



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BUDGET ANALYSIS 2020

What does the budget mean for students?

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 The provincial government announced their "pandemic budget" with a priority on "stronger communities" and "smarter investments." However, the future does not look brighter for students in this province who face continued cuts from our public post-secondary institutions, climbing debt, and no tuition freeze for international and out of province students. This budget completely fails to address the chronic underfunding of our institutions that has led to crumbling infrastructures, loss of programming, and diminishing services.

STUDENT WIN

- Due to years of action and resistance by students, the Government committed to maintain the tuition freeze for residents from Newfoundland and Labrador

WHAT'S THE SAME

- Out of province and international students will not be protected by the tuition freeze.
- Memorial University had cuts to the operating budget instead of a reinstatement of funding.
- There was no commitment to reinstating the full needs-based grants program

OUR CONCLUSIONS

- The future of post-secondary education was not a priority for this government.
- Without the reinstatement of the full needs-based grants program, students in this province who are the most vulnerable will continue to accrue skyrocketing debt in an unstable labour market.
- Years of chronic underfunding to the College of the North Atlantic and Memorial University have not been addressed in this budget. Instead, the current government has continued to underfund the operating grants of these institutions