



Council of Alberta University Students
Expansion of Scholarship Programs
Policy #08-01

WHEREAS up-front, non-repayable financial resources such as grants, bursaries and scholarships are an important incentive for students choosing to pursue a post-secondary education and play a vital role in Alberta's student financial aid system; and

WHEREAS the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund is intended to reach a value of \$1 billion from its current value of \$851 million and with the principal protected from devaluation due to inflation, which will provide over \$7 million in additional scholarships; and

WHEREAS most of the scholarships offered by institutions and the Government of Alberta are targeted towards undergraduate students in their first-year of study;

WHEREAS several of the current scholarships awards offered by the Government of Alberta have failed to keep pace with the cost of pursuing a post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS the 2010 provincial budget suspended five scholarships rather than expanding existing ones.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students advocate to the Government of Alberta to immediately increase the value of the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund to \$1 billion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students advocate to the Government of Alberta to use the resulting revenue, along with additional funds where necessary, to expand the available scholarships offered by the Government of Alberta by:

- a) Increasing the value of the awards of the Alexander Rutherford, Louise McKinney, Jason Lang and Lawrence Decore scholarships;
- b) Indexing the value of the awards of the Alexander Rutherford, Louise McKinney, Jason Lang and Lawrence Decore scholarships to inflation annually;
- c) Expanding the current Louise McKinney, Jason Lang and Lawrence Decore scholarship programs to allow for students from outside of Alberta but attending an Alberta post-secondary institution to be eligible for an award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students advocate to the Government of Alberta to increase the scholarship support for undergraduate students past their first year of study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students encourage the Government of Alberta, Alberta's post-secondary institutions and individual student associations and student unions to better promote the Lawrence Decore scholarship to encourage greater recognition of citizenship while in study and to increase the number of applications to the Lawrence Decore scholarship.