



Sask Budget meets promises, more work to be done

The University of Regina's Students' Union (URSU) is happy with the recent budget announcement from the Saskatchewan Government, who has considered many of the recommendations brought forth by URSU. Specifically the government of Saskatchewan has responded to requests to introduce a Saskatchewan Scholarship fund with a \$3-million dollar investment to the 'Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship'. The budget also addressed the need for additional childcare spaces on Saskatchewan campuses and included support for First Nations and Métis students, initiatives sought by URSU over the past year.

URSU Vice President External Affairs, Kaytlyn Barber, states, "we are grateful that the government has invested nearly \$25 million to keep tuition costs low, although we have concerns that this is the third year in a row that students have faced tuition increases without any long term plan to ensure post secondary education remains affordable for the students of our province." Steps made in Wednesday's budget show that the Saskatchewan Government is supportive of students and is committed to helping graduates find gainful employment.

URSU looks forward to continuing to work with the provincial government on the initiatives announced in Wednesday's budget to ensure that they move forward and provide funding directly to the students most in need, and that student input is considered throughout the process.

"We recognize there is more work to do, with Saskatchewan tuition fees expected to be in the middle of the pack among Canadian institutions, but we are grateful that the provincial government has taken steps to improve the accessibility of post-secondary education in our province and begun to break down many of the barriers students face," says Barber.

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