****SOLIDARITY WITH THE QUEBEC STUDENT STRIKE**

 ***Accessible, Affordable Post-Secondary Education for the 99%***

WHEREAS accessible education is a right, not a privilege;

WHEREAS students in Québec are facing $1625 increase in tuition fees that threatens their access to education and

WHEREAS the outcome of this struggle in defence of accessible affordable post-secondary education in Québec will impact on students and post-secondary institutions across Canada;

WHEREAS Québec students have launched a mass mobilization against this increase and the Charest Liberal government, rallying some of the largest protests in Canadian history over the past weeks;

WHEREAS Québec students have democratically voted on and organized an ongoing student strike on their campuses with currently over 170,000 students on strike now entering their 75th day;

WHEREAS Québec students are holding almost daily rallies, occupations, and other actions including a rally of over 250 000 on March 22nd and a rally of almost 300 000 on Earth Day that is evidence of the broad support they are receiving from allies and the public;

WHEREAS all the student associations have denounced and condemned violence against people as a tactic of struggle and called for the government to negotiate;

WHEREAS the Québec government is refusing to negotiate in good faith and instead has attempted to break the student`s unity and resolve through court injunctions, openly mocking their campaign, refusing to seriously negotiate, and allowing police violence against the students including gassing protestors, mass arrests, and even blinding one student in the eye with a sound bomb;

RESOLVED that **this United May Day meeting in Toronto**

* expresses its solidarity and support with the Québec students and their courageous struggle to defend accessible, affordable post-secondary education for the 99%, and to refuse to allow publicly funded post-secondary education to be turned into the private preserve of the 1%;
* demands the Charest government immediately withdraw its plans to increase tuition fees by 75%, and instead guarantees universally accessible, affordable, and quality public education to all;
* proposes to Premier Charest that he increase corporate and wealth taxes on the 1% to pay for education for the 99%;
* demands the Charest government immediately negotiate with students to save their academic year which may be lost due to the government’s intransigence and refusal to negotiate;
* demands the Charest government stop using police and provocateurs to attack students who are lawfully exercising their rights to free speech and free assembly, and who are a fine example of what real democracy looks like in Canada today.
* Calls on the labour and democratic movements across Canada to speak up in support and solidarity of the Quebec student strike and their demand for accessible, affordable education and tuition fees.

***An injury to one is an injury to all!***

Copies of this resolution to be sent to Premier Jean Charest and the Quebec National Assembly, to Quebec student organizations CLASSE, FECQ, FEUQ and the Canadian Federation of Students, to the CLC, OFL, Labour Councils, and to the media.

**Association pour une Solidarité Syndicale Étudiante ( ASSÉ )**
*ATTN : Jean-Michel Therriault, Secrétaire aux relations externes*
externe@asse-solidarite.qc.ca
2065, rue Parthenais, local 383
Montréal, QC
H2K 3T1

**Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec (FECQ)**
*ATTN : Léo Bureau-Blouin, Président*
presidence@fecq.org
2003 St Hubert,
Montréal, QC
H2L 3Z6

**Fédération Etudiante Universitaire du Québec (FEUQ)‎***ATTN : Martine Desjardins, Président*
president@feuq.qc.ca
15 Marie Anne O,
Montreal, QC
H2W 1B6

**The Honourable Jean Charest**Premier of Quebec
commentairespm@mce.gouv.qc.ca
Édifice Honoré-Mercier
835, boul. René-Lévesque Est
3e étage
Quebec, QC
G1A 1B4

******