



## **CSA Calls on the Government to act to protect Ontario's International Students**

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

**TORONTO, ON** – The College Student Alliance (CSA), the voice of Ontario's college students, is calling on Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop to act now to protect international students.

"International students are a crucial part of Ontario's post-pandemic recovery. CSA encourages Minister Dunlop to support international students now," said Eli Ridder, President of CSA.

While post-secondary enrolment for international students has risen 342% since 2013, per-student transfers and provincial operating grants to colleges are the lowest in the country. In fact, the provincial government contributes \$563 million less to Ontario's colleges than international students. Similarly, Ontario's universities have seen a 178% increase in tuition fees since 2013.

"This heavy reliance by post-secondary institutions on international student tuition not only poses a risk to Ontario's economy and long-term growth," said Eli Ridder. "It also adds tremendous financial pressures that are having devastating mental and physical impacts on Ontario's international students."

CSA believes that if post-secondary students are to be part of the post-pandemic recovery, the solution overall is to implement an immediate international student tuition freeze, establish an emergency tuition relief fund for students in need, and commit to increasing the base operating grant funding for Public Colleges and Universities.

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### **About College Student Alliance:**

College Student Alliance (CSA) advocates on behalf of Ontario college students in partnership with student leaders. Through our member student associations, CSA represents the collective voice of Ontario's college students.

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