



CALL TO ACTION THIS ELECTION

SUPPORT PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

British Columbians need access to quality education, not cuts



This upcoming provincial election is a crucial time to advocate for public post-secondary education in British Columbia. BC's universities play an important role in the social, intellectual, and economic innovation of the province. But universities face challenges that threaten the public mission of creating an educated society. Universities are strained under chronic underfunding and budget deficits resulting in faculty and worker shortages and fewer choices for students.

This election, the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of British Columbia (CUFA BC) is asking all political parties to commit to the knowledge economy by keeping public education public, creating financial stability, and supporting teaching, learning, and research in our universities.

WHY POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION MATTERS:

- > **Public Interest in Jobs & Economy**
We must meet demand for the future workforce.
- > **Innovation in Research and Teaching**
We must develop the skills talent for the future.
- > **Universities on Financial Brink**
A funding crisis threatens the academic mission of creating an educated society.

The BC provincial election is on **October 19, 2024.**

We need a government that **PRIORITIZES** public education at BC's research universities.

WE MUST ACT NOW

BC's universities need a strategy to ensure the province can address existing and anticipated challenges in the sector. We identify 3 priority areas that we believe BC's government can do to support higher education:

✓ KEEP PUBLIC EDUCATION PUBLIC

Public universities must be publicly funded to ensure education meets the needs of the public interest, achieves high quality standards, and ensures equity of access. Public purposes of university education can only be ensured when British Columbians, through elected government, maintain a majority interest in the public post-secondary sector.

✓ CREATE FINANCIAL STABILITY

Governments are accountable for supporting universities in achieving their public purposes by providing sufficient and equitable funding. Universities need to cover operating costs on a predictable, stable, and ongoing basis with sufficient staffing levels to support the academic mission.

✓ COMMIT TO KNOWLEDGE

Governments believe in the fundamental value of education. In BC, we strive to create the best education in the country. Research and teaching are sacred trusts that must be sufficiently resourced and staffed, and must remain independent of outside influences. The foundation of this trust is built on public resources to support research and teaching in all disciplines and at all academic levels.

HELP ADVOCATE FOR PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION IN BC

- **Talk to family and friends** about why public post-secondary matters.
- **Ask election candidates** about their position on supporting universities faculty teaching and research.
- **Vote** and help others get out the vote.
- **Share your thoughts** on social media to raise awareness.
- **Stay informed** about the latest developments in BC's post-secondary sector. Sign up for our weekly newsletter and join the conversation [here](#).

ABOUT CUFA BC

CUFA BC represents over 5,500 faculty members, including professors, librarians, lecturers, and instructors at five research-intensive universities in British Columbia, which include University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, University of Victoria, Royal Roads University and University of Northern British Columbia.

CUFA BC celebrates over fifty years of working closely with the member faculty associations at each institution. Our purposes are to support high-quality post-secondary education and research in British Columbia.