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**Do students need  
a national organization?**

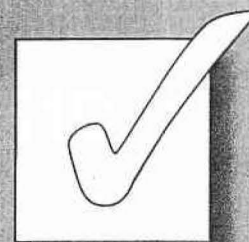
**Should this organization provide both  
national and provincial representation?**

**Should this organization provide  
cost-saving services for its members?**

**Should Thompson Rivers University  
students be part of this organization?**

# **Yes!**

**Canadian  
Federation  
of Students**



When finished with this leaflet, please pass it to a friend or recycle it.

**Vote February 7 - 9**

# Canada's National Student Organization

## CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

### What is the CFS?

The Canadian Federation of Students is a national alliance of 81 university and college student societies with a combined membership of more than one-half million students.

### Why was the CFS formed?

The Canadian Federation of Students was formed in 1981 to provide students with an effective and united voice.

Universities and colleges in Canada are funded primarily by the federal government and administered by provincial governments; therefore, government policies and priorities have a tremendous impact on our lives as students.

Since tuition fees, financial aid programs, and funding are all set directly or indirectly by both levels of government, it is vital that our interests and concerns are represented to both the provincial and federal governments.

### Can't we do this work on our own?

No campus, no matter how big or active, has the resources or the political clout to effectively influence the post-secondary education policies of the provincial and federal governments alone.

Even if extremely organized, it is likely that an individual student society could only have an impact on a few electoral ridings at best. Governments usually ignore groups that pose no political threat to them.

It is also much more cost effective for a large number of student societies to pool their resources and work

together than for each one to undertake this work alone. Imagine the cost for the Cariboo Student Society to rent and equip an office in Ottawa by itself and staff it with lobbyists, researchers, and media/communications personnel, etc.

### How are goals achieved?

For a student organization to be effective at influencing government policy, it must produce quality research, develop relationships with government, and demonstrate that there is public support for its issues.

**Lobbying:** Government policies and priorities determine the quality and accessibility of public post-secondary education. The Canadian Federation of Students employs a full-time Government Relations Officer and elects a full-time National Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, all of whom meet regularly with Members of Parliament, senior civil servants, and representatives from all political parties in Ottawa. Additional monies are allocated to fund provincial lobbying.

**Research:** Thorough and accurate research is required to support any proposal put to government. The Federation employs full-time researchers who study and prepare analyses of government policies and trends within post-secondary education and develop alternatives to government policy. In addition, this research is used to develop educational materials for students and the general public.

**Mobilization:** The Federation's campaign strategy recognizes that regular meetings with government and comprehensive research will have little impact

unless the government has widespread demonstration participation in general public from letter-writing to the occasional awareness of affects the day

### Who makes decisions?

Each student society makes decisions on policies, directions, including how they are made at congresses and would be from perspectives

### What are the goals?

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National Federation per semester from the original reduced for just as the campus

Provincial Federation the member per semester the same rate

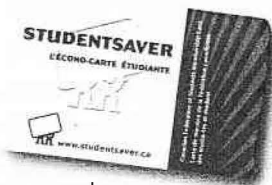
## TRAVEL CUTS VOYAGES CAMPUS

Travel CUTS (Canadian Universities Travel Service) is the largest Canadian-owned travel agency in Canada. Owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students, Travel CUTS has outlets across Canada, an online booking engine, and a toll-free flight booking line. Travel CUTS specializes in student travel and offers low prices for student airline tickets.

## STUDENTS AVER

Canada's original student discount program, "Studentsaver" provides discounts to Canadian Federation of Students members across Canada. There are over 2500 student discounts across Canada, and more than 800 in British Columbia.

[www.studentsaver.ca](http://www.studentsaver.ca)



## Canadian Federation of Students

## Free ISIC, Save

The International Student Identity Card (ISIC) is a time students with access to discounts worldwide. The ISIC is the identification required to book fares on domestic and international plane flights, a 35% discount on VIA Rail, and the 25% discount on Bus Lines.

As the Canadian agent for the International Student Federation of Students issues the Card free of charge of membership.

# STUDENTS

unless the government believes that a message has widespread public support. The Federation demonstrates this support through the active participation of its member students and the general public in high-profile activities ranging from letter-writing campaigns and petition drives to the occasional rally. These campaigns raise public awareness of the issues, which correspondingly affects the decisions and policies of government.

## Who makes the decisions?

Each student society has an equal say in setting the policies, direction, and priorities of the Federation, including how funds are spent. All major decisions are made at twice-yearly national and provincial congresses at which the Cariboo Student Society would be present, representing the views and perspectives of Thompson Rivers University students.

## What are the fees?

Having more than 500,000 members across Canada ensures that the Federation can fulfill its mandate while keeping its fees low. Fees are set democratically by a vote of the student societies that comprise the Federation.

**National Fee:** For full-time students, the fee is \$3.75 per semester, an increase of only \$1.75 per semester from the original fee of \$2.00 in 1981. The fee is reduced for part-time students at the same rate as the campus student society fee.

**Provincial Fee:** The CFS-British Columbia fee, set by the member students' unions in the province, is \$3.75 per semester, and is reduced for part-time students at the same rate as the campus student society fee.

## Letter to the Members

Dear Thompson Rivers University students,

On February 7, 8 and 9, you will have the opportunity to vote on full membership in the Canadian Federation of Students. I encourage you to vote "YES".

For close to 25 years, university and college students have been organized nationally through the Canadian Federation of Students. As an alliance of more than 500,000 students, the Federation works for increased funding for universities, affordable tuition fees, improved student financial aid, and a stronger role for students on their campuses.

It is thanks to intensive campaigning by the Canadian Federation of Students that tuition fee increases capped at 2% for 2005-2006 and provincial funding was increased to colleges and universities, and the Federation has mounted a campaign to prevent tuition fees from increasing in the coming academic year. The Federation is also working to reduce domestic and international students' tuition fees and to ensure that fees in professional programs fall under the tuition fee freeze.

Nationally, through tireless work lobbying the minority government, the most recent federal budget allocated \$1.5 billion to reducing tuition fees. As well, through CFS lobbying, international students have recently won the right to work off-campus. These are the results when students work together.

The Canadian Federation of Students also provides cost-saving services for its members. As full members of the Canadian Federation of Students, Thompson Rivers University students receive the Students' discount card, an International Student Identity Card free of charge (cost to non-members is \$16) and reduced rates when participating in Federation programs such as the Student Work Abroad Program. Joining the Federation's Studentphonestore.com program, Thompson Rivers University students have been able to save on cell phone purchases, accessories, and plans.

This summer, the Cariboo Student Society joined the Federation as a trial member. Since then, we have been participating with full voting privileges in the organisation, both provincially and nationally. Our experience over the past year has been very positive and it is, in part, the reason I am encouraging you to vote "YES".

It's time to join together with other students in British Columbia and across Canada, to have our voice heard, provincially and nationally. On February 7-9, I encourage you to vote "YES" to membership in the Canadian Federation of Students.

Yours truly,



Terry Monteleone  
President, Cariboo Student Society



## Students – Working Together Works

# Save \$16

International Student Identity Card (ISIC) provides full-discount worldwide. In Canada, you are required to book reduced student fares on national plane flights, Eurail, the Greyhound 25% discount on Greyhound



International Student Identity Card, the Canadian Federation of Students provides the Card free of charge to its full-time members as a benefit.

## National Student Health Network

Many student societies, including the Cariboo Student Society, provide extended health and dental plans for their members. Through its National Student Health Network, the Canadian Federation of Students assists member students' unions to negotiate the best prices and services for their health and dental plans.



[www.cfs-fcc](http://www.cfs-fcc)

## Student Work Abroad Program

SWAP assists students in finding jobs, housing, and information in eleven countries around the world. By developing arrangements with other national student organizations, the Federation is able to ensure safe travel and support for Canadian students wishing to work overseas. Members of the Federation receive a 15% discount on SWAP fees.

[www.swap.ca](http://www.swap.ca)

# STUDENTS

government believes that a message of broad public support. The Federation expresses this support through the active involvement of its member students and the public in high-profile activities ranging from writing campaigns and petition drives to a national rally. These campaigns raise public awareness of the issues, which correspondingly influence decisions and policies of government.

## Who makes the decisions?

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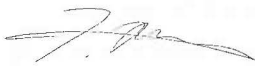
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# The Value of a National Student Organization

- The **Canadian Federation of Students** has successfully lobbied to keep tuition fees capped at the rate of inflation, saving each Thompson Rivers University student hundreds of dollars each year.
- In 2005, the **Canadian Federation of Students** campaigned successfully for \$51.8 million in increased funding from the BC government to increase access to universities and colleges.
- In addition to British Columbia, the **Canadian Federation of Students'** efforts have led to limits on tuition fee increases, tuition fee freezes and, in some cases, reductions to tuition fees. Students in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador are now all protected by tuition fee regulation.
- The **Canadian Federation of Students** has lobbied for the federal government to commit to accessible post-secondary education. In the 2005 federal budget amendments, \$1.5 billion was allocated to reduce tuition fees for university and college students.
- The **Canadian Federation of Students** has consistently campaigned for provincial and national grants for students. In 2005, the provincial government restored grants for low-income students, saving students as much as \$2,644 per student, accompanied by national low-income grants, for 2005-2006.
- In 2005, the **Canadian Federation of Students** successfully lobbied the federal government to allow international students to work off-campus.
- The **Canadian Federation of Students** successfully campaigned to stop the GST from being applied to tuition fees and campus residence fees. The Federation continues to work for the removal of GST from textbooks.
- The **Canadian Federation of Students** successfully lobbied for the removal of the 3% tax on Canada Student Loans.
- For the past decade, the **Canadian Federation of Students** has successfully campaigned against federal plans for an income contingent student loan repayment scheme that would lead to a doubling of tuition fees in Canada.
- The **Canadian Federation of Students** exposed deficiencies with the Millennium Scholarship program that allowed provincial governments to divert the scholarship funds to pay for pre-existing provincial programs. This led to the federal government increasing the tax exempt amount for all scholarships from \$500 to \$3000.
- In British Columbia, the **Canadian Federation of Students** worked to ensure that Millennium Scholarships would be used to reduce student debt, and that funding for provincial grants and debt reduction would increase.
- During the 2005 B.C. election, the **Canadian Federation of Students** registered tens of thousands of students and young people to vote throughout the Rock the Vote BC Campaign. Youth voter participation increased by 30% in the 2005 election. As a result, the BC Liberal government and the NDP opposition are paying more attention to student issues.

**Vote February 7 - 9**

# Working Together

## Canadian Federation of Students

Alberta College of Art & Design Students' Association • Algoma University Students' Union • Brandon University Students' Union • University of British Columbia Students' Union • Okanagan • University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association • Camosun College Student Society • Capilano College Students' Union • Cape Breton University Students' Union • **Cariboo Student Society** • Carleton University Graduate Students' Association • Carleton University Students' Association • Concordia University Graduate Students' Association • Concordia University Students' Union • Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students • Douglas College Students' Union • Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design Students' Union • First Nations University of Canada Students' Association • George Brown College Student Association • Glendon College Students' Union • University of Guelph Central Students' Association • University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association • Holland College Students' Union • King Edward Students' Union • University of King's College Students' Union • Kwantlen University-College Students' Association • Lakehead University Students' Union • Laurentian University Students' General Association • Association of Laurentian Part-Time Students • Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne • Malaspina University-College Students' Union • University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association • University of Manitoba Students' Union • Marine Institute Students' Union • McGill University Post-Graduate Students' Society • McMaster University Graduate Students' Association • Memorial University Students' Union • Memorial University Graduate Students' Union • Association générale des étudiants et étudiantes de l'Université de Moncton, campus d'Edmundston • Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union • Native Education Centre Students' Union • University of New Brunswick Graduate Students' Association • College of New Caledonia Students' Association • Nipissing University Student Union • College of the North Atlantic Students' Association • North Island College Students' Union • Northern Lights College Students' Association • Northwest Community College Students' Association • Students' Union of the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design • Okanagan College Students' Union • Ontario College of Art & Design Students' Union • University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association • University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Students' Association • University of Prince Edward Island Students' Union • Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students • University of Regina Students' Union • Ryerson Students' Union • Continuing Education Students at Ryerson • College of the Rockies Students' Union • Association générale des étudiant(e)s de l'Université Sainte-Anne • Association des étudiant(e)s de l'Université de Saint Boniface • University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association • University of Saskatchewan Students' Union • Scarborough Campus Students' Union • Selkirk College Students' Association • Simon Fraser University Student Society • Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Students' Union • Society • University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union • Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students at the University of Toronto • University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council • Trent University Central Students' Association • Trent Graduate Student Association • Vancouver Community College Students' Union • University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society • University of Victoria Students' Society • Society of Graduate Students of the University of Western Ontario • Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association • University of Winnipeg Students' Association • University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society • University of Windsor Students' Alliance • York Federation of Students • York University Graduate Students' Association

## Vote February 7 - 9