



**Council of Alberta University Students**  
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## **CAUS welcomes new Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education**

Edmonton, Alberta – The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) welcomes Lori Sigurdson as the Minister for Innovation and Advanced Education and Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training, and Labour. CAUS looks forward to working with Minister Sigurdson on important student issues such as instituting a tuition freeze, reviving an improved student employment program and finding ways to address mandatory non-instructional fees and market modifiers.

Recently elected CAUS Chair, Romy Garrido, attended the swearing-in ceremony at the legislature this past weekend along with other members of CAUS and Executive Director, Beverly Eastham.

“CAUS is excited to begin working with Premier Notley and Minister Sigurdson on increasing the affordability and accessibility of our post-secondary system for students who are here today, as well as the many Albertans who are future students,” said Garrido, Vice-President External for the University of Calgary Students’ Union and CAUS Chair for the 2015/16 academic year.

CAUS is in the process of completing two proposals that student leaders hope to bring forward to Minister Sigurdson as soon as possible. The first proposal contains recommendations for improving on the previous Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP), which the NDP promised to bring back in their 2015 election platform. The second proposal presents student perspectives and ideas on the best way to begin rolling back market modifiers – something promised during the campaign and recently discussed in the news by the new NDP government.

“We are optimistic that with the history the NDP has in advocating for an affordable, accessible, quality post-secondary system we will be able to collaborate on many areas and start to see improvements quickly,” explained Garrido. “We are looking forward to presenting the ideas we have been working on to our new minister and being a strong partner in collaborations with the new government.”

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*The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) represents the interests of students at MacEwan University, Mount Royal University, the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, and the University of Lethbridge*

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