



UNB Student Union Reactions to Federal Budget

March 22, 2016

Fredericton, NB: This afternoon the federal government presented the 2016 budget. Overall the UNB Student Union (UNBSU) notes that much of the federal budget demonstrates that the Canadian Government sees student's engagement in post-secondary education as an investment. One specific budget items that directly impact students is the increase to the Canadian Student Grants program.

"We are pleased to see movement to modernize this program," Says Katie Davey, UNBSU President, "It is important to continue this trend of investing in students, we hope that the provincial government follows this lead and invests in upfront grants for New Brunswick Students."

Additional budget items directly affecting students were an increase to the Repayment Assistance Plan from \$20,000 to \$25,000, adjustments to the Canada Student Loans Program, and a continued commitment to experiential learning.

"These are steps in the right direction, much of this budget reflects promises made during the election campaign," Says Vice-President External Travis Daley "We will continue advocate for further investment in post-secondary education and hope the government continues to grow their support of Canadian students."

The UNBSU has actively met with MPs and ministers making student needs clear. In early January, UNBSU President Katie Davey, spoke directly with Minister Morneau during his pre-budget consultations. In February, UNBSU representatives met with ministers and MPs in Ottawa and over the course of the last months have welcomed MPs to campus to hear the concerns of students.

-30-

Media Contact- Travis Daley, Vice-President External UNBSU, 506-458-7164, External@unbsu.ca