



<b>Category:</b>	<b>Federal-Provincial Relations</b>
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Pan-Canadian Accord on Post-Secondary Education</b>
<b>Approved:</b>	<b>March 12, 2005</b>
<b>Revisited:</b>	<b>September 12, 2006</b>
<b>Amended:</b>	<b>January 26, 2007</b>
<b>Expires:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### **Whereas:**

ANSSA believes in a quality public post-secondary education system that is properly funded, effective and accountable; cooperatively maintained and enhanced by the federal and provincial governments.

ANSSA's vision for post-secondary education is that Canadians will have a publicly- funded post-secondary education system that is accessible, accountable, affordable, and of the highest quality, and that encourages student mobility within and between jurisdictions. ANSSA believes that both the federal and provincial governments have a role to play in achieving this vision. Both levels of government have a responsibility not only for funding Canada's post-secondary education system, but for ensuring its well-being. ANSSA believes that the federal and provincial government must work together to form a strong and long-lasting partnership that will improve and preserve the quality and public integrity of our public post-secondary institutions.

ANSSA believes that accessibility and affordability of post-secondary education in Canada are in jeopardy. The responsibility of funding the sector has been offloaded to individual students and the private sector. The federal government and provincial governments must take back their responsibility for a properly funded and accountable public post-secondary education system. As such, ANSSA believes that in addition to creating an accord on post-secondary education, both levels of government must work together to create an independent transfer from the federal government to the provinces for post-secondary education.

It is of particular importance that in establishing a dedicated transfer for post-secondary education that both levels of government work to ensure the principle of equity. Currently funds for social programs, including post-secondary education, are distributed on a per-capita basis. This does not take into account provinces such as Nova Scotia who educate a disproportionate number of out-of-province students<sup>1</sup> for which they receive no federal funding. ANSSA believes that in negotiating a dedicated transfer for post-secondary education both levels of government must work to implement mechanisms to ensure that provinces that are net-importers of post-secondary students are compensated.

### **Therefore, ANSSA:**

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation, after Alberta, Nova Scotia is Canada's largest net-importer of post-secondary students. The Nova Scotia Department of Education has indicated that currently, the net-influx of students from other provinces stands at approximately 29 – 30%, representing a net gain of approximately 5,000 students.

1. *Calls on* the Province of Nova Scotia to actively advocate for the creation of a Pan-Canadian Accord on post-secondary education;
2. *Urges* the Province to work with the federal and provincial governments to negotiate a Pan-Canadian Accord on post-secondary education;
3. *Endorses* efforts of the Province to negotiate with the Government of Canada for the removal of funding for post-secondary education from the Canada Social Transfer and for it to be reestablished as its own transfer.