



Federal Election 2006

Party Platforms – Post-Secondary Education and Training

Liberal

Today, Paul Martin announced a \$7 billion education funding plan, including at least \$2.75 billion in new post-secondary tuition assistance, \$3.5 billion to boost training and skills development and \$1 billion for institutional infrastructure.

Main Components of Party Platform:

- 50/50 Plan for Post-Secondary Education and Training commencing 2007-08 school year, delivered through Canada Student Loan Program (with alternative arrangements for Quebec, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories).
- Expansion of Canada Access Grants.
- Introduce L.B. Pearson Scholarships for study abroad.
- Pan-Canadian apprenticeship strategy to increase participation in apprenticeship.
- Six priority areas in skills training: apprenticeships; immigrants; literacy and essential skills; workplace skills development; Aboriginal peoples and other groups facing barriers to labour market access.
- Create Working Income Tax Benefit.

More Info: www.liberal.ca

Conservative

Main Components of Party Platform:

- Create a Canadian Agency for Assessment and Recognition of Credentials, to provide pre-assessment of international credentials and experience.
- Strengthen the existing framework of federal assistance to post-secondary education.
- A “Tools Tax Deduction” of up to \$500 for all employees who have to buy tools as a condition of work.
- Boost apprenticeship by creating a \$1,000 “Apprenticeship Incentive Grant.”
- Establish an Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit for employers.
- Create a tax deduction for textbooks purchased as part of a post-secondary program.
- Improve the Canadian Student Loans Program.
- Exempt the first \$10,000 of student scholarship or bursary income from taxation.

More Info: www.conservative.ca

NDP

Main Components of Party Platform:

- NDP June 2005 budget ensures \$1.5 billion to lower costs for post-secondary education and worker training.
- Emphasizing education and training of children, youth and adults by encouraging the participation of public and private sectors with the federal government in the development of programs that will move tens of thousands of persons into employment in health, education, social services, sciences, commerce, engineering, trades and entrepreneurial opportunities.
- fully restored dedicated transfer for post-secondary education.

More Info: www.ndp.ca

Bloc Québécois

Main Components of Party Platform:

- Raise federal transfers for post-secondary education (college and university) and social programs in the amount of \$2.75 billion over three years.

More Info: www.blocquebecois.org

Green Party

Main Components of Party Platform:

- Reduce post-secondary tuitions.
- Boost participation in cooperative education programs and apprenticeships.
- Encourage more hands-on learning in post-secondary education system.
- Harmonize government programs such as the Millennium Scholarship Fund to provide a single need-based grant program to reduce student debt.
- Increase investments in post-secondary education and ensure that public funding plays a major role in research and development initiatives.

More Info: www.greenparty.ca