

43rd_e**Annual National General Meeting
Assemblée générale annuelle nationale**

November 9th to 12th 2024 - 9 au 12 novembre 2024

AGENDA**Opening Plenary**

November 2024 Annual National General Meeting

1. GRAND ENTRY (CIRCLE OF FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT STUDENTS)**2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL**

The Federation's Bylaws require that no less than one-half of the voting members of the Federation having voting rights be present in person or by proxy at the general meeting for business to be conducted. A roll call of the voting members will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm that a quorum of voting members is present.

British Columbia / Colombie-Britannique

Local / Section 26 Kwantlen Student Association	Present
Local / Section 86 College of the Rockies Students' Union	Absent
*Northern Undergraduate Student Society	Absent

Alberta

Local / Section 21 University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 42 Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association	Absent

Saskatchewan

Local / Section 09 University of Regina Students' Union	Absent
Local / Section 90 First Nations University of Canada Students Association	Absent
Local / Section 101 University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association	Present

Manitoba

Local / Section 08 University of Winnipeg Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 37 Brandon University Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 38 Association étudiante du Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface	Present
Local / Section 96 University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 103 University of Manitoba Students' Union	Absent

Ontario

Local / Section 1 Carleton University Students' Association	Absent
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Local / Section 19 University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 20 Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local / Section 24 Toronto Metropolitan University Students' Union	Absent
Local / Section 25 Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Present
Local / Section 27 Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Absent
Local / Section 30 Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local / Section 32 Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local / Section 47 University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Present
Local / Section 48 University of Windsor Graduate Student Society	Present
Local / Section 49 University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Absent
Local / Section 54 University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local / Section 56 Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 62 University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 68 York Federation of Students	Present
Local / Section 71 Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local / Section 78 Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 82 Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 84 York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 85 Saint Paul University Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 88 Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local / Section 92 Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local / Section 93 Glendon College Students' Union / Association des étudiants du Collège Glendon	Présent
Local / Section 94 University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association des étudiant(e)s diplômé(e)s de l'Université d'Ottawa	Present
Local / Section 97 Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local / Section 98 University of Toronto Students' Union	Absent
Local / Section 99 Scarborough Campus Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 102 Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 104 Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-Time Students	Absent
Local / Section 105 Toronto Metropolitan Association of Part-Time Students	Present
Local / Section 106 University of Windsor Organization of Part-time University Students	Present
Local / Section 109 University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 110 Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association / Association des étudiants(es) des études supérieures de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local / Section 112 Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Present
Local / Section 114 Association des étudiant-e-s de l'Université de Hearst	Absent
Local / Section 115 Toronto Metropolitan Graduate Students Union	Absent

New Brunswick / Nouveau-Brunswick

Local / Section 67 University of New Brunswick Graduate Students' Association **Present**

Prince Edward Island / Île-du-Prince-Édouard

Local / Section 31 University of Prince Edward Island Student Union **Absent**

Local / Section 63 Holland College Student Union **Absent**

Local / Section 70 University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association
Present

Nova Scotia / Nouvelle-Écosse

Local / Section 7 Student Union of NSCAD University **Present**

Local / Section 11 University of King's College Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 34 Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 69 Association générale des étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne **Present
by proxy**

Local / Section 95 Cape Breton University Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 113 Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students **Absent**

Newfoundland and Labrador / Terre-Neuve et Labrador

Local / Section 35 Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 36 Grenfell Campus Student Union **Present**

Local / Section 45 Marine Institute Students' Union
Present by proxy

Local / Section 46 College of the North Atlantic Students' Union
Present by proxy

Local / Section 100 Graduate Students' Union of the Memorial University of Newfoundland

*Prospective members / membres éventuels **Present**

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

A voting member that is unable to attend some or all of the general meeting may appoint another voting member to act as its proxy at the meeting in accordance with Bylaw II. Any appointments will be announced at this time.

Local 45 is proxying their vote to Local 36

Local 46 is proxying their vote to Local 100

Local 116 is proxying their vote to Local 09

Local 69 is proxying their vote to Local 11

Local 56 is proxying their vote to local 26

4. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

The plenary is the formal decision-making assembly at the general meeting. The Plenary Speaker chairs general meeting plenary sessions.

2024/11:N01 MOTION

Local 78/ Local 45

Be it resolved that Bilan Arte be ratified as the 2024 National General Meeting chair for the 2024/2025

CARRIED

5. WELCOME REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

National Chairperson Holly Star Tait, National Deputy Chairperson Jawad Chowdhury, and National Treasurer Ghisleine Oukouomi gave welcoming remarks, and called for a 1 minute observance of silence for National Manitoba Lead Marie-Paule Ehoussou and noted the presence of a grief counsellor and sharing circle.

6. ADOPTION OF THE PLENARY AGENDA

The plenary will consider the plenary agenda; any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 20 \Local 106

Be it resolved that the numbering in the agenda be amended to reflect the accurate numerical count. Changing numbers 16-19 to 13-16, item 12b be included and the adjusted agenda and the emergency motions 2024/11:03 be uploaded in the delegates binder in both French and English.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT

Local 68 / Local 11

Be it resolved that the opening plenary be paused from 3:30pm-3:45pm, and the National Executive Report be referred to the closing plenary.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

DISCUSSIONS:

Local 35 and local 88 have opposed this motion.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT

Local 11 / Local 94

Be it resolved to keep the Opening plenary open until 4:45 and that the Executive report be moved, should there not be enough time, be referred to 2:15 pm EST tomorrow, during the sub-committee plenary.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

2024/11:N02

CARRIED AS AMENDED

7. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The plenary will consider the proposed schedule for the four days of the general meeting; any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

8. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The plenary will consider the minutes of the previous National General Meeting.

2024/11:N03 MOTION

Local 106 / Local 35

Be it resolved that the agenda and minutes for the 2023 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students (-Services) be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

9. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

The Chair, Bilan Arte gave a short introduction to the rules of order and plenary procedures.

b. Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting

The anti-harassment officers; Nour El Houda Ines, Fanta Souare, Ahmed Abdallah, Mobólúwajídide 'bo Joseph, introduced themselves and their duties during the duration of the 43rd National General Meeting.

c. Announcement by the Staff Relations Officer

Gishleine Oukouomi explained that they served as the Staff Relations Officer for the Federation. Oukouomi stated that the staff of the Federation is unionized with the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1281 and that the relationship between the Federation and its staff is governed by a collective agreement. Acknowledged provincial staff as well and their work in running the NGM.

10. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee will provide an overview of the election schedule and procedures at this time.

a. Ratification of Electoral Officer

2024/11:N04 MOTION

Local 82/Local 93

Be it resolved to ratify Paige Booth as the Chief Electoral Officers for the 2024/2025 43rd Annual General Meeting; and

CARRIED

2024/11:N05 MOTION

Local 08/Local 99

Be it resolved to ratify Faduma Wais as the Deputy Returning Officer for the 43rd Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures

Booth and Wais provided an overview of the election schedule, positions and process.

11. ADOPTION OF STANDING PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDAS

As per Standing Resolution 1, Section 1, the following plenary sub-committees and forum are automatically struck:

- Budget Committee;
- Campaigns and Government Relations Forum;
- Organizational and Services Development Committee; and
- Policy Review and Development Committee.

The plenary will consider the plenary sub-committee and forum agendas prepared by the National Executive. Any changes or additions to the agendas may be proposed at this time.

2024/11:N06 MOTION

Local 82 / Local 32

Be it resolved that the sub-committee plenary agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

12. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

The Federation Bylaws require that all motions except those of an emergency or procedural nature be submitted no fewer than six weeks

prior to the general meeting at which they are to be considered.

a. New Motions Served with Notice

The following motions were submitted by member local associations and the National Executive with due notice for consideration at this meeting. They will require seconders in the opening plenary. New motions proposed by the National Executive will require a mover.

It is recommended that the following motions be considered by the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

2024/11:N01 MOTION

Anti- War Campaign

National Executive /

Whereas students are directly impacted by global conflicts through displacement, disrupted education, economic instability, and trauma and;

Whereas the ongoing genocides and state-sanctioned violence in Ukraine, Palestine, Congo, Sudan, Haiti and Lebanon have resulted in unimaginable suffering, including mass displacement, loss of life, and multiple accounts of violations of fundamental human rights, affecting students and communities globally;

Be it resolved that the Federation revamp its outdated Anti-War Campaign to address the ongoing genocide and war happening in Palestine, Congo, Sudan, Haiti, Lebanon and other conflict zones.

Be it further resolved that all provincial components be consulted during the development of the Anti-War Campaign;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive form a working group including members of the constituency Group Commission to guide the creation and development of the Anti-War Campaign;

Be it further resolved that the Federation commission comprehensive research documents on each conflict included in the Anti-War Campaign, ensuring the campaign addresses the unique challenges and realities of each situation;

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign materials be developed, and shared with the members for feedback by April 30, 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign materials will be ready for distribution at the next National General Meeting (NGM) in November 2025.

2024/11:N02 MOTION

Education for All: Expanding Student Advocacy Ahead of the Federal Elections

National Executive

Whereas the Federation's mandate is to advocate for free accessible, good quality education for all students across the country and;

Whereas the Federation previously struck an Education for All Coalition with various Coalition Partners to expand the fight for free, equitable, and inclusive access to post-secondary education and;

Whereas the upcoming Federal Elections present a critical opportunity to bring attention to student demands for accessible education and the need to align with broader social justice movements to organize together on issues such as affordable housing, food security, climate justice and more;

Be it resolved that the Federation revamps the Education for All campaign to align with the key priorities of the upcoming Federal Elections; already addressed in our 2024 Federal Lobby document;

Be it further resolved that the provincial components be consulted and engaged in this process to ensure regional relevance and unity in messaging;

Be it further resolved that the Federation reestablish the Education for All coalition through outreach and collaboration with solidarity/community partners, including labour unions, environmental justice organizations, and grassroots organizations, to create a united front for accessible education;

Be it further resolved that in preparation for the upcoming Federal Election the Federation campaign materials, including digital and print content, be updated to reflect current challenges;

Be it further resolved that the Federation incorporate a relatable social media strategy, leveraging platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, and X, to engage students, amplify the campaign's message, and increase visibility during the election period;

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign strategy be developed, and reviewed by members on or before February 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign and rollout to take place in the Summer of 2025.

2024/11:N03 MOTION

Affordable Housing Coalition

National Executive

Whereas the current housing crisis in Canada is a result of systemic underinvestment in affordable housing, deregulation of the housing market, and the prioritization of real estate as an investment vehicle and;

Whereas the government has increasingly shifted the blame for the housing crisis onto international students, unfairly scapegoating them rather than addressing the underlying structural causes of housing unaffordability and;

Whereas international students contribute significantly to Canada's economy, cultural diversity, and academic institutions, and deserve access to fair housing and resources without being unfairly targeted in political discourse and;

Whereas such blame-shifting risks inciting discrimination, and further marginalization of international students, while diverting attention from the real causes of the housing crisis, including unchecked real estate speculation, lack of rent controls, and insufficient public investment in affordable housing development and;

Therefore be it resolved that an Affordable Housing Coalition and campaign be reinvigorated with calls on the Canadian government to stop using international students as scapegoats for the housing crisis and to redirect efforts toward policies that address the root causes of housing unaffordability, including but not limited to:

Investment in Affordable Housing: Significant and sustained public investment in building non-market and social housing to meet the growing demand.

Stronger Rent Control Measures: Implementation of more robust rent control policies to protect tenants from escalating housing costs.

Increased Support for International Students: Implementation of policies that support international students' access to affordable housing, public transportation, and community services without discrimination.

A call for the Federal government to divest from excessive military spending for war and redirect those funds towards addressing the housing crisis and improving affordability, particularly in non-market housing development and public services that promote long-term housing stability.

Be it further resolved that the Affordable Housing Coalition works with student unions, labour unions, community groups, grassroots organizations, and housing advocates to counter the false narratives around international students and push for real solutions

to Canada's housing crisis;

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign materials be developed, and reviewed by members by May 30, 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign materials be ready for distribution on or before the next National General Meeting (NGM) in November 2025.

2024/11:07 MOTION

Local 20/Local 88

Be it resolved to have motions 2024/11:01, 2024/11:02 and 2024/11:03 be referred in Omnibus to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

It is recommended that the following motions be considered by the Budget Committee.

2024/11:N04 MOTION

Audited Financial Statements- CFS

National Executive

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students audited financial statements ending June 30, 2024 be ratified at the 2024 Annual General Meeting

2024/11:N05 MOTION

Audited Financial Statements- CFS- Services

National Executive

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Services audited financial statements ending June 30, 2024 be ratified at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

2024/11:N06 MOTION

Auditors for 2025

National Executive

Be it resolved that the National Executive recommended that Parker Prins Lebano be appointed as auditor to conduct the audit for financial statements of the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services, ending on June 30, 2025

2024/11:N07 MOTION

Revised Budget: 2024- 2025 Fiscal Year

National Executive

Be it resolved that the revised budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 be adopted at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

2024/11:N08 MOTION

Proposed Budget: 2025- 2026 Fiscal Year

National Executive

Be it resolved that the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026 be adopted at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

2024/11:08 MOTION

Local 07/Local 99

Be it resolved to have motions 2024/11:04, 2024/11:05, 2024/11:06, 2024/11:07, and 2024/11:08 be referred in Omnibus to the Budget Committee.

CARRIED

It is recommended that the following motions be considered by the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

2024/11:N09 MOTION

Restructure and Resource Allocation for Provincial Offices and Constituencies

Local 11

Whereas the resources dedicated to each provincial office vary wildly, diminishing the capacity of the Federation in many areas across the country, and;

Whereas the limited opportunities to meet within the constituency structure and the lack of resources provided to these spaces may not provide the best opportunities for marginalized students to be represented and supported within the Federation;

Be it resolved that the National Executive be mandated to conduct a review of the structure and resources of the national office, all provincial offices, and all Federation constituencies while reporting

to all locals quarterly on the progress of this review, and;

Be it further resolved that this review process include opportunities for all member locals to provide feedback on the current structures and on proposed changes, and;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive be mandated to use the results of this review to create a plan to restructure national and provincial offices to more efficiently provide Federation services while supporting the individual capacity building and development of locals, to be voted on at the 2025 National General Meeting, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan also includes proposals for restructuring constituencies and their resources and representation within the Federation to better represent and support marginalized voices, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan fully incorporates the recommendations of the Decolonization Audit into any proposed changes.

2024/11:N10 MOTION

Framework for National Consultation and Accountability to Locals

Local 11

Whereas Locals have received no updates on the Strategic Plan mandated by a motion passed at the Special General Meeting held in January 2024 as of September 23, 2024, and;

Whereas updates and opportunities to provide feedback were mandated by that same motion, and;

Whereas many locals have little to no contact with the National Office and struggle to connect with the overall goals of the Federation;

Be it resolved that a framework for seeking consultation, engagement and feedback from all locals be created by the National Executive and;

Be it further resolved that this framework include clear accountability structures for yearly reporting, updates on mandated projects, and other aspects of the Federation's work, and;

Be it further resolved that this framework will be presented for approval at the 2025 National General Meeting.

2024/11:N11 MOTION

Decertification Timeline

Local 26

Whereas the current timelines for decertification create significant hardship for local student association members who wish to decertify and discontinue as members of the Federation; and

Whereas imposing a requirement for the Federation's members to ratify a successful vote to decertify creates uncertainty regarding the outcome and legal impact of such a vote; therefore;

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.b. be amended by deleting the phrase "Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition" and substituting in place thereof the phrase "Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition";

b. Schedule

i. The National Executive will have the sole authority to determine whether the petition described in Bylaw I, Section 6.a is in order, including tabulating the total number of students who have signed the petition, and for greater certainty, any other tabulations or determinations shall be void and non-binding. ~~Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition,~~ **Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition;** the National Executive will review the petition to determine if it is in order and, if it is, in consultation with the member local student association, will schedule a vote. The National Executive will endeavor to schedule the referendum between ~~sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days~~ **within thirty (30) days** following its determination that the petition is in order.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.b. be amended by deleting the phrase "between sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days" and substituting in place thereof the phrase "within thirty (30) days"; and

b. Schedule

i. The National Executive will have the sole authority to determine whether the petition described in Bylaw I, Section 6.a is in order, including tabulating the total number of students who have signed the petition, and for greater certainty, any other tabulations or determinations shall be void and non-binding. ~~Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition,~~ **Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition";** the National

Executive will review the petition to determine if it is in order and, if it is, in consultation with the member local student association, will schedule a vote. The National Executive will endeavor to schedule the referendum between ~~sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days~~ **within thirty (30) days** following its determination that the petition is in order.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 7 be amended by deleting Sections 7.b. and 7.c. in their entirety and by deleting the last sentence of Section 7.a. and substituting in place thereof the following sentence:

“The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.”

7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

a. Following the holding of a vote in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6 pursuant to which it is determined that the relevant membership shall not continue, the applicable member local student association may provide a letter in writing notifying the Federation of its intention to decertify from the Federation. **Within ninety (90) ~~thirty (30) days of the receipt of such a letter, the National Executive will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the members of the Federation concerning the decertification. The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~**

~~b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the vote to decertify shall be put to a vote.~~

~~c. The decertification shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the vote to decertify provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 7.a. be amended by deleting the phrase “Within ninety (90) days of receipt of such a

letter” and substituting it with “Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such a letter”.

7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

a. Following the holding of a vote in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6 pursuant to which it is determined that the relevant membership shall not continue, the applicable member local student association may provide a letter in writing notifying the Federation of its intention to decertify from the Federation. Within ~~ninety (90)~~ thirty (30) days of the receipt of such a letter, ~~the National Executive will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the members of the Federation concerning the decertification.~~ **The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.**

~~b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the vote to decertify shall be put to a vote.~~

~~c. The decertification shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the vote to decertify provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~

2024/11:N12 MOTION

Voting by Electronic Means

Local 26

Whereas imposing a requirement for votes to decertify to be conducted only by paper ballots does not provide sufficient flexibility to local student association members; and

Whereas conducting votes by electronic means should be permitted, as it provides an efficient and convenient alternative to paper ballots and will encourage additional student engagement; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.i. be amended by inserting the phrase “or a ballot conducted by electronic means” after the phrase “Voting must be conducted by paper ballot”;

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.i. be amended by deleting the word "Voting" at the beginning of the second sentence and substituting in place thereof the phrase "If voting is by paper ballot, voting"; and

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.iv. be amended by deleting the word "The" at the beginning of the sentence and substituting in place thereof the phrase "If voting is conducted by paper ballot, the".

g. Voting and Tabulation

i. Voting must be conducted by paper ballot or a ballot conducted by electronic means and cannot be conducted in any other manner. ~~Voting~~ If voting is by paper ballot, voting must be conducted at voting stations or, subject to the agreement of the Chief Returning Officer, by mail-out ballot. It shall be the responsibility of the member local student association to obtain and provide to the Chief Returning Officer, no later than seven (7) days in advance of the vote, a list of all of the students eligible to vote. If the member local student association is unable to obtain or provide such a list, voting shall be conducted through a double envelope system, whereby the ballot is placed in an unmarked envelope, which is placed in a second envelope, on which the voter writes their full name and student identification number. After voting ends, the envelopes will be compared to a list of the students who are eligible to vote in the referendum. Duplicate ballots and ballots cast by ineligible voters shall be discarded. Once the validity of the votes has been verified, the outer envelopes will then be separated from the unmarked inner envelopes and tabulated.

ii. There shall be no less than sixteen (16) hours of polling over no less than two (2) and no more than five (5) days, except in the case of voting being conducted at a general meeting. In the event that voting is conducted at a general meeting, representatives of the Federation and Federation member local student associations shall be extended full speaking rights in the meeting.

iii. Unless mutually agreed otherwise by the member local student association and the Federation, the referendum question shall be: "Are you in favor of

continued membership in the Canadian Federation of Students?"

iv. ~~The~~ If voting is conducted by paper ballot, the member local student association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one (1) poll clerk for each polling station.

v. The member local student association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one (1) poll scrutineer to oversee the counting of ballots.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.c. be amended by inserting the following "ix. deciding the manner in which online voting shall be conducted and software to be utilized"

c. Chief Returning Officer

For each referendum on continued membership, the National Executive shall recommend an individual to serve as the Chief Returning Officer. The Chief Returning Officer's appointment is subject to ratification by a general meeting of the Federation. The Chief Returning Officer shall oversee the referendum and be responsible for:

- i. establishing the notice requirement for the referendum in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.d and ensuring that notice is posted;
- ii. establishing the campaign period in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.e;
- iii. approving all campaign materials in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.f and removing campaign materials that have not been approved;
- iv. deciding the number and location of polling stations;
- v. setting the hours of voting in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.g;
- vi. overseeing all aspects of the voting;
- vii. counting the ballots following the vote; and
- viii. establishing all other rules and regulations for the

vote:

ix. deciding the manner in which online voting shall be conducted and software to be utilized.

2024/11:N13 MOTION

Voting Threshold

Local 26

Whereas the current petition and quorum thresholds required in the decertification process create significant hardship for local student association members who wish to decertify and discontinue as members of the Federation; and

Whereas local student association members are faced with low student engagement in relation to matters requiring students to vote generally; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 3.a.iii. be amended by deleting the phrase “fifteen percent (15%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “two percent (2%)”;

3. Student and Member Rights

a. Rights of Students

i. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to make decisions through a vote on all questions of membership of the local student association in the Federation, subject to the other provisions of this Bylaw.

ii. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to initiate, by petition signed by not less than fifteen percent (15%) of such students and delivered to the National Executive, a vote to certify as described in Bylaw I, Section 4.

iii. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to initiate a vote on decertification, as described in Bylaw I, Section 6, by submitting to the National Executive of the Federation a petition, signed by not less than ~~fifteen percent (15%)~~ **two percent (2%) of such students**, calling for the vote.

Be it further resolved that the first paragraph of Bylaw I Section 6.a.

be amended by deleting the phrase “fifteen percent (15%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “two percent (2%)”; and

6. Vote to Decertify

The students collectively belonging to a member local student association may vote on the question of continuing the membership of the local student association, subject to the following rules and procedures:

a. Petition

As per Bylaw I, Section 3.a.iii, a petition calling for a vote on decertification shall be signed by no less than ~~fifteen percent (15%)~~ **two percent (2%)** of the students collectively belonging to the member local student association and delivered to the National Executive of the Federation.

Be it further resolved that the first paragraph of Bylaw I Section 6.h. be amended by deleting the phrase “ten percent (10%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “one percent (1%)”.

6. Vote to Decertify

h. Quorum

Quorum for any vote on decertification shall be that of the member local student association or ~~ten percent (10%)~~ **one percent (1%)** of the students collectively belonging to the local student association, whichever is higher.

2024/11:08 MOTION

Local 11/Local 45

Be it resolved to have motions 2024/11:09, 2024/11:10, 2024/11:11, 2024/11:12, and 2024/11:13 be referred to Omnibus in the Organisational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

12b. CONSIDERATION OF EMERGENCY MOTIONS

2024/11:E01: National General Unlimited Student Strike

Local 11/Local 92

Whereas all people have the right to education, in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and;

Whereas tuition is a limitation on the right of all people to seek out education, throughout Canada, and;

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students was formed in 1981, and in 43 years of consistently claiming to represent the national struggle for free or affordable postsecondary education, has consistently pursued tactics which have proven to be ineffective for achieving the goal of substantially reducing tuition in Canada, with only one exception, and;

Whereas the aforementioned exception is the 1995 National Action, which, in Newfoundland, resulted, by 1999, in a 25% reduction of tuition provincially, followed by a provincial tuition freeze, which lasted until 2022, and;

Whereas rising costs of living have reached a crisis point, and tuition prices continue to skyrocket across the country, and;

Whereas current student involvement in divestment campaigns is high, and students are prioritizing the divestment of their institutions from entities that inflict harm on peoples across the world, through global injustices like the genocide in Palestine, widespread violations of Indigenous rights, and the climate crisis, in contravention of basic human rights standards, and;

Whereas student mobilizations primarily in solidarity with Palestine, from encampments at campuses across the country and the world, campaigns such as Strike for Palestine, and Scholar Strike Canada, and other Palestinian-led movements across the country demonstrate that students are ready to take collective action;

Be it resolved that the National Executive develops and actively pursues a campaign for a national general unlimited student strike (henceforth the “2026 National Strike”), inviting all public postsecondary institutions across Canada to go on strike on a nationally coordinated timeline, with a unified set of demands, wherein the strike is scheduled to begin during the winter term of 2026, and;

Be it further resolved that the 2026 National Strike campaign will include and publicize 2 (two) demands associated with the strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the first demand be for “Affordable Tuition” at all public postsecondary institutions, and that this be defined as:

1. free tuition for all students who are First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, and otherwise Indigenous to Turtle Island,
2. free tuition for all students who hold the legal status of “refugee” in Canada,
3. free tuition for all Black students,
4. the abolition of differential fees for international students and of the federal cap on the number of international students,
5. a 30% decrease to all tuition fees for all students at public

postsecondary institutions across Canada, to be made possible by increased government funding, and

6. the implementation of a tuition freeze following that decrease, and;

Be it further resolved that the second demand be for “Divestment”, and that this be defined as divestment of all public postsecondary institutions across Canada from:

1. all weapons manufacturing or armament producing entities,
2. all entities directly involved in the production of fossil fuels,
3. all entities which directly or indirectly support genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and crimes of aggression as defined by the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (including but not limited to those supporting current genocides and crises in Palestine, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sudan), and
4. all entities which directly profit from the exploitation of resources on sovereign Indigenous land without the consent of the Indigenous people(s) with ancestral ties to that land, or that in any other way violate treaties between colonial governments and Indigenous peoples, and;

Be it further resolved that a Strike Committee be struck to assist in developing the campaign for the 2026 National Strike, by conducting research, consultation and analysis and reporting monthly on its activities to the National Executive, and;

Be it further resolved that the structure and membership of this committee be determined at the next meeting of the National Executive, ensuring that it includes the outgoing and incoming National At-Large as well as representation from all provinces, caucuses, and constituencies;

Be it further resolved that the Federation seeks to build coalitions with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the Quebec Student Union, and other national or provincial student organizations, as well as all individual student unions across Canada not represented by one of these groups, in the campaign for the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the current National Executive, in consultation with the aforementioned committee, researches and develops a comprehensive plan of action and timeline for the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan be drafted for the consideration of the 2024/2025 National Executive, prior to April 15, 2025, and that this plan be amended as necessary by the 2025/2026 National Executive after taking office and finalized by May 31 2025, and;

Be it further resolved that all necessary campaigning associated with the successful organization of the 2026 National Strike begin by July 1, 2025, and continue until the 2026 National Strike campaign has been completed, and;

Be it further resolved that during the months July, August, September and

October, of 2025, representatives of the Federation will visit, in-person, every local of the Federation across Canada, delivering all the necessary educational material, research, and organizing training for the successful execution of a general unlimited strike on each campus, as needed for the participation of each local in the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that all possible steps be taken by the National Executive to attempt to

persuade the Federal and Provincial governments, and each postsecondary institution associated with each member local, to make the necessary changes in order for the demands of “Affordable Tuition” and “Divestment” to be met prior to the start of the 2026 National Strike, thereby eliminating the need for a national general unlimited student strike in 2026.

2024/11:09 MOTION

Local 11 / Local 92

Be it resolved that the Emergency Motion 2024/11:E01 be referred to the Campaigns and Government Relations Forum.

CARRIED

2024/11:E02: Boycott, Divestment, Sanction Movement

Local 99/Local 71

Whereas there has been an illegal occupation conducted by the Zionist entity, known as “Israel”, on the Palestinian people since 1948; and

Whereas this occupation is sustained, largely in part, by economic support from companies with economic investments and fiscal ties to the occupation; and

Whereas since 2005, the Boycott Divest and Sanction (BDS) movement has challenged international support for the apartheid and illegal occupation of ‘Israel’; and Whereas the Boycott, Divestment, Sanction movement is a global movement that calls on unions, grassroots movements, academic associations, and individuals to pressure ‘Israel’ to comply with International Law; and

Whereas the implementation of a BDS policy would ensure the Federation, would avoid the purchasing of all goods with proven complicity in and direct ties to the ‘Israel’ apartheid and occupation, as determined by the official BDS coalition; and

Whereas in 2018, the Canadian Federation of Students officially endorsed the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) campaign and movement; and

Whereas, the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario and student unions across the country have also endorsed and implemented BDS policies; and

Whereas the Federation, in contradiction of its BDS stance, has provided non-BDS friendly products, such as Pepsi-co products, to the member locals and local representatives during the 43rd National General Meeting; and

Whereas Pepsi-co is a known supporter of the apartheid and occupation in Palestine financially and socially by purchasing an 'Israeli' company and giving it a wider market while also pledging to donate \$1 million to 'Israel' after October 7th; and

Whereas the Federation is an organization that stands for justice for students and is in open support to the Palestinian struggle; therefore

Be it resolved that all BDS products be immediately removed from the 43rd NGM meeting spaces; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation update the boycott list to confirm an updated list of BDS products; included but not limited to Pepsi-Co.; and

Be it further resolved that a list of BDS products be sent to all member locals by December 1, 2024; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation's Operations Policy, Boycotts, be enforced effective immediately.

2024/11:10 MOTION

Local 99 / Local 71

Be it resolved that the Emergency Motion 2024/11:E02 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2024/11:10 MOTION TO EXTEND TIME

Local 11 / Local 97

Be it resolved to extend the Opening Plenary meeting by 15 minutes to end by 5:05 pm EST

CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 36 / local 88

Be it resolved to extend the Opening Plenary meeting by 15 minutes to end by 5:30 pm EST

CARRIED AS AMENDED

2024/11:E03 : Respect of Bilingualism in the Canadian Federation of Students

Local 88 / Local 94

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is an officially bilingual

canada-wide organization that is committed to represent the linguistic diversity of Canada, in conjunction with its francophone and francophile locals and students; and

Whereas bilingualism within CFS is often relegated to the background, as we see in the majority of events in the last year that took place only in english without professional simultaneous translation, thus limiting access for francophones ; and

Whereas the CFS Executive has taken measures to avoid the cost of professional translation, notably restraining francophone participation in their events ;

Whereas on the thirteen documents of support for lobby week, only three were translated, and insufficiently so ; and

Whereas this situation contributes to the marginalized feeling of francophone locals and of the francophone commissioner au sentiment de marginalization des sections locales francophones et du commissaire francophone, who cannot fully express themselves ; and

Whereas the CFS is in violation of its own “operating policies” in matters of bilingualism.

Be it resolved that the CFS revise its internal policies to guarantee true bilingualism and to ensure linguistic equity without discrimination ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS ensures the availability of documents and of working materials in both official languages ; and

Be it resolved that bilingualism be reflected within the employees of CFS with the recruitment of a qualified person to ensure the quality of translations, both written and verbal ; and

Be it resolved that communications with francophone members be in french and that free material be provided to encourage the learning and improvement of French ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS collaborate with francophone and bilingual member locals to organize initiatives and events to promote French at the national level ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS conforms to its own policies and guidelines in terms of bilingualism.

2024/11:11 MOTION

Local 88/Local 94

Be it resolved to have Emergency Motion 2024/11:E03 be referred to the OSD Committee.

CARRIED

2024/11:E04 : Support for the creation of Sudbury University

as a University “by, for and with” francophone students.

Local 88

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is a bilingual organization with responsibilities towards francophone communities and students ; and

Whereas the province of Ontario includes the largest amount of francophones outside of Quebec ; and

Whereas the CFS represents postsecondary students in the north of Ontario ; and

Whereas the CFS is lacking in francophone and bilingual member locals ; and

Whereas in 2021, Laurentian University deleted more than 30 french programs essential to regional vitality, and ended its federation agreement with four other universities, including Sudbury University ; and

Whereas the response to the cuts to Laurentian University, and to the University of Sudbury were announced “by, from and with” francophones and plans for the opening of important programs in 2025-2026 as well as more than one million dollars in scholarships, which would contribute to francophone vitality and to the offering of a supplementary campus for francophone students ; and

Whereas Sudbury University, founded 1913, has historically supported french education, notably in the face of bylaw 17, that banned education in french within Ontario, and contributes to francophone student initiatives by committing to collaborate with them ; and

Whereas, according to a study from the Centre for Leadership and Evaluation (CLÉ), the economic impact of Sudbury University is estimated to be worth 89.3 million dollars for middle and northern Ontario in 2028-2029 ;

Whereas a motion was adopted during the AFO 2024 congress to support Sudbury University as a University “by, for and with” francophones, and is supported by many community organizations.

Be it resolved that the CFS supports the creation of Sudbury University as a University “by, for and with” francophone students to provide an additional campus for francophone and francophile students, thus reinforcing the vitality of the francophone community in the region and the province.

2024/11:11 MOTION

Local 88/ Local 56

Be it resolved to have Emergency Motion 2024/11:E04 be referred to the Campaigns and Government relations forum.

CARRIED

MOTION TO REFER

Local 88 / local 94

Be it resolved that Emergency motion be referred to the Organizational and Development committee.

13. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

As per Bylaw IV, Section 2, f., the National Executive will present a report to the plenary detailing the work of the Federation undertaken since the previous National General Meeting. As per Standing Resolution 3.6, the presentation of the report will be followed by a 30-minute period during which members may ask questions of the National Executive.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

16. RECESS

Opening Plenary adjourned for recess at 5:15pm EST

43rd_e

Annual National General Meeting Assemblée générale annuelle nationale

November 9th to 12th 2024 - 9 au 12 novembre 2024

AGENDA

Closing Plenary

November 2024 Annual National General Meeting

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

A roll call of the voting members will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm that a quorum of voting members is present.

British Columbia / Colombie-Britannique

Local / Section 26 Kwantlen Student Association **Present**

Local / Section 86 College of the Rockies Students' Union **Absent**

*Northern Undergraduate Student Society **Absent**

Alberta

Local / Section 21 University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association **Absent**

Local / Section 42 Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association **Absent**

Saskatchewan

Local / Section 09 University of Regina Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 90 First Nations University of Canada Students Association **Absent**

Local / Section 101 University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association **Present**

Local / Section 116 University of Regina Graduate Students' Association **Present**

Manitoba

Local / Section 08 University of Winnipeg Students' Association **Present**

Local / Section 37 Brandon University Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 38 Association étudiante du Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface

Present

Local / Section 96 University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association **Absent**

Local / Section 103 University of Manitoba Students' Union **Absent**

Ontario

Local / Section 1 Carleton University Students' Association **Absent**

Local / Section 19 University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 20 Nipissing University Student Union **Present**

Local / Section 24 Toronto Metropolitan University Students' Union **Absent**

Local / Section 25 Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union **Present**

Local / Section 27 Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Absent
Local / Section 30 Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local / Section 32 Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local / Section 47 University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Present
Local / Section 48 University of Windsor Graduate Student Society	Present
Local / Section 49 University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Absent
Local / Section 54 University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local / Section 56 Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 62 University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 68 York Federation of Students	Present
Local / Section 71 Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local / Section 78 Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 82 Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 84 York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local / Section 85 Saint Paul University Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 88 Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local / Section 92 Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local / Section 93 Glendon College Students' Union / Association des étudiants du Collège Glendon	Present
Local / Section 94 University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association des étudiant(e)s diplômé(e)s de l'Université d'Ottawa	Present
Local / Section 97 Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local / Section 99 Scarborough Campus Students' Union	Absent
Local / Section 102 Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local / Section 104 Laurentian Association of Mature and Part-Time Students	Absent
Local / Section 105 Toronto Metropolitan Association of Part-Time Students	Present
Local / Section 106 University of Windsor Organization of Part-time University Students	Present
Local / Section 109 University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local / Section 110 Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association / Association des étudiants(es) des études supérieures de l'Université Laurentienne	Present
Local / Section 112 Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Present
Local / Section 114 Association des étudiant-e-s de l'Université de Hearst	Present
Local / Section 115 Toronto Metropolitan Graduate Students Union	Absent
New Brunswick / Nouveau-Brunswick	
Local / Section 67 University of New Brunswick Graduate Students' Association	Present
Prince Edward Island / Île-du-Prince-Édouard	
Local / Section 31 University of Prince Edward Island Student Union	Absent
Local / Section 63 Holland College Student Union	Absent

Local / Section 70 University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association
Present

Nova Scotia / Nouvelle-Écosse

Local / Section 7 Student Union of NSCAD University **Present**

Local / Section 11 University of King's College Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 34 Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 69 Association générale des étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne
Present

Local / Section 95 Cape Breton University Students' Union **Present by proxy**

Local / Section 113 Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students **Absent**

Newfoundland and Labrador / Terre-Neuve et Labrador

Local / Section 35 Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 36 Grenfell Campus Student Union **Present**

Local / Section 45 Marine Institute Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 46 College of the North Atlantic Students' Union **Present**

Local / Section 100 Graduate Students' Union of the Memorial University of Newfoundland
Present

*Prospective members / membres éventuels

PRESENTATION OF PROXY

Local 45 is proxying their vote to Local 36

Local 46 is proxying their vote to Local 100

Local 56 is proxying their vote to Local 26 - Local 56 is absent for Closing Plenary, present at Opening Plenary

Local 116 is proxying their vote to Local 09

Local 69 is proxying their vote to Local 11

Local 102 is proxying their vote to Local 47- New proxy requested for closing plenary

2. SUPPORT AND ANTI-HARASSMENT PROCEDURES FOR CLOSING PLENARY

Anti-harassment Advisors Mobólúwajídide 'bo Joseph and Fanta Souare made a presentation.

3. OVERVIEW OF ELECTION PROCEDURES

The Electoral Officers provided an overview of the election procedures.

Chief Electoral Officer Booth and Deputy Returning Officer Wais provided an overview of the election schedule, positions and process.

4. BUSINESS TABLED FROM OPENING PLENARY

Business Carried Forward from the Opening Plenary will be dealt with at this time.

The National Executive entertained a 30 minute question period regarding their national executive report.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The Budget Committee will present its report for consideration by the plenary.

2024/11:N04 MOTION

National Executive / Local 07

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students audited financial statements ending June 30, 2024 be ratified at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

2024/11:N05 MOTION

The National Executive / Local 07

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Services audited financial statements ending June 30, 2024 be ratified at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

A. FINANCIAL AUDITORS

2024/11:N06 MOTION

The National Executive / Local 07

Be it resolved that the National Executive recommended that Parker Prins Lebano be appointed as auditor to conduct the audit for financial statements of the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services, ending on June 30, 2024.

CARRIED

A. BUDGETS

2024/11:N07 MOTION

The National Executive / Local 07

Be it resolved that the revised budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 be adopted at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

2024/11:N08 MOTION

The National Executive / Local 07

Be it resolved that the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 be adopted at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

2024/11:N09 MOTION TO ADOPT

Local 99/ Local 68

Be it resolved that the Budget Committee Reports and recommendations be adopted as recommended.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FORUM REPORT

The Campaigns and Government Relations Forum will present its report for consideration by the plenary.

The following motions were submitted by member local associations with due notice for consideration at this meeting.

2024/11:N01 MOTION

Anti-War Campaign

National Executive / Local 20

Whereas students are directly impacted by global conflicts through displacement, disrupted education, economic instability, and trauma and;

Whereas the ongoing genocides and state-sanctioned violence in Ukraine, Palestine, Congo, Sudan, Haiti and Lebanon have resulted in unimaginable suffering, including mass displacement, loss of life, and multiple accounts of violations of fundamental human rights, affecting students and communities globally;

Be it resolved that the Federation revamp its outdated Anti-War Campaign to address the ongoing genocide and war happening in Palestine, Congo, Sudan, Haiti, Lebanon and other conflict zones.

Be it further resolved that all provincial components be consulted during the development of the Anti-War Campaign;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive form a working group including members of the constituency Group Commission to guide the creation and development of the Anti-War Campaign;

~~Be it further resolved that the Federation commission comprehensive research documents on each conflict included in the~~

~~Anti-War Campaign, ensuring the campaign addresses the unique challenges and realities of each situation;~~

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign materials be developed, and shared with the members for feedback by April 30, 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign materials be ready for distribution at the next National General Meeting (NGM) in November 2025.

2024/11:CGR-01 Motion to amend

Local 82 / Local 7

Be it further resolved that CFS Includes Student Autonomy in the Anti War Campaign As students' unions are continuously getting targeted by administrations and the government.

2024/11:CGR-02 Motion to amend

Local 56 / Local 82

Be it resolved that the Federation commission comprehensive research documents (**i.e., ones that include the citation of legitimate sources as required in best practice, integrates the voices of students affected by the crises, and engaged in methodological transparency**) on each conflict included in the anti-war campaign to ensure the campaign **presents** the unique challenges and realities of each situation **equitably**.

The committee recommends recommends to adopt of the following motion (2024/11:N02) [with subsequent amendments (CRG-03)]:

2024/11:N02 MOTION

Education for All: Expanding Student Advocacy Ahead of the Federal Elections

National Executive / Local 20

Whereas the Federation's mandate is to advocate for free accessible, good quality education for all students across the country and;

Whereas the Federation previously struck an Education for All Coalition with various Coalition Partners to expand the fight for free, equitable, and inclusive access to post-secondary education and;

Whereas the upcoming Federal Elections present a critical opportunity to bring attention to student demands for accessible education and the need to align with broader social justice

movements to organize together on issues such as affordable housing, food security, climate justice and more;

Be it resolved that the Federation revamps the Education for All campaign to align with the key priorities of the upcoming Federal Elections; already addressed in our 2024 Federal Lobby document;

Be it further resolved that the provincial components be consulted and engaged in this process to ensure regional relevance and unity in messaging;

Be it further resolved that the Federation reestablish the Education for All coalition through outreach and collaboration with solidarity/community partners, including labour unions, environmental justice organizations, and grassroots organizations, to create a united front for accessible education;

Be it further resolved that in preparation for the upcoming Federal Election the Federation campaign materials, including digital and print content, be updated to reflect current challenges;

Be it further resolved that the Federation incorporate a relatable social media strategy, leveraging platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, and X, to engage students, amplify the campaign's message, and increase visibility during the election period;

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign strategy be developed, and reviewed by members on or before February 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign and rollout to take place in the Summer of 2025.

2024/11:CGR-03

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 82 / Local 7

Be it further resolved that the Federation incorporate a relatable social media strategy, leveraging platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, and X, **and Facebook**, to engage students, amplify the campaign's message, and increase visibility during the election period;

The committee recommends recommends to adopt of the following motion (2024/11:N03):

2024/11:N03 MOTION

Affordable Housing Coalition

National Executive / Local 20

Whereas the current housing crisis in Canada is a result of systemic underinvestment in affordable housing, deregulation of the housing market, and the prioritization of real estate as an investment vehicle and;

Whereas the government has increasingly shifted the blame for the housing crisis onto international students, unfairly scapegoating them rather than addressing the underlying structural causes of housing unaffordability and;

Whereas international students contribute significantly to Canada's economy, cultural diversity, and academic institutions, and deserve access to fair housing and resources without being unfairly targeted in political discourse and;

Whereas such blame-shifting risks inciting discrimination, and further marginalization of international students, while diverting attention from the real causes of the housing crisis, including unchecked real estate speculation, lack of rent controls, and insufficient public investment in affordable housing development and;

Therefore be it resolved that an Affordable Housing Coalition and campaign be reinvigorated with calls on the Canadian government to stop using international students as scapegoats for the housing crisis and to redirect efforts toward policies that address the root causes of housing unaffordability, including but not limited to:

Investment in Affordable Housing: Significant and sustained public investment in building non-market and social housing to meet the growing demand.

Stronger Rent Control Measures: Implementation of more robust rent control policies to protect tenants from escalating housing costs.

Increased Support for International Students: Implementation of policies that support international students' access to affordable housing, public transportation, and community services without discrimination.

A call for the Federal government to divest from excessive military spending for war and redirect those funds towards addressing the housing crisis and improving affordability, particularly in non-market housing development and public services that promote long-term housing stability.

Be it further resolved that the Affordable Housing Coalition works with student unions, labour unions, community groups, grassroots organizations, and housing advocates to counter the false narratives around international students and push for real solutions to Canada's housing crisis;

Be it further resolved that the initial draft of the campaign materials be developed, and reviewed by members by May 30, 2025, 2025, for feedback and the final version of the campaign materials be ready for distribution on or before the next National General Meeting (NGM) in November 2025.

The committee recommends to adopt of the following motion (2024/11:E04):

2024/11:E04 :

Support for the creation of Sudbury University as a University “by, for and with” francophone students.

Local 88 / Local 56

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is a bilingual organization with responsibilities towards francophone communities and students ; and

Whereas the province of Ontario includes the largest amount of francophones outside of Quebec ; and

Whereas the CFS represents postsecondary students in the north of Ontario ; and

Whereas the CFS is lacking in francophone and bilingual member locals ; and

Whereas in 2021, Laurentian University deleted more than 30 french programs essential to regional vitality, and ended its federation agreement with four other universities, including Sudbury University ; and

Whereas the response to the cuts to Laurentian University, and to the University of Sudbury were announced “by, from and with” francophones and plans for the opening of important programs in 2025-2026 as well as more than one million dollars in scholarships, which would contribute to francophone vitality and to the offering of a supplementary campus for francophone students ; and

Whereas Sudbury University, founded 1913, has historically supported french education, notably in the face of bylaw 17, that banned education in french within Ontario, and contributes to francophone student initiatives by committing to collaborate with them ; and

Whereas, according to a study from the Centre for Leadership and Evaluation (CLÉ), the economic impact of Sudbury University is

estimated to be worth 89.3 million dollars for middle and northern Ontario in 2028-2029 ;

Whereas a motion was adopted during the AFO 2024 congress to support Sudbury University as a University “by, for and with” francophones, and is supported by many community organizations.

Be it resolved that the CFS supports the creation of Sudbury University as a University “by, for and with” francophone students to provide an additional campus for francophone and francophile students, thus reinforcing the vitality of the francophone community in the region and the province.

The committee recommends referral to the national executive of the following motion (2024/11:E01) [with subsequent amendments (CRG-04)]:

2024/11:E01

National General Unlimited Student Strike

Local 7 / Local 11

Whereas all people have the right to education, in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and;

Whereas tuition is a limitation on the right of all people to seek out education, throughout Canada, and;

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students was formed in 1981, and in 43 years of consistently claiming to represent the national struggle for free or affordable postsecondary education, has consistently pursued tactics which have proven to be ineffective for achieving the goal of substantially reducing tuition in Canada, with only one exception, and;

Whereas the aforementioned exception is the 1995 National Action, which, in Newfoundland, resulted, by 1999, in a 25% reduction of tuition provincially, followed by a provincial tuition freeze, which lasted until 2022, and;

Whereas rising costs of living have reached a crisis point, and tuition prices continue to skyrocket across the country, and;

Whereas current student involvement in divestment campaigns is high, and students are prioritizing the divestment of their institutions from entities that inflict harm on peoples across the world, through global injustices like the genocide in Palestine, widespread violations of Indigenous rights, and the climate crisis, in contravention of basic human rights standards, and;

Whereas student mobilizations primarily in solidarity with Palestine, from encampments at campuses across the country and the world, campaigns such as Strike for Palestine, and Scholar Strike Canada, and other Palestinian-led movements across the country demonstrate that students are ready to take collective action;

Be it resolved that the National Executive develops and actively pursues a campaign for a national general unlimited student strike (henceforth the “2026 National Strike”), inviting all public postsecondary institutions across Canada to go on strike on a nationally coordinated timeline, with a unified set of demands, wherein the strike is scheduled to begin during the winter term of 2026, and;

Be it further resolved that the 2026 National Strike campaign will include and publicize 2 (two) demands associated with the strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the first demand be for “Affordable Tuition” at all public postsecondary institutions, and that this be defined as:

1. free tuition for all students who are First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, and otherwise Indigenous to Turtle Island,
2. free tuition for all students who hold the legal status of “refugee” in Canada,
3. free tuition for all Black students,
4. the abolition of differential fees for international students and of the federal cap on the number of international students,
5. a 30% decrease to all tuition fees for all students at public postsecondary institutions across Canada, to be made possible by increased government funding, and
6. the implementation of a tuition freeze following that decrease, and;

Be it further resolved that the second demand be for “Divestment”, and that this be defined as divestment of all public postsecondary institutions across Canada from:

1. all weapons manufacturing or armament producing entities,
2. all entities directly involved in the production of fossil fuels,
3. all entities which directly or indirectly support genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and crimes of aggression as defined by the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (including but not limited to those supporting current genocides and crises in Palestine, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sudan), and
4. all entities which directly profit from the exploitation of resources on sovereign Indigenous land without the consent of the Indigenous people(s) with ancestral ties to that land, or that in any other way violate treaties between colonial governments and Indigenous peoples, and;

Be it further resolved that a Strike Committee be struck to assist in developing the campaign for the 2026 National Strike, by conducting research, consultation and analysis and reporting monthly on its activities to the National Executive, and;

Be it further resolved that the structure and membership of this committee be determined at the next meeting of the National Executive, ensuring that it includes the outgoing and incoming National At-Large as well as representation from all provinces, caucuses, and constituencies;

Be it further resolved that the Federation seeks to build coalitions with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the Quebec Student Union, and other national or provincial student organizations, as well as all individual student unions across Canada not represented by one of these groups, in the campaign for the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the current National Executive, in consultation with the aforementioned committee, researches and develops a comprehensive plan of action and timeline for the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan be drafted for the consideration of the 2024/2025 National Executive, prior to April 15, 2025, and

that this plan be amended as necessary by the 2025/2026 National Executive after taking office and finalized by May 31 2025, and;

Be it further resolved that all necessary campaigning associated with the successful organization of the 2026 National Strike begin by July 1, 2025, and continue until the 2026 National Strike campaign has been completed, and;

Be it further resolved that during the months July, August, September and October, of 2025, representatives of the Federation will visit, in-person, every local of the Federation across Canada, delivering all the necessary educational material, research, and organizing training for the successful execution of a general unlimited strike on each campus, as needed for the participation of each local in the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that all possible steps be taken by the National Executive to attempt to persuade the Federal and Provincial governments, and each postsecondary institution associated with each member local, to make the necessary changes in order for the demands of “Affordable Tuition” and “Divestment” to be met prior to the start of the 2026 National Strike, thereby eliminating the need for a national general unlimited student strike in 2026.

2024/11:CGR-04

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 7 / Local 11

Remove Paragraph 2

~~Be it further resolved that the 2026 National Strike campaign will include and publicize 2 (two) demands associated with the strike, and;~~

Add:

Be it further resolved that the 2026 National Strike campaign will include and publicize 2 (two) demands associated with the strike, and that the actions required for federal, provincial, and territorial governments to meet these demands will be decided by the National Executive in consultation with the all recognized constituency groups and caucuses within the Federation, all

provincial components of the Federation, and including ample opportunity for input from every individual local within the federation, resulting in a final list of national demands being published prior to September 6, 2025 and;

Remove Paragraphs 3, 4

~~Be it further resolved that the first demand be for “Affordable Tuition” at all public postsecondary institutions, and that this be defined as:~~

- ~~1. free tuition for all students who are First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, and otherwise Indigenous to Turtle Island,~~
- ~~2. free tuition for all students who hold the legal status of “refugee” in Canada,~~
- ~~3. free tuition for all Black students,~~
- ~~4. the abolition of differential fees for international students and of the federal cap on the number of international students,~~
- ~~5. a 30% decrease to all tuition fees for all students at public postsecondary institutions across Canada, to be made possible by increased government funding, and~~
- ~~6. the implementation of a tuition freeze following that decrease, and;~~

~~Be it further resolved that the second demand be for “Divestment”, and that this be defined as divestment of all public postsecondary institutions across Canada from:~~

- ~~1. all weapons manufacturing or armament producing entities,~~
- ~~2. all entities directly involved in the production of fossil fuels,~~
- ~~3. all entities which directly or indirectly support genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and crimes of aggression as defined by the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (including but not limited to those supporting current genocides and crises in Palestine, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sudan), and~~
- ~~4. all entities which directly profit from the exploitation of resources on sovereign Indigenous land without the consent of the Indigenous people(s) with ancestral ties to that land, or that in any other way violate treaties between colonial governments and Indigenous peoples, and;~~

Add:

Be it further resolved that included in the research and monthly reports to the National Executive, the aforementioned Committee will conduct in depth research into:

1. the legal precedent for students strikes in Canada, including the history and success of the Quebec 2012 provincial student strike,
2. the legal protections for, and safety of, international students participating in student strikes in Canada,
3. the specific vulnerabilities that graduate students, and students conducting research but not attending classes, may face during a national student strike in Canada, and how to protect such students in accordance with provincial and federal law,
4. the right of student unions to conduct general votes of their membership to decide whether or not to go on strike, and
5. the rights of international students to participate in such strikes when a strike mandate has been passed by their union, and;

Be it further resolved that also included in the research and monthly reports to the National Executive, the aforementioned Committee will conduct in depth research into how CFS can provide support and safety to all students, and especially international students, during a national general unlimited strike, including the strategic allocation of legal resources, the proactive development of legal challenges against provincial and federal governments regarding the right of all students in Canada to strike, a plan for how CFS can set a precedent for the right of all students in Canada, including international students, to go on strike, and a plan to ensure the protection of all marginalized students throughout Canada during the time of the strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the research committee does develop a set of draft alternative budgets for both the federal government, as well as all provincial and territorial governments, to propose ways in which funds may be allocated to allow for reduced tuition fees throughout Canada, and that this draft alternative budget be presented to the National Executive for approval, prior to April 15, 2025, and;

Remove Paragraph 6

~~Be it further resolved that the structure and membership of this committee be determined at the next meeting of the National Executive, ensuring that it includes the outgoing and incoming National At-Large as well as representation from all provinces, caucuses, and constituencies;~~

Add:

Be it further resolved that the structure and membership of this committee be determined at the next meeting of the National Executive, ensuring that it includes the outgoing National At-large until April 15, 2025, and the incoming National At-Large as well as representation from all provinces, caucuses, and constituencies, until the business of the committee is resolved, and;

Be it further resolved that included in the research and monthly reports to the National Executive, the aforementioned Committee will conduct in depth research into:

1. the legal precedent for students strikes in Canada, including the history and success of the Quebec 2012 provincial student strike,
2. the legal protections for, and safety of, international students participating in student strikes in Canada,
3. the specific vulnerabilities that graduate students, and students conducting research but not attending classes, may face during a national student strike in Canada, and how to protect such students in accordance with provincial and federal law,
4. the right of student unions to conduct general votes of their membership to decide whether or not to go on strike, and
5. the rights of international students to participate in such strikes when a strike mandate has been passed by their union, and;

DRAFT

Be it further resolved that also included in the research and monthly reports to the National Executive, the aforementioned Committee will conduct in depth research into how CFS can provide support and safety to all students, and especially international students, during a national general unlimited strike, including the strategic allocation of legal resources, the proactive development of legal challenges against provincial and federal governments regarding the right of all students in Canada to strike, a plan for how CFS can set a precedent for the right of all students in Canada, including international students, to go on strike, and a plan to ensure the protection of all marginalized students throughout Canada during the time of the strike, and;

Be it further resolved that the research committee does develop a set of draft alternative budgets for both the federal government, as well as all provincial and territorial governments, to propose ways in which funds may be allocated to allow for reduced tuition fees throughout Canada, and that this draft alternative budget be presented to the National Executive for approval, prior to April 15, 2025, and;

Be it further resolved that the structure and membership of this committee be determined at the next meeting of the National Executive, ensuring that it includes the outgoing National At-large until April 15, 2025, and the incoming National At-Large as well as representation from all provinces, caucuses, and constituencies, until the business of the committee is resolved, and;

Remove Paragraph 11:

~~Be it further resolved that during the months July, August, September and October, of 2025, representatives of the Federation will visit, in-person, every local of the Federation across Canada, delivering all the necessary educational material, research, and organizing training for the successful execution of a general unlimited strike on each campus, as needed for the participation of each local in the 2026 National Strike, and;~~

Add:

Be it further resolved that during the months July, August, September and October, of 2025, representatives of the Federation will visit, for every local where it is possible and feasible, in-person, every local of the Federation across Canada, delivering all the necessary educational material, research, and organizing training

for the successful execution of a general unlimited strike on each campus, as needed for the participation of each local in the 2026 National Strike, and;

“Be it further resolved that for every local where it is not possible and feasible for representatives of the Federation to visit in-person, whether due to their business being conducted entirely online, or otherwise, the Federation will, during the months July, August, September and October, of 2025, make available online options for the delivery of all the necessary educational material, research, and organizing training for the successful execution of a general unlimited strike on each campus, as needed for the participation of each local in the 2026 National Strike, and;

Be it further resolved that research and organizing efforts will be carried out without any delay, but that this National General Unlimited Strike will not be executed by the Federation prior to a final approval by the majority of the membership locals at the next National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students, after reports on the history and feasibility of the National strike, as well as the risks associated with the strike, for all students, and the protections that the Federation is prepared to provide, have been distributed to all locals with at least one month to review prior to the meeting.

2024/11:N10 MOTION TO ADOPT

Local 106 / Local 82

Be it resolved that the Campaigns Committee Reports and recommendations be adopted as recommended.

CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION OF THE POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Policy Review and Development Committee will present its report for consideration by the plenary.

NO MOTIONS WERE REFERRED TO POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSIONS

2024/11: N11 MOTION TO ADOPT

Local 08/Local 101

Be it resolved that the Policy Review and Development Committee Report be adopted as recommended.

CARRIED

8. PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Organizational and Services Development Committee will present its report for consideration by the plenary.

The following motions were submitted by member local associations with due notice for consideration at this meeting.

2024/11:N09 MOTION

Restructure and Resource Allocation for Provincial Offices and Constituencies

Local 11/Local 45

Whereas the resources dedicated to each provincial office vary wildly, diminishing the capacity of the Federation in many areas across the country, and;

Whereas the limited opportunities to meet within the constituency structure and the lack of resources provided to these spaces may not provide the best opportunities for marginalized students to be represented and supported within the Federation;

Be it resolved that the National Executive be mandated to conduct a review of the structure and resources of the national office, all provincial offices, and all Federation constituencies while reporting to all locals quarterly on the progress of this review, and;

Be it further resolved that this review process include opportunities for all member locals to provide feedback on the current structures and on proposed changes, and;

Be it further resolved that the National Executive be mandated to use the results of this review to create a plan to restructure national and provincial offices to more efficiently provide Federation services while supporting the individual capacity building and development of locals, to be voted on at the 2025 National General Meeting, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan also includes proposals for restructuring constituencies and their resources and representation

within the Federation to better represent and support marginalized voices, and;

Be it further resolved that this plan fully incorporates the recommendations of the Decolonization Audit into any proposed changes.

The committee recommends **adoption** of the following motion (2024/11:N10) :

2024/11:N10 MOTION

Framework for National Consultation and Accountability to Locals

Local 11/Local 45

Whereas Locals have received no updates on the Strategic Plan mandated by a motion passed at the Special General Meeting held in January 2024 as of September 23, 2024, and;

Whereas updates and opportunities to provide feedback were mandated by that same motion, and;

Whereas many locals have little to no contact with the National Office and struggle to connect with the overall goals of the Federation;

Be it resolved that a framework for seeking consultation, engagement and feedback from all locals be created by the National Executive and;

Be it further resolved that this framework include clear accountability structures for yearly reporting, updates on mandated projects, and other aspects of the Federation's work, and;

Be it further resolved that this framework will be presented for approval at the 2025 National General Meeting.

The committee recommends **defeat** of the following motion (2024/11:N11) :

2024/11:N12 MOTION TO ADOPT

Local 109 / Local 77

Be it resolved that the Organizational, Services, and Development Committee and recommendations be adopted as recommended except motions 2024/11:11, 2024/11:12, and 2024/11:13.

CARRIED

2024/11:N11 MOTION

Decertification Timeline

Local 26/Local 45

Whereas the current timelines for decertification create significant hardship for local student association members who wish to decertify and discontinue as members of the Federation; and

Whereas imposing a requirement for the Federation's members to ratify a successful vote to decertify creates uncertainty regarding the outcome and legal impact of such a vote; therefore;

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.b. be amended by deleting the phrase "Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition" and substituting in place thereof the phrase "Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition";

b. Schedule

i. The National Executive will have the sole authority to determine whether the petition described in Bylaw I, Section 6.a is in order, including tabulating the total number of students who have signed the petition, and for greater certainty, any other tabulations or determinations shall be void and non-binding. ~~Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition,~~ **Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition**"; the National Executive will review the petition to determine if it is in order and, if it is, in consultation with the member local student association, will schedule a vote. The National Executive will endeavor to schedule the referendum between ~~sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days~~ **within thirty (30) days** following its determination that the petition is in order.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.b. be amended by deleting the phrase "between sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days" and substituting in place thereof the phrase "within thirty (30) days"; and

b. Schedule

i. The National Executive will have the sole authority to determine whether the petition described in Bylaw I, Section 6.a is in order, including tabulating the total number of students who have signed the petition, and for greater certainty, any other tabulations or determinations shall be void and non-binding. ~~Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition,~~ **Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition**"; the National Executive will review the petition to determine if it is in order and, if it is, in consultation with the member

local student association, will schedule a vote. The National Executive will endeavor to schedule the referendum between ~~sixty (60) days and ninety (90) days~~ **within thirty (30) days** following its determination that the petition is in order.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 7 be amended by deleting Sections 7.b. and 7.c. in their entirety and by deleting the last sentence of Section 7.a. and substituting in place thereof the following sentence:

“The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.”

7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

a. Following the holding of a vote in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6 pursuant to which it is determined that the relevant membership shall not continue, the applicable member local student association may provide a letter in writing notifying the Federation of its intention to decertify from the Federation. Within ~~ninety (90)~~ **thirty (30)** days of the receipt of such a letter, ~~the National Executive will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the members of the Federation concerning the decertification.~~ **The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.**

~~b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the vote to decertify shall be put to a vote.~~

~~c. The decertification shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the vote to decertify provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 7.a. be amended by deleting the phrase “Within ninety (90) days of receipt of such a letter” and substituting it with “Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such a letter”.

7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

a. Following the holding of a vote in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6 pursuant to which it is determined that the relevant membership shall not continue, the applicable member local student association may provide a letter in writing notifying the Federation of its intention to decertify from the Federation. Within ~~ninety (90)~~ **thirty (30)** days of the receipt of such a letter, ~~the National Executive will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the members of the Federation concerning the decertification.~~ **The decertification shall take effect on the date the Federation receives such letter provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.**

~~b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the vote to decertify shall be put to a vote.~~

~~c. The decertification shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the vote to decertify provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~

2024/11:N13 MOTION TO REFER

Local 11/Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:11 be referred to the National Executive for further research, review and study provide their findings and recommendations at the 2025 National General Meeting

MOTION TO CALL TO QUESTION

Local 11/Local 105

Be it resolved that the motion to refer be put to a vote.

CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED AS REFERRED

The committee recommends defeat of the following motion (2024/11:N12):

2024/11:N12 MOTION

Voting by Electronic Means

Local 26/Local 45

Whereas imposing a requirement for votes to decertify to be conducted only by paper ballots does not provide sufficient flexibility to local student association members; and

Whereas conducting votes by electronic means should be permitted, as it provides an efficient and convenient alternative to paper ballots and will encourage additional student engagement; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.i. be amended by inserting the phrase “or a ballot conducted by electronic means” after the phrase “Voting must be conducted by paper ballot”;

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.i. be amended by deleting the word “Voting” at the beginning of the second sentence and substituting in place thereof the phrase “If voting is by paper ballot, voting”; and

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.g.iv. be amended by deleting the word “The” at the beginning of the sentence and substituting in place thereof the phrase “If voting is conducted by paper ballot, the”.

g. Voting and Tabulation

i. Voting must be conducted by paper ballot **or a ballot conducted by electronic means** and cannot be conducted in any other manner. ~~Voting~~ **If voting is by paper ballot, voting** must be conducted at voting stations or, subject to the agreement of the Chief Returning Officer, by mail-out ballot. It shall be the responsibility of the member local student association to obtain and provide to the Chief Returning Officer, no later than seven (7) days in advance of the vote, a list of all of the students eligible to vote. If the member local student association is unable to obtain or provide such a list, voting shall be conducted through a double envelope system, whereby the ballot is placed in an unmarked envelope, which is placed in a second envelope, on which the voter writes their full name and student identification number. After voting ends, the envelopes will be compared to a list of the students who are eligible to vote in the referendum. Duplicate ballots and ballots cast by ineligible voters shall be discarded. Once the validity of the votes has been verified, the outer envelopes will then be separated from the unmarked inner envelopes and tabulated.

ii. There shall be no less than sixteen (16) hours of polling over no less than two (2) and no more than five (5) days, except in the case of voting being conducted

at a general meeting. In the event that voting is conducted at a general meeting, representatives of the Federation and Federation member local student associations shall be extended full speaking rights in the meeting.

iii. Unless mutually agreed otherwise by the member local student association and the Federation, the referendum question shall be: "Are you in favor of continued membership in the Canadian Federation of Students?"

iv. ~~The~~ **If voting is conducted by paper ballot, the** member local student association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one (1) poll clerk for each polling station.

v. The member local student association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one (1) poll scrutineer to oversee the counting of ballots.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw I Section 6.c. be amended by inserting the following "ix. deciding the manner in which online voting shall be conducted and software to be utilized"

c. Chief Returning Officer

For each referendum on continued membership, the National Executive shall recommend an individual to serve as the Chief Returning Officer. The Chief Returning Officer's appointment is subject to ratification by a general meeting of the Federation. The Chief Returning Officer shall oversee the referendum and be responsible for:

- i. establishing the notice requirement for the referendum in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.d and ensuring that notice is posted;
- ii. establishing the campaign period in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.e;
- iii. approving all campaign materials in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.f and removing campaign materials that have not been approved;
- iv. deciding the number and location of polling stations;
- v. setting the hours of voting in accordance with Bylaw I, Section 6.g;
- vi. overseeing all aspects of the voting;
- vii. counting the ballots following the vote; and

viii. establishing all other rules and regulations for the vote:

ix. deciding the manner in which online voting shall be conducted and software to be utilized.

2024/11:N14

MOTION TO REFER

Local 07 / Local 68

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:12 be referred to the National Executive for review, research and study to provide their findings and recommendations at the 2025 National General Meeting.

CARRIED

PROPOSAL OF MEETING EXTENSION

Local 9/ Local 38

Be it resolved that the speakers list be extended to 5 more speakers 'for' and 4 more speakers 'against' the Motion to Refer.

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED AS REFERRED

2024/11:N15

PROPOSAL OF MEETING EXTENSION

Local 32/Local 11

Be it resolved that dinner be reduced to 30 minutes from 6pm EST -7pm EST to 6pm EST -6:30 pm EST and ~~closing plenary continue from 6:30pm EST -7:30pm EST.~~

Be it further resolved that the schedule is schedule be adjusted to read as follows:

Closing Plenary: 7pm - 8pm EST

Grand Exit: 8pm - 8:30 pm EST

Break and gala: As follows

CARRIED

The committee recommends **defeat** of the following motion (2024/11:N13):

2024/11:N13 MOTION

Voting Threshold

Local 26/Local 45

Whereas the current petition and quorum thresholds required in the decertification process create significant hardship for local student association members who wish to decertify and discontinue as members of the Federation; and

Whereas local student association members are faced with low student engagement in relation to matters requiring students to vote generally; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw I Section 3.a.iii. be amended by deleting the phrase “fifteen percent (15%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “two percent (2%)”;

3. Student and Member Rights

a. Rights of Students

i. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to make decisions through a vote on all questions of membership of the local student association in the Federation, subject to the other provisions of this Bylaw.

ii. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to initiate, by petition signed by not less than fifteen percent (15%) of such students and delivered to the National Executive, a vote to certify as described in Bylaw I, Section 4.

iii. The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to initiate a vote on decertification, as described in Bylaw I, Section 6, by submitting to the National Executive of the Federation a petition, signed by not less than ~~fifteen percent (15%)~~ **two percent (2%)** of such students, calling for the vote.

Be it further resolved that the first paragraph of Bylaw I Section 6.a. be amended by deleting the phrase “fifteen percent (15%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “two percent (2%)”; and

6. Vote to Decertify

The students collectively belonging to a member local student association may vote on the question of continuing

the membership of the local student association, subject to the following rules and procedures:

a. Petition

As per Bylaw I, Section 3.a.iii, a petition calling for a vote on decertification shall be signed by no less than ~~fifteen percent (15%)~~ **two percent (2%)** of the students collectively belonging to the member local student association and delivered to the National Executive of the Federation.

Be it further resolved that the first paragraph of Bylaw I Section 6.h. be amended by deleting the phrase “ten percent (10%)” and substituting in place thereof the phrase “one percent (1%)”.

6. Vote to Decertify

h. Quorum

Quorum for any vote on decertification shall be that of the member local student association or ~~ten percent (10%)~~ **one percent (1%)** of the students collectively belonging to the local student association, whichever is higher.

2024/11:N14

MOTION TO REFER

Local 11/ Local 82

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:13 be referred to the National Executive for review, research and study to provide their findings and recommendations at the 2025 National General Meeting.

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 11 / Local 37

Be it resolved that Motion **2024/11: 14** be amended to read as thus:

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:13 be referred to the National Executive for further review, and;

Be it further resolved that all member locals be given the opportunity to participate within this review, which ought to also include the reviews of motions N11 and N12, and;

Be it further resolved that a report be provided to all locals within 6 months as to the progress of this review, and;

Be it further resolved that any recommended changes to the bylaws return to the Plenary of the 2025 National General Meeting.

MOTION TO CALL TO QUESTION

Local 20/Local 11

Be it resolved that the motion **2024/11:14** be put to a vote.

CARRIED

CARRIED AS AMENDED

MOTION TO AMEND

Be it resolved that main motion **2024/11:14** be adopted as amended

CALL TO QUESTION

Local 20/ Local 45

Be it resolved that main motion **2024/11:14** be referred to a vote

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

The committee recommends **adoption** of the following motion (2024/11:E03):

2024/11:E03 MOTION

**Respect of Bilingualism in the Canadian Federation of Student
Local 88 /Local 68**

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is an officially bilingual canada-wide organisation that is committed to represent the linguistic diversity of Canada, in conjunction with its francophone and francophile locals and students ; and

Whereas bilingualism within CFS is often relegated to the background, as we see in the majority of events in the last year that took place only in english without professional simultaneous translation, thus limiting access for francophones ; and

Whereas the CFS Executive has taken measures to avoid the cost of professional translation, notably restraining francophone participation in their events ;

Whereas on the thirteen documents of support for lobby week, only three were translated, and insufficiently so ; and

Whereas this situation contributes to the marginalized feeling of francophone locals and of the francophone commissioner au sentiment de marginalization des sections locales francophones et du commissaire francophone, who cannot fully express themselves ;

and

Whereas the CFS is in violation of its own “operating policies” in matters of bilingualism.

Be it resolved that the CFS revise its internal policies to guarantee true bilingualism and to ensure linguistic equity without discrimination ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS ensures the availability of documents and of working materials in both official languages ; and

Be it resolved that bilingualism be reflected within the employees of CFS with the recruitment of a qualified person to ensure the quality of translations, both written and verbal ; and

Be it resolved that communications with francophone members be in french and that free material be provided to encourage the learning and improvement of French ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS collaborate with francophone and bilingual member locals to organise initiatives and events to promote french at the national level ; and

Be it resolved that the CFS conforms to its own policies and guidelines in terms of bilingualism.

9. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY CAUCUSES AND CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

Members of Caucuses and Constituency Groups will give a brief report of conversations within their spaces at this time.

10. PRESENTATION OF ELECTIONS REPORT

The Chief Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer presented their report for consideration by the plenary.

11. CLOSING REMARKS

Chairperson Holly Star Tait gave closing remarks on their term. National Deputy Chairperson Jawad Chowdhury gave closing remarks on their term.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

EMERGENCY MOTIONS:

2024/11:E06 : AD-HOC Committee Punctuality Review

Local 20/Local 82

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting is meant to be the highest decision-making avenue in the federation for locals to communicate, collaborate, and work together to develop the objectives of the Federation.

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting is supposed to be a place where locals can present changes, provide thoughts of their membership, and support the development of the Federation.

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting is supposed to be a place that is entirely bilingual, accessible, inclusive, and promotes the mental health and well-being of all delegates present at the meeting.

Whereas the National General Meeting procedure is already outlined in by-law two (2) and standing resolutions one (1) two (2), four (4), thirty-four (34), and thirty-five (35.)

Whereas due to schedule changes, absence of punctuality, and meeting spaces not being adequately prepared, the Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting 2024 had significant drawbacks in communication and collaboration, inhibiting the ability of locals to work

together and develop the objectives of the federation effectively.

Whereas due to schedule changes, absence of punctuality, and meeting spaces not being adequately prepared, the Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting 2024 had instances of material not being presented in French and English and material not being presented in an accessible format;

Whereas due to schedule changes, absence of punctuality, and meeting spaces not being adequately prepared, scheduled breaks and meal times were not honoured, negatively impacting accessibility and inclusivity for delegates during the National General Meeting.

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Executive be directed to establish an ad-hoc committee to review the preparation, set-up, and general operation of the Canadian Federation of Students 2024 National General Meeting to provide improvements, ideas, and thoughts for the preparation and operation of the 2025 National General Meeting, and all future National General Meetings to ensure that communication, collaboration, bilingualism, accessibility, and inclusivity is valued comprehensively.

Be it further resolved that this ad-hoc committee comprise a minimum of five (5) members of the National Executive up to a maximum of eight (8) members of the National Executive.

Be it further resolved that seats for the Francophone Students' Representative, Student Disability Justice Commissioner, Circle' Representative, and Black Students' Caucus Representative be reserved for the ad-hoc committee out of the maximum eight (8) members.

Be it further resolved that the committee can invite additional individuals to present and speak to the committee as a non-voting member.

Be it further resolved that the committee seek consultation with all member locals who participated in the 2024 National General Meeting on how they perceived the general meeting and any comments, suggestions, and general feedback they may have regarding past and future National General Meetings.

Be it further resolved that the ad-hoc committee will prepare a final written report with recommendations to improve collaboration, communication, punctuality, organization, accessibility, bilingualism, and inclusivity at all future National General Meetings.

Be it further resolved that this report be reviewed by an independent anti-harassment officer and an accessibility consultant separate from the federation for recommendations and improvements.

Be it further resolved that this report is accepted by the National Executive, and then presented as a section of the National Executive report during the 2025 National General Meeting for adoption.

CARRIED

2024/11:E05 : Emergency Motion: Response To Recent Changes In Immigration Policies In Canada

Local 70/ Local 99

Whereas on October 24, 2024, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) released details on the 2025-2027 Immigration Levels Plan, specifically targeting international students;

Whereas on November 1, 2024, IRCC introduced new policies impacting international students' eligibility for Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) applications and raising language requirements;

Whereas IRCC previously proposed increasing international students' permitted working hours from 20 to 24 per week but has not yet enacted this change as of November 10, 2024;

Whereas these sudden policy changes create unforeseen obstacles for international students, disrupting their study, work, and residency plans in Canada;

Whereas international students are experiencing significant financial, academic, and professional challenges due to these abrupt shifts in immigration policy;
Whereas these policy changes have caused instability, placing immense financial and mental strain on international students;

Let it be resolved that:

- 1.The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) organize an International Student Support Committee to combat disinformation about policy changes and provide clear, accurate updates to international students.
- 2.The National Executive team appeal to the Canadian government before December 30, 2024, urging them to implement policies that ensure consistency and continuity, creating a stable immigration framework that minimizes disruptions to the education and career paths of international

students.

3.The National Executive team further request that the Canadian government establish a reasonable transition period for all new immigration policies, allowing international students adequate time to adjust to significant changes without undue hardship.

4.The National Executive team call upon the Canadian government to enact the proposed 24-hour-per-week work limit for international students before January 31, 2025, to enhance flexibility and financial stability for international students.

5.The CFS Lobbying Committee prepare a comprehensive report detailing the negative impacts of the frequent and inconsistent changes in immigration policies on international students. This report will serve as a foundation for CFS advocacy efforts and government lobbying to bring about systematic policy reform.

2024/11:N15: MOTION TO AMEND

Local 32 / Local 45

Be it resolved that the motion be amended be strike:

~~4.The National Executive team call upon the Canadian government to enact the proposed 24-hour-per-week work limit for international students before January 31, 2025, to enhance flexibility and financial stability for international students.~~

DEFEATED

MOTION TO REFER

Local 37/ Local 71

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:15 be referred to a vote

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION DEFEATED

2024/11:N16: MOTION TO AMEND

Local 70 / Local 32

Be it resolved that the motion be amended to add:

6. The CFS lobbying committee advocates and fights for the rights of international students to work unlimited hours based on the report on resolution 5

MOTION TO CALL TO QUESTION

Local 37/Local 19

Be it resolved that motion 2024/11:16 be referred to a vote

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

2024/11:N17: MOTION TO AMEND

Local / Local 37

Be it resolved to be amended 2024/11:E05 be amended to include the International Students' Constituency in the research process.

CARRIED

MOTION TO REFER

Local 20 /32

Be it resolved that 2024/11:E05 be referred to the National Executive.

2024/11:N18: MOTION TO EXTEND TIME

Local 11/Local 32

Be it resolved that the closing plenary be extended by five more minutes until 8:07pm EST.

CALL TO QUESTION

Local 82/ Local 12

Be it resolved that 2024/11:N18 be called to a vote

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2024/11:N19: MOTION TO REFER

Local 20/Local 32

Be it resolved that 2024/11:E05 be referred to the National Executive

CARRIED

2024/11:N20: MOTION TO EXTEND TIME

Local 11/Local 32

Be it resolved that the closing plenary be extended by five more minutes until 8:12pm EST.

MOTION TO EXTEND TIME

Local 20/Local 35

Be it resolved that the closing plenary be extended by five more minutes until 8:17pm EST.

CARRIED

2024/11:E07 : Voting Rights for Provincial Association Delegates Local 100

Whereas the current Bylaws and Standing Resolutions are stated as such:

Bylaw I - Membership

3. Student and Member Rights a. Rights of Students

iv. The students collectively belonging to a local student association have the right to have their interests represented collectively in the Federation through their local student association, but, for greater certainty, are not members of the Federation or the Canadian Federation of Students Services and accordingly will not have voting rights at Federation or Canadian Federation of Students-Services general meetings.

Standing Resolution 11

4. Rights and Privileges of Members

All members of the Constituency Group are entitled to: a. to attend any Constituency Group meeting and to speak to any matter or motion which may arise; b. to vote at any Constituency Group or committee meeting; and c. to nominate one member to act as International Students Commissioner.

Whereas Membership bylaw 3a was cited in informing several delegates that they were not able to vote at the 2024 CFS National General Meeting, and;

Whereas the interpretation of this bylaw is unclear, and does not inherently justify the removal of a delegate's vote, and;

Whereas each constituency space has clauses indicating that delegates were otherwise eligible to hold a vote, and;

Whereas the status of the right to vote for members sent by provincial

associations was unclear, and in some instances, delegates sent by provincial associations were allowed to vote, and;

Be it resolved that the interpretation of the given bylaw be confirmed at the Closing Plenary session of the 2024 CFS NGM

a) Voting on the motion will follow standard plenary voting procedure (one local, one vote)

Be it further resolved that should the interpretation of the bylaw be found incorrectly applied by the Federation's understanding, an immediate recall of constituency elections will be held in all constituency spaces.

Be it further resolved that, the National Executive commit to reviewing and providing clarity on what "membership" and voting bylaws, and their findings addressed at the 2025 CFS NGM

2024/11:N21: MOTION TO REFER
Local 20/Local 06

Be it resolved that 2024/11:E07 be referred to the National Executive

CARRIED

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement of results for the 2025/2026 National At-Large elections

Chairperson - Mary Feltham

Deputy Chairperson - David Ohene-Karko

Treasurer - Gishleine Oukouomi

2024/11:N22: MOTION
Local 106/Local 36

Be it resolved that the 2025/2026 election be ratified

CARRIED

2024/11:N23: MOTION
Local 106/Local 07

Be it resolved that the 2025/2026 election ballot be destroyed

CARRIED

2024/11:N24: MOTION
Local 20/Local 07

Be it resolved that the remaining unaddressed motions be referred to the National Executive for review.

CARRIED

14. ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNED AT 8:13PM EST

DRAFT