



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
**STUDENTS'
UNION**

Lobby Groups: CAUS CASA

Purpose



- Familiarize you with two lobby groups
- Understand the importance of our membership
- Indoctrinate you with some of the acronyms you'll see in my reports



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
**STUDENTS'
UNION**

**CAUS = Council of Alberta University
Students**

**CASA = Canadian Alliance of Student
Associations**

The Cost



- CAUS: \$43,534
- CASA: \$47,482

Council of Alberta University Students



- Members:



- Representing over 70,000 Alberta Students

History



- Founded in 1986
- UASU is a founding member

Successes



- 99/00: Creation of the Laurence Decore scholarship for student leadership
- 00/01: Creation of the Jason Lang scholarship for second, third and fourth year students
- 03/04: Proposed detrimental changes to the Post-Secondary Learning Act in regards to students' unions were fought and ultimately minimized

Successes



- 04/05: Gov't of Alberta froze tuition for two years and then allowed it to only increase by CPI
- 04/05: The Gov't of Alberta increased PSE funding by 6% annually for four years
- 05/06: The creation of the Access to the Future Fund for \$1 billion which matches donations from outside donors, and has successfully matched over \$300 million in donations

Successes



- 06/07: Student loan reforms were introduced that eliminated vehicles being counted as a resource in student loan calculations provincially
- 06/07: Living allowances were increased in student loans by 14% - the biggest increase in two decades
- 06/07: Assumed parental contributions were greatly reduced in student loan calculations

Successes



- 07/08: Interest rates on student loans is reduced by 2.5%
- 07/08: Gov't increases scholarship endowment fund by \$226 million, producing \$10 million more a year in scholarships
- 08/09: Increases in capital spending for new buildings as well as major investments in reducing deferred maintenance on campus

Last Year



- Met with 52 MLA's overall out of 83 including the leaders of every single party in the Legislature and the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology.
- Made a lot of progress on MNIFs regulations (To Be Continued)

Structure



- Members Council
- 6 Delegates–3 votes
- Chair: Zack Moline
- Executive Director: Duncan Wojtaszek
- Research and Communications assistant:
Vanessa Johnson

2011–2012 Goals



- **Securing Alberta Future: How Alberta Can Lead in Post-Secondary Education**
 - Keep the tuition cap
 - Increase Alberta's participation rate
- **Setting priorities for Post-Secondary Education in Alberta**
 - Regulate Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIF)
 - Increase upfront Grant in Student Financial Aid (SFA)
 - Improve the Election Act

www.caus.net

What is CASA?



- Alliance of 26 student associations
- Represents over 300,000 students
- Federal and Pan-Canadian
- Non-partisan/multipartisan
- www.casa.ca

Members



Acadia University
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Alberta
Saint Mary's University
St. Francis Xavier University
Dalhousie University
University of New Brunswick
- Fredericton
University of New Brunswick
- Saint John
Mount Allison University
Université de Moncton
University of Western Ontario
University of Waterloo

Brock University
McMaster University
Wilfrid Laurier University
Red River College
University of Lethbridge
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
Mount Royal University
University of the Fraser Valley
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
St. Thomas University
University of Prince Edward Island
University of Waterloo Graduate Students
Athabasca University Graduate Students

History



- Founding member of CASA
- Left CASA in 2003
- Rejoined CASA in 2008
- Leadership role
- Major player within CASA

Organizational Structure



- Member Councils
- Delegates
- Board of Directors
- National Director
- Home Office Staff

Constitutional Jurisdiction



- Constitutions: 93. *In and for each Province the Legislature may exclusively make Laws in relation to Education...*
- Provincial governments are granted constitutional *legislative* control over education
- Anyone know the name of the new Federal Minister of Advanced Education?

Federal Role in PSE



Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

1. CSLP
2. Youth Employment Strategy
3. Misc. Funds

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada

1. Study Abroad
2. International Recruitment Programs

Industry Canada

1. Research Granting Agencies
2. Intellectual Property Policy
3. Infrastructure Funding
4. Trade Policy

Finance Canada

1. Canada Social Transfer
2. Budgets
3. Tax Policy
4. Savings Programs

Citizenship and Immigration Canada

1. Student Visas
2. Work Permits

Government Agencies

1. Statistics Canada
2. Copyright Board
3. Tri-Agencies

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

1. PSSSP
2. Aboriginal Institutes
3. Aboriginal Primary and Secondary Education

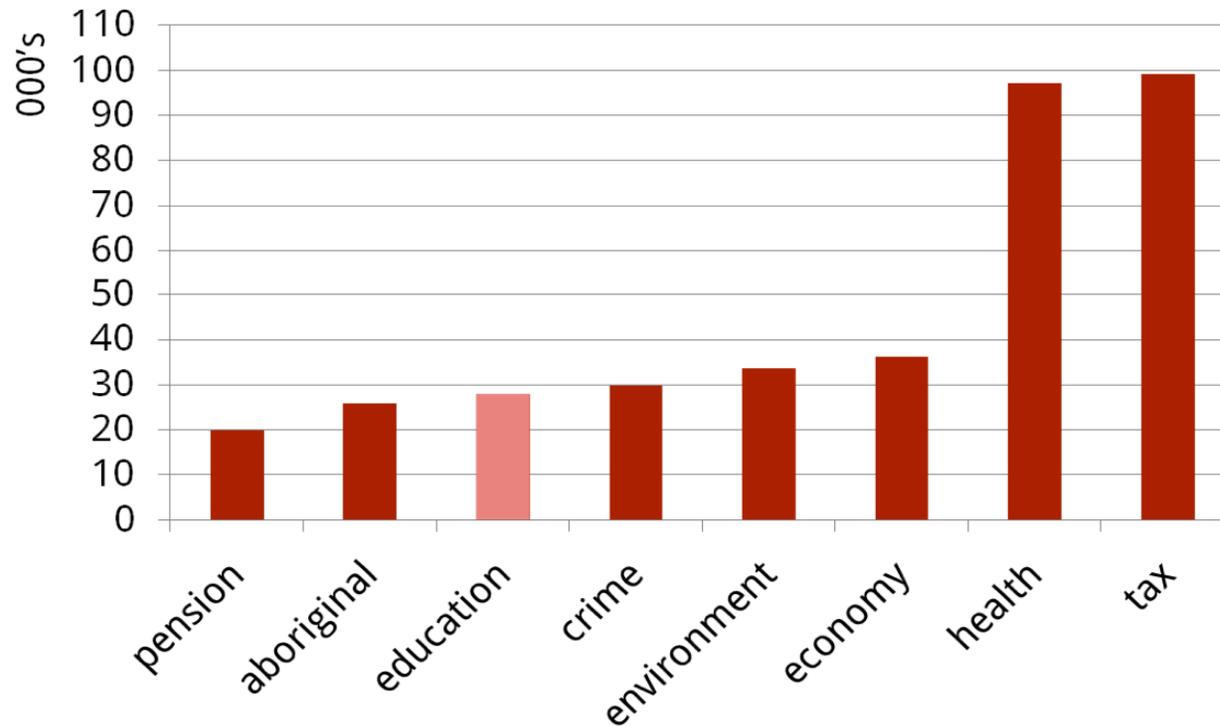
Federal Role in PSE



- CSLP: \$13.18 billion
- PSE component of the Social Transfer: \$3.332 billion
- Education-Related Tax Credits: \$2.5 billion
- Knowledge Infrastructure Program: \$2 billion
- NSERC: \$1.039 billion
- CIHR: \$980 million
- SSHRC: \$323 million
- Non-Repayable Student Grants: \$511.5 million
- Savings Programs: \$669 million
- Indirect Costs Program: \$328.8 million
- Canada Research Chairs: \$300 million
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation: \$750 million
- Summer Jobs Program: \$133.2 million

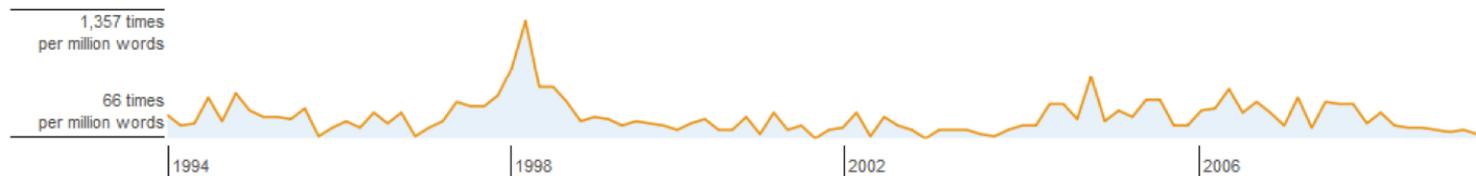
Federal Gov't in PSE

Mention in the House of Commons (Jan 1994-May 09)



*Data extracted from Hansard via Michael Mulley's Wordlines application: <http://michaelmulley.com/p/spark/>

Federal Gov't in PSE



Since 1994, *education* has been spoken 27,954 times in the debates of the House of Commons.

* Graph generated using Michael Mulley's Wordlines application: <http://michaelmulley.com/p/spark/>

Conferences



- Policy & Strategy: July
- Lobby Conference: November
- Annual General Meeting: March

Last Year's priorities



- Opening Financial Aid to Canada's Middle Class
- Investing in Canada's Aboriginal Population to Increase Prosperity for all Canadians
- Increasing Access to Academic Materials
Eliminating Book Import Tax
- Making Canada Attractive for International Students
- Creating a Canada Education Transfer

Last Year's Lobby Con



- Over 3 days: 112 meetings
 - 48 Conservatives
 - 47 Liberals
 - 13 NDP
 - 2 Bloc
 - 1 Independent
 - 1 Civil Service

Successes



- Directly responsible for the creation of the Repayment Assistance Program, which eases student loan repayment for students with difficulty repaying.
- Pre-budget recommendation on First Nations education was included in the Conservative Aboriginal caucus's budget recommendation to the Minister of Finance
- Successfully lobbied the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada to commit to a dedicated PSE transfer, as well as on a need to revisit the current per-capita funding model used to calculate education transfer funding

Successes



- CASA was the main reason that there were special exemptions for education were written into the new copyright bill. CASA was one of the relatively few groups with the knowledge and expertise to push on the issue.
- The Knowledge Infrastructure Program has openly acknowledged CASA's influence in the creation and continued funding of the program. On the Knowledge Infrastructure Program's website, the government says the program "responds to the needs of students as identified by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations."

Successes



- Commissioned and released the Canada Student Survey.
- 14587 respondents from 18 schools across Canada
- First primary research CASA has done
- U of A had 2203 respondents and awesome results

Questions?