



MEMO

From the office of the...

Vice-President (Education)

TO: Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Albi Angjeli, Research Assistant
SUBJECT: Advocacy and Policy Research Assistant Transition
DATE: April 26, 2023

Dear Student Representative Assembly,

It was an honor to represent the MSU in writing policy. I focused on policy relating to tuition and post-secondary affordability.

The main changes were regarding inequity of the Ontario tuition freeze regarding international students, and the lack of government funding to post-secondary education.

International and out-of-province (OOP) students are exempt from the tuition freeze which the Ontario government implemented. The tuition freeze was enacted for the purpose to alleviate students from economic burdens initiated by the pandemic and to combat the extraordinarily high consumer price index (CPI). The MSU believes that international and OOP students are subjected to the same economic distress as in-province students, and therefore should be included in the tuition freeze.

The Ford government has cut the Ontario Student Opportunity Grant (OSPG) and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Government grants and scholarships are an important part of financing post-secondary education, and the MSU believes that programs such as OSOG and OSAP should have optimal funding because they are integral to equitable post-secondary affordability.

Overall, the MSU values that financing post-secondary education should not be a barrier to students.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Best,

Albi Angjeli