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COLLEGE STUDENT ALLIANCE REPRESENTS STUDENTS ON PROVINCIAL TASK FORCE

Toronto – College Student Alliance (CSA) is proud to represent college students on the College Task Force, a newly established initiative to develop a forward-looking plan for Ontario’s publicly assisted college system.

The Task Force was created in early 2018 in response to a joint request by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) and the College Employer Council (CEC) following the 2017 strike by college academic staff. CSA successfully advocated to be involved in the process of establishing a forum to consider and develop recommendations on major issues facing the college sector.

“After the longest strike in college history, it was evident students require and deserve a voice at the table to represent their needs,” said Aimee Calma, CSA president. “The Task Force provides unique opportunities to set the stage for what colleges will accomplish in the next 50 years and beyond.”

The Task Force has agreed to break the work down into the following priorities:

1. Supports for student success and access, including mental health
2. Flexible programming, including pathways and labour market readiness
3. Staffing models that would enhance program quality and improve student experience
4. Academic governance structures and intellectual property in the college system

Chaired by former Deputy Minister, Sue Herbert, members include college students, faculty, support staff, administrators as well as experts from industry, the francophone community, and post-secondary academia. Members were appointed by the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

“As chair of the student success and access working group, I look forward to working broadly within the sector to explore challenges facing college students today,” said Abdullah Mushtaq, director of advocacy for CSA. “When students succeed, Ontario succeeds. CSA will diligently ensure our membership is heard, and all students are equipped to excel during and after their college career.”

The Task Force is expected to complete its work and provide the Minister with a final report in late 2018. CSA looks forward to participating in the Task Force on behalf of Ontario’s college students.

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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.

For more information, please contact:

Emmaline Scharbach, Communications Manager, College Student Alliance
communications@collegestudentalliance.ca | T: 416-340-1212 | C: 647-454-9951

T. 416-340-1212
372 Richmond Street West Suite 303
Toronto, ON M5V 1X6



COLLEGESTUDENTALLIANCE.CA