



Canadian Association of University Teachers
Association canadienne des professeurs et professeurs d'université

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June 26, 2015

The Honourable Dr. Reza Moridi
Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities
900 Bay Street, Third Floor, Mowat Block
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Moridi,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Canadian Association of University Teachers to strongly endorse the position paper of the Ontario Public Sector Employees Union (OPSEU) with respect to the province's consideration of allowing colleges to offer stand-alone nursing degrees.

Our organization has a long history in promoting and defending academic freedom. Academic freedom includes the right, without restriction by proscribed doctrine, of academics to teach, research, participate in governance, and freely express their opinions without fear of reprisal or censorship. History has shown that academic freedom is a necessary condition for the advance of knowledge and the promotion of the public interest. We fully support OPSEU's position that any decision to allow colleges in Ontario to offer nursing degrees should be conditional upon the adoption of robust guarantees of academic freedom. It is absolutely essential that academic freedom remain a defining value of all degree-granting institutions.

I encourage you to carefully consider the OPSEU position paper and adopt its recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Robinson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Robinson
Executive Director

/mmp

cc: JP Hornick, chair, OPSEU College Faculty Division