



Council of Alberta University Students
Access to the Future Fund Policy
Policy #05-02

WHEREAS the Access to the Future Fund has been established by the Government of Alberta to “support initiatives that enhance the quality of learning and instruction; promote the development, attraction and retention of the faculty, staff and graduate students necessary to expand and enhance teaching excellence; support initiatives that foster the application of knowledge to the benefit of communities, the Province and society; encourage the creation or expansion of industry funded and privately funded scholarship and bursary programs; and support initiatives that foster innovation and collaboration in education;” and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta believes that “the creation and sharing of knowledge through advanced education drives positive transformation of the economy, society and individuals, and is crucial to Alberta’s future competitive advantage in a global economy”; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta is “committed to ensuring that all qualified and motivated Albertans have the opportunity to participate in high quality advanced education”; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta “encourages and supports the development and application of innovation to enhance access, to remove financial and non financial barriers to participation, and to make the learning experience more successful and rewarding”;

WHEREAS the Access to the Future Fund is intended to have a value of \$3 billion and allow for the distribution of \$135 million annually to Alberta’s post-secondary system; and

WHEREAS the Access to the Future Fund was created in response to the desire of Albertans to create a post-secondary system that is affordable, accessible and high quality both today and in the future; and

WHEREAS the revenue from the Access to the Future Fund is to be distributed upon the recommendation of the Access Advisory Council by the Minister of Advanced Education; and

WHEREAS the Council of Alberta University Students believes that the Access to the Future Fund can only achieve its mandate by being used in a well-funded post-secondary education system.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta supplement the available revenue from the Access to the Future Fund to meet the full \$135 million in annual available funding starting in the 2006/07 budget year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta divide the fund into a portion available to institutions on a fair and equitable basis and a portion available for system-wide projects that meet the vision of the Access to the Future Fund as established in the act and with an emphasis on making the experience in Alberta's post-secondary system the best possible for the student.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Access to the Future Fund be available for use by public universities, colleges and technical institutes and not be used in any private, for-profit post-secondary institutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta not use the Access to the Future Fund in any way to replace base operating grants and the normal operation of post-secondary institutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta include a student representative from the Council of Alberta University Students on the Access Advisory Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta establish a new, complimentary endowment for the Humanities and Social Sciences, modelled on the successful Alberta Innovates Fund, to foster Alberta's cultural and social environment.