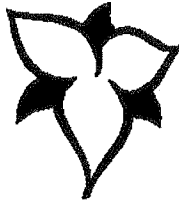


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Shelley Martel
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October 27, 2005

Mr. Jesse Greener, Ontario Chairperson
Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)
Ontario Office
180 Bloor Street West, Suite 900
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2V6

Dear Mr. Greener,

Thank you for your letter, dated October 11th 2005, that I recently received in my Queen's Park office.

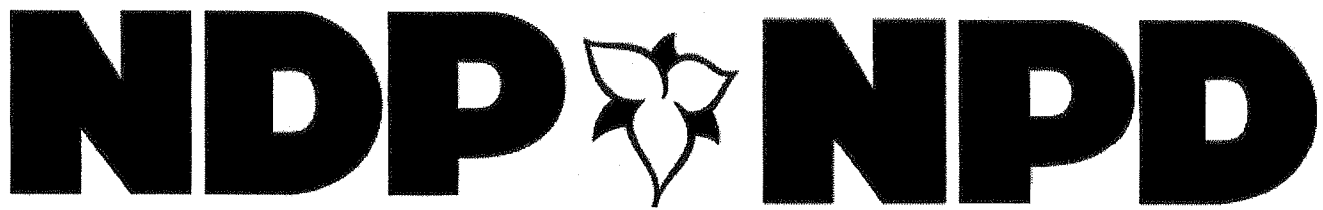
Please find attached, for your information and review, a copy of my colleague, Rosario Marchese's, Private Member's Bill to extend the tuition freeze in Ontario for two more years. I am also enclosing the Hansard of his Bill's First Reading and a few press releases on this issue. Clearly, I fully support his Bill. I also know that this Bill was developed in consultation and with the assistance of the Canadian Federation of Students and students alike. I hope that the McGuinty Liberal government will pass it promptly to really demonstrate its commitment to Ontario students attending post-secondary institutions.

In closing, thanks again for contacting my office about this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelley Martel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shelley Martel, MPP
NDP Critic for Health and Long-Term Care



The following Bill was introduced by Rosario Marchese, MPP for Trinity-Spadina and NDP Post-Secondary Education Critic in the Ontario Legislature on October 26, 2005

NO TUITION HIKES ACT, 2005 /
LOI DE 2005 INTERDISANT L'AUGMENTATION
DES DROITS DE SCOLARITÉ

Mr. Marchese moved first reading of the following bill:

Bill 12, An Act to implement a ban on hiking post-secondary tuition fees / Projet de loi 12, Loi visant à interdire l'augmentation des droits de scolarité au postsecondaire.

The Speaker (Hon. Michael A. Brown): Is it the pleasure of the House that the motion carry? Carried.

Does the member have a brief statement?

Mr. Rosario Marchese (Trinity-Spadina): I'm here and our party is here today to plead with the Premier to continue to freeze tuition fees for yet another two years. The Canadian Federation of Students -- all up there -- are here today to plead with you and your members to continue to freeze tuition fees as a way of avoiding the debt burden that is growing and getting larger by the minute. They don't want to be gouged, their families don't want to be gouged, and their families don't want their future to be gouged. So they are pleading with you -- even you, Minister of Finance -- to appeal to the federal government to release the \$600 million based on the accord between Layton and Martin so that you can freeze tuition fees and in fact lower them.

The Speaker: It's a brief statement, not a speech.



Rosario Marchese, MPP/Député
Trinity-Spadina

October 26, 2005

NDP TO McGUINTY – BAN TUITION HIKES THROUGH 2007

QUEEN'S PARK - NDP Post-Secondary Education Critic Rosario Marchese introduced a private member's bill that, if passed, would ban tuition fee hikes through 2007.

"No Ontario student should be denied a college or university education because they cannot afford it," Marchese said. "The cost of post-secondary education is already too high. Ontario should ban tuition fee hikes through the 2007 election, then let the people have their say."

The Trinity-Spadina MPP encouraged the McGuinty government to keep its promise to keep tuition affordable and pass his "Tuition Hike Ban" bill.

"Dalton McGuinty promised to fight high tuition fees. He should keep his promise to students and pass my bill. Otherwise, it will be clear he never meant what he said and never intended to keep his promise," Marchese said.

During the election, McGuinty campaigned against sky-high tuition rates. "The Harris-Eves government raised tuition a staggering 45 percent for basic undergraduate programs and allowed tuition to skyrocket in programs such as medicine, law and engineering. We will not let this continue," he said. Now, however, the McGuinty says that rates will continue to rise after the freeze is lifted next year.

The Canadian Federation of Students is calling on all MPPs to support Marchese's Bill. Jesse Greener with the Canadian Federation of Students says fees are already too high and rising debts are crippling students financially. The province can extend the freeze using extra money it will receive under federal NDP budget deal.

"This additional money was intended to ensure that tuition fees could be frozen or reduced across Canada. If adopted, Mr. Marchese's bill will help to ensure that the federal money goes where it was intended," said Greener.

"To build a strong Ontario, we need to keep tuition affordable so more students can get a college or university education. Raising tuition will drive students out, cheat them of opportunities and weaken our province," Marchese said. "That's why we need to ban tuition hikes through 2007."

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Rosario Marchese, MPP/Député
Trinity-Spadina

September 27, 2005

NEW STUDY SHOWS ITS TIME TO BAN TUITION HIKES

QUEEN'S PARK - NDP Education Critic Rosario Marchese says a new study by Statistics Canada proves that Ontario needs to keep the ban on tuition hikes in place.

"Sky-high tuition rates are driving people away from attaining a college and university education," said Marchese.

The study, "The Impact of Tuition Fees on University Access: Evidence from a Large-scale Price Deregulation in Professional Programs" shows that Ontario's decision in the 1990s to allow tuition fees for deregulated professional programs to triple and quadruple led to declining enrolment for students with middle socio-economic backgrounds. In provinces such as Quebec and British Columbia, where tuition fees were frozen over the period, no changes in enrollment patterns by socioeconomic background were registered.

Marchese has announced his intention to introduce a private member's bill this fall that, if passed, would ban tuition fee hikes until the next election in 2007. The McGuinty government is indicating that rates will continue to rise after the freeze is lifted next year.

"Dalton McGuinty promised to fight high tuition fees. He should keep his promise to students and pass my bill. Otherwise, it will be clear that he never intended to keep his promise," Marchese said.

- 30 -

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