students’ interest.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:014 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:016 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 68/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy entitled “Environmental Sustainability” be replaced with the following:

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**Preamble**

Climate change poses one of the biggest challenges and threats to humanity. Increased greenhouse gas emissions have caused the average temperatures across the world to rise, intensifying the frequency and severity of natural disasters, contributing to rising sea levels, and causing worldwide drought, famine and flooding. The effects of ecological degradation are felt particularly hard in communities of the Global South, who bear little to no responsibility for impending climate change. The very future of life on earth hangs in the balance, but world leaders have either been unwilling or unable to come to a practical agreement on how to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

Concentration of gasses in the atmosphere is measured by parts per million (ppm), which also measures the ratio of carbon dioxide to other gasses in the air. Until the advent of the industrial revolution, earth’s atmosphere contained approximately 275 parts per million, which kept important gasses from escaping the earths atmosphere and kept the earth warm enough to make life possible and sustainable. As of 2012, the earth’s atmosphere contains 392 parts per million, with scientists advising that the planet must be below 350 parts per million to continue sustaining life. Scientists from dozens of countries, domestic, regional and international agencies, including the United Nations, have all sounded the alarm on climate change; warning swift action must be taken lest the planet risk massive ecological disaster.

Since the beginning of the new millennium, Canada has risen to become one of the planet’s top polluters. After abandoning the Kyoto Protocol, the Federal government began a massive expansion of the toxic Tar Sands project in Northern Alberta, which forcibly infringed upon the sovereign land of Indigenous peoples and has seen a rise in cancer and other illnesses in the areas surrounding the project. Canada has consistently undermined international efforts to reduce carbon emissions, such as in 2007, when it blocked a Commonwealth resolution binding industrialised countries to emission reduction targets. Proposals to expand oil and gas pipelines across the fragile Northern British Columbia wilderness in 2012 further display the governments callous disregard for the ecological health of the country and the planet.

The Federation believes strongly that a generation educated by affordable, accessible and public colleges and universities can turn the tide on climate change before it is too late. The Federation stands in solidarity with students, faculty, staff, scientists, researchers, politicians, Indigenous communities, activists and concerned people around the world working tirelessly to reverse the effects of climate change and build sustainable, inclusive and open communities.

### **Policy**

The Federation supports:

- Local, provincial, national, regional and international efforts to slow climate change by investing in renewable energy generation mechanisms and a phasing out of fossil fuel consumption;
- International agreements that encourage cooperation between countries and regions to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and transition to sustainable economies;
- The mass expansion of affordable and accessible public transit through a National Transit Strategy that discourages reliance on cars for personal transportation;
- The introduction of feed-in tariffs that provide tax incentives to personal home and business renovations that generate sustainable power and heating for residences and businesses;
- Investments in public post-secondary education and research to evaluate the challenges posed by climate change and propose thoughtful solutions to the threats it poses;
- The transition towards a green economy, with focus on localised production and sustainable manufacturing;
- Grassroots mobilisations and civil disobedience to halt the expansion of ecologically harmful projects and shift public policy on climate change, energy, waste and the environment; and
- Broad-based coalitions to students' unions, labour unions, Indigenous communities, scientists and researchers, and other concerned communities designed to challenge climate change denial and the influence of natural resource corporations on public policy.

The Federation opposes:

- The continued reliance upon fossil fuels for power generation;
- The influence of oil, gas and other natural resource extraction corporations on public policy and government at municipal, provincial, national, regional and international levels;
- The unfair demand placed upon countries in the Global South to pay the same cost for climate change prevention and reversal as industrialised nations in the Global North;
- Ecologically hazardous natural resource extraction projects such as the Tar Sands that pollute the environment, infringe upon the sovereignty of Indigenous communities and cause personal, social, environmental and economic harm to those living and working in or near extraction sites;
- Natural resource projects that displace Indigenous communities from their sovereign lands and communities;
- Cuts to public science and research efforts designed to examine ecological health, climate change and the impact of fossil fuels; and
- Muzzling of scientists, civil servants and politicians wishing to speak out on the ecological health of the planet.”

**2013/01:117 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 84/Local 68

Be it resolved that the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph under “Preamble” in Motion 2013/01:016 be amended to read:



“The Federation believes strongly that affordable, accessible and public colleges and universities can play a role in our society in providing research and education to turn the tide on climate change before it is too late. The Federation stands in solidarity with students, faculty, staff, scientists, researchers, politicians, Indigenous communities, activists and concerned people around the world working tirelessly to reverse the effects of climate change and build sustainable, inclusive and open communities.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:118 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 54/Local 19

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:016 be amended to include the following under “The Federation supports:”

- “- Groups that work within environmental justice frameworks;
- Research and education that investigates and reports on the disproportionate distribution of environmental hazards in low income, racialised, indigenous and other marginalised communities.”

Be it further resolved that Motion 2013/01:N05 be amended to include the following under “The Federation opposes:”

- “- The social, political, and economic forces that shape the disproportionate distribution of environmental hazards in low income, racialized, indigenous and other marginalized communities.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:119 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 92/Local 84

Be it resolved that a point under “The Federation opposes:” in Motion 2013/01:016 be added to read:

- “- Public-private funding research initiatives pursued by oil, gas, and other natural resource extraction corporations to advance their interests, and which impose an agenda which undermines academic freedom;”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:016 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:036 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas the "Commercialisation of Research" Issues Policy has not been updated since 2004; therefore

Be it resolved that the third paragraph of the “Preamble” of the "Commercialisation of Research" Issues Policy be amended to read:

“The negative effects of commercialisation of public research are recognised by faculty internationally and in Canada. The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) commits to safeguarding and supporting the integrity of academic research and campaigns to defend the freedom of academic researchers to pursue their work. The CAUT also opposes attempts by corporations or any other funders to suppress academic research results that they deem as unacceptable; and”

Be it further resolved that the following be added to end of the “Preamble:”

“The establishment and expansion of “incubators” at post-secondary institutions are typically supported by government and threaten the academic integrity of research.

These incubators – marketed as entrepreneurship mentoring centres for students – serve as additional levers for institutions to obtain private funding. As a result, public money and institutional space that goes into establishing these incubators is used to subsidise private companies who greatly profit from the use of students’ skills; and”

Be it further resolved that the following be added to the “Federation opposes” section:

“ - The subsidisation of private entrepreneurship incubators by public colleges and universities.”

**2013/01:120 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 84/Local 19

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:036 be amended to read:

“Be it resolved that the third paragraph of the “Preamble” of the "Commercialisation of Research" Issues Policy be struck.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:036 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:038 MOTION TO AMEND ISSUES POLICY**

Local 24/Local 97

Whereas there has been an increase in the presence of "Men’s Rights Awareness Groups" on campuses in Ontario and across the country; and

Whereas these groups provide environments for sexism, patriarchy and misogyny to manifest and be perpetuated on campus, which should be safe(r) spaces for students; and

Whereas these groups promote misogynist, hateful views towards women and ideologies that promote gender inequity, challenges women’s bodily autonomy, justifies sexual assault, and decries feminism as violent; and

Whereas messages from these groups claim to be of equality, but are in fact messages that are misogynist, sexist, cissexist, heterosexist and homophobic responses to the challenge of cis-male privilege in society; and

Whereas "Men’s Rights Awareness Groups" are attempting to establish chapters and service centres across Canadian colleges and universities; and

Whereas a “Men’s Rights Awareness Group” at the University of Toronto recently held a meeting, which was protested by women and allies, prompting a barrage of threats and attacks on several women on campus and the students' union for taking part in protesting this group and its meetings; therefore

Be it resolved that the "Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women on Campus" Issues Policy be amended to include the following, under the “Federation opposes” section:

- “ - Groups, meetings or events whose purpose is to frighten, intimidate and/or target women students on campus; and
- College and University administration's lack of response to calls for public support and protection of students being threatened, stalked and/or attacked on campus.”

**2013/01:121 MOTION TO AMEND**

Local 84/Local 68

Be it resolved that Motion 2013/01:038 be amended to read:

“ - Campaigns, forums, groups, meetings or events whose purpose is to frighten, intimidate and/or target women on campus.”

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:036 CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**2013/01:122 MOTION**

Local 82/Local 78

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

**CARRIED**

## **8. PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL REPORT**

Electoral Officer Brent Farrington presented the Electoral Report.

**2013/01:123 MOTION**

Local 78/Local 41

Be it resolved that Alastair Woods be ratified as the Chairperson for the 2013-2014 year.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:124 MOTION**

Local 32/Local 102

Be it resolved that Anna Goldfinch be ratified as the National Executive Representative for the 2013-2014 year; and

Be it further resolved that Anna Goldfinch be submitted to the Nominating Committee for ratification as the Ontario National Executive Representative at the May 2013 national general meeting.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:125 MOTION**

Local 92/Local 98

Be it resolved that Guled Arale be ratified as the Treasurer for the 2013-2014 year.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:126 MOTION**

Local 85/Local 84

Be it resolved that Michael Taylor be ratified as the Ontario Graduate Caucus Vice-Chairperson for the remainder of the 2012-2013 year.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:127 MOTION**

Local 32/Local 109

Be it resolved that the ballots be destroyed.

**CARRIED**

**2013/01:128 MOTION**

Local 110/Local 92

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

**CARRIED**

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**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**2013/01:129 MOTION**

Local 85/Local 41

Be it resolved that plenary adjourn.

**CARRIED**

1:52 p.m. - Plenary adjourned.

## **Attendance**

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### **DELEGATIONS**

#### **Local 19**

##### **University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union**

Jason Dumalie  
Brad Evoy  
Ashleigh Ingle  
Erin Oldynski  
Michelle St-Amour

#### **Local 24**

##### **Ryerson Students' Union**

Rodney Diverlus  
Gilary Massa  
Andrew McAllister  
Melissa Palermo

#### **Local 25**

##### **Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union**

Lauren Hunter

#### **Local 27**

##### **Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students**

Anne-Marie Grondin  
Matt Shultz

#### **Local 32**

##### **Lakehead University Students' Union**

Rimaz Abakar  
Jackie Alto  
Adrian Arts  
Daniel Bacsa  
Tim Bevand  
Emma Brightwell  
Li Kang

#### **Local 41**

##### **Student Federation of the University of Ottawa**

Adam Gilani  
Amy Hammett  
Liz Kessler  
Emily Niles  
Anne-Marie Roy

#### **Local 47**

##### **Univeristy of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students**

Eric Lohman  
Michael Taylor

#### **Local 48**

##### **Univeristy of Windsor Graduate Students' Society**

Numanul Hoque Subhani

#### **Local 49**

##### **University of Windsor Students' Alliance**

Mohammad Akbar  
Priya Das  
Mohamad El-Cheikh  
Fouad Nader  
Omar Shahid  
Hossam Sleiman  
Hussein Zarif

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### **Local 54**

#### **University of Guelph Central Student Association**

Drew Garvie  
Deaglan McManus  
Dominica McPherson  
Joshua Ofori-Darko

### **Local 68**

#### **York Federation of Students**

Rob Cerjanec  
Mohamad Hneinou  
Vanessa Hunt  
Safiyah Husein  
Hamid Osman  
Jessica Thyriar  
Alastair Woods

### **Local 78**

#### **Carleton University Graduate Students' Association**

Justine De Jaegher  
Anna Goldfinch  
Lauren Montgomery

### **Local 82**

#### **Algoma University Students' Union**

Phillip Carmichael  
Kaitlyn Teller

### **Local 84**

#### **York University Graduate Students' Association**

Carolyn Hibbs

### **Local 85**

#### **Saint Paul University Students' Association**

Sean Maguire

### **Local 92**

#### **Student Association of George Brown College**

Mohammad Aumeer  
Chris Bourque  
Nikhil Gulati  
Julia Mackenzie  
Hally Raquena-Silva  
Kyle Rodgers  
Jennifer Sabila  
Coty Zachariah

### **Local 97**

#### **Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto**

Jessica Denyer  
Susan Froom  
Asad Jamal

### **Local 98**

#### **University of Toronto Students' Union**

Noor Baig  
Abigail Cudjoe  
Sandy Hudson  
Eric Jadidzadeh  
Munib Sajjad  
Corey Scott  
Shaun Shepherd

**Local 99**

**Scarborough Campus Students' Union**

Guled Arale  
Amir Bashir  
Mitra Fakhrashrafi  
Kavita Siewrattan  
Sarah Worku

**Local 102**

**Brock Graduate Students' Association**

Brandon Garib

**Local 104**

**Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-time Students**

Victoria Cameron

**Local 105**

**Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson**

Markus Hardwood-Jones

**Local 106**

**Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor**

Ranya Nassereddine

**Local 107**

**Association étudiante de La Cité collégiale**

Mireille Al-Kadi  
Roch Séguin  
Zoée St. Amand

**Local 109**

**University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union**

Nausheen Adam  
Zoe Adesina  
Iman Baldiwala  
Grace Guo  
Raymond Noronha  
Ro'a Saafan  
Andrew Ursel

**Local 110**

**Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association**

Menal Mehari

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CAUCUS AT-LARGE MEMBERS**

**Chairperson**

Sarah Jayne King

**National Executive Representative**

Toby Whitfield

**Treasurer**

Désirée Lamoureux

**Ontario Graduate Caucus Chairperson**

Brendan Lehman

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

**National Deputy Chairperson**

Jessica McCormick

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### **FEDERATION STAFF**

#### **Communications and Government Relations Coordinator**

Kaley Kennedy

#### **Financial Coordinator**

Jennifer Stacey

#### **Internal Coordinator**

Ashkon Hashemi

#### **Organizer**

Jeremy Salter

#### **National Internal Coordinator**

Brent Farrington

#### **Northern Fieldworker**

Christine Bourque

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Michael Yam

#### **Services Coordinator**

Hildah Otieno