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For immediate release

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Post- Secondary Students Respond to the Alberta Government's 2017 Speech from the Throne

Edmonton, Alberta – This afternoon the Government of Alberta announced their main objectives for the Spring 2017 legislative session within the Speech from the Throne. While highlighting the continued post-secondary tuition freeze, there was no mention of addressing the looming cuts to campus mental health initiatives set to expire this year.

"It's good to see the commitment to a tuition freeze next year," said Dexter Bruneau, VP External of Mount Royal University and Chair of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS). "It makes it a lot easier for students to plan for returning to school in September."

The review of tuition and fees was initially announced in 2016 immediately following the announcement of a continued tuition freeze. CAUS will continue to advocate throughout this review for post-secondary education to be affordable, accessible, and of the highest quality; while at the same time ensuring that our institutions are not faced with cuts to campus mental health funding that will ultimately affect the quality and well being of our students.

VP External of MacEwan University and Vice Chair of CAUS, Carley Casebeer said, "continued and equitable campus mental health funding is crucial moving forward, our students rely on the services provided on campus and their well being would be impacted by a reduction in funding."

The Speech from the Throne can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/throne-speech.aspx>.

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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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