

An Overview of the Council of Alberta University Students

Reed Larsen, Chair
Josh McKeown, Interim Executive Director



Presenting to -



University of Alberta Students' Union

Who Is CAUS?



What is CAUS?

- Represent over 100,000 undergrads to the government, public and stakeholders
- Five members:
 - SA MacEwan University*
 - SA Mount Royal University*
 - University of Alberta SU*
 - University of Calgary SU*
 - University of Lethbridge SU*



Mission & Vision

- **Mission:**

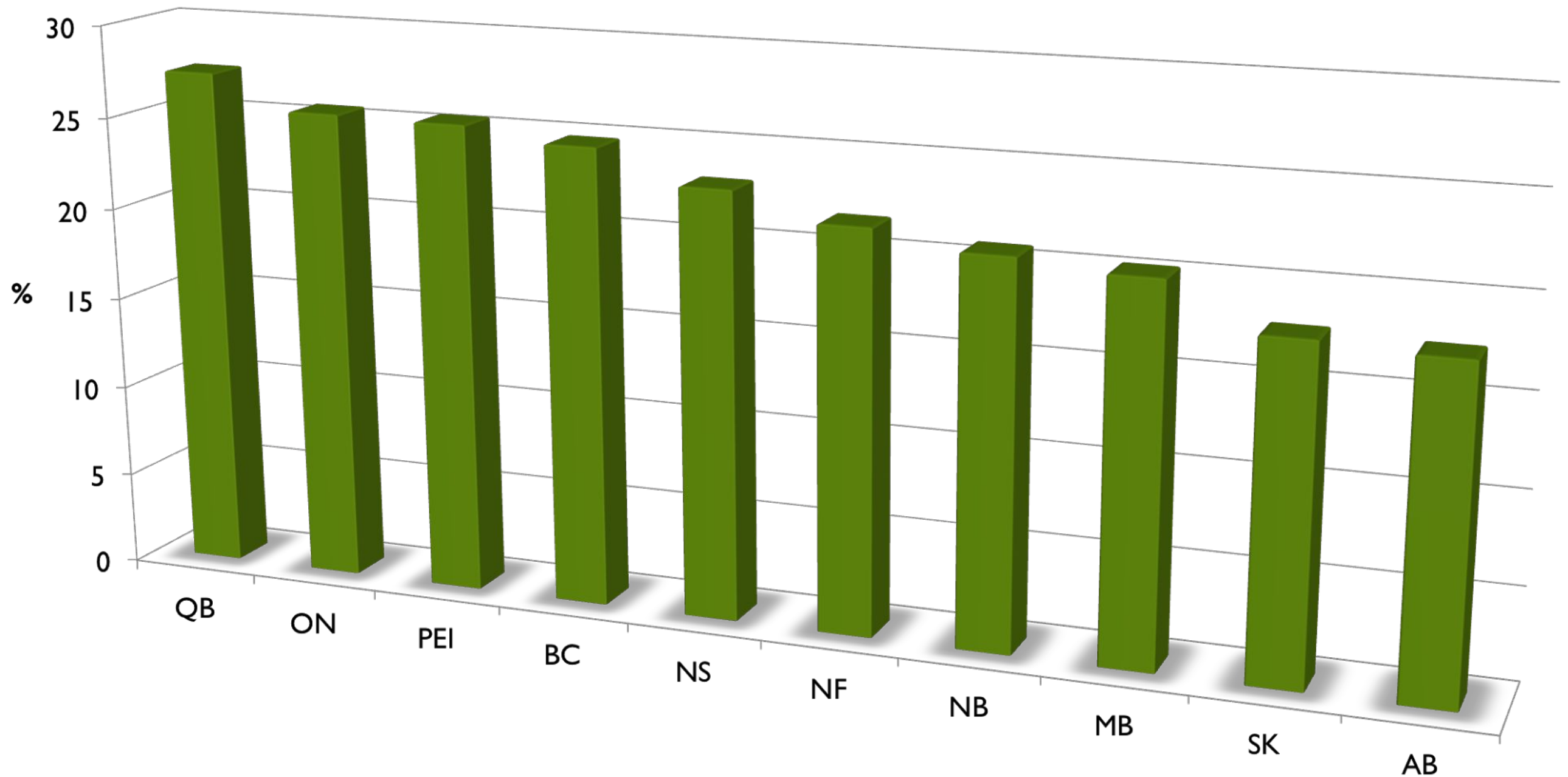
to ensure a high quality, affordable, and accessible post-secondary education for Alberta undergraduate students through strong researched based advocacy

- **Vision:**

university students are active contributors in developing a high quality post-secondary sector that is accessible and supportive to all students regardless of background or financial means

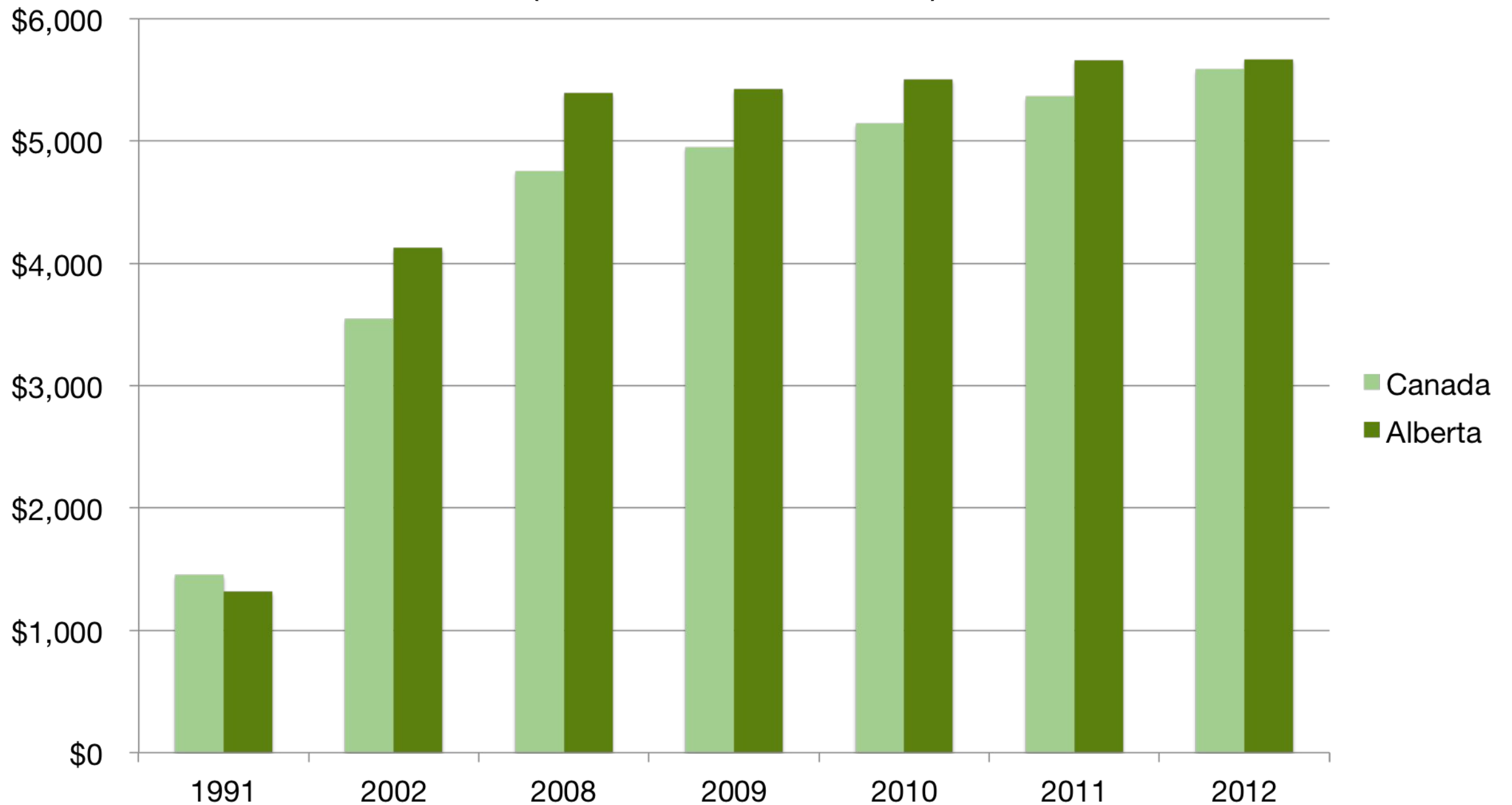
What Has Happened

2015 PSE Participation, 18-35 Year Olds



What Has Happened

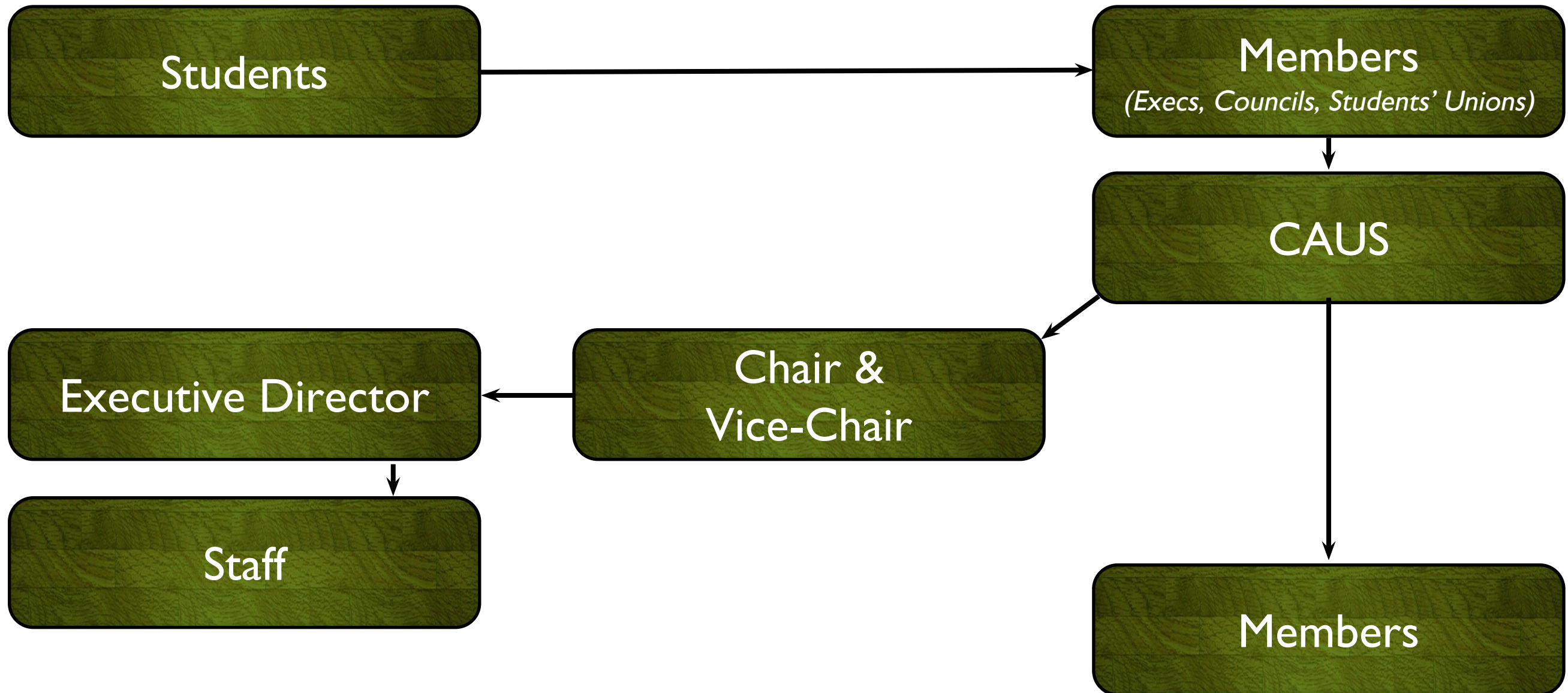
Average Tuition in Canada as Compared to Alberta
(indexed to inflation)



History

- Created in 1986 to facilitate information sharing
- Through 1980/90s fighting wave of funding cuts
- Major election campaigns throughout CAUS history
- Key stakeholder and influential voice in AB PSE
- Founded on principle of unanimous agreement
- Small in number, but great in influence

How CAUS Works



How CAUS Works

- 2 representatives per school
- Executive Director
- Meet in person every ~6 weeks
- Teleconferences as needed
- Operate on consensus basis
- \$1.95 per FLE



What CAUS Has Done

- ***Public campaigns:***
Election and other campaigns to the public and on-campus
- ***Coalition-building:***
Other student groups, faculty, and other stakeholders



What CAUS Has Done

- Elections Act Changes
- GOTV Campaign
- Party Platforms
- Student Aid Changes
- Tuition Freeze + CPI Cap
- IGNITE Alberta



What CAUS Has Done

- Tuition Freeze
- MNIF Freeze
- Market Modifier Rollback
- STEP
- MH Funding



Reviews...Reviews...

- 2015 the Government of Alberta announced their Adult Learning Review – Tuition and Fees Review
- 2017 Tuition Freeze was announced in November 2016 along with a tuition review consultation.
- January – April 2017 – External Stakeholder Advisory Group (ESAG) – CAUS had 3 Student Reps.
- Results of Tuition & Fees Review expected Fall 2017

More Reviews....

- Mental Health Review – Results
Summer 2017
- Student Financial Aid Review – 2017-18
- Funding Framework Review – 2017-18
- Roles and Mandates Review – 2017-18



Meetings with
Premier Hancock &
Premier Redford





Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings



New Government – New Minister – New MLAs







Priorities

- Affordability
- Governance
- Mental Health
- Student Employment
- Institutional Funding

Questions?

- Ask right now!
- Ask later!
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