



TO: Mohawk College Students
FROM: Mohawk Students' Association
DATE: February 25, 2026
RE: Official Statement on Provincial Postsecondary Funding, Tuition Framework Changes, and OSAP

The Mohawk Students' Association (MSA) represents more than 17,000 students at Mohawk College across several campuses in and around the Hamilton area, and across several modalities. We are the elected voice of Mohawk College students, and it is our responsibility to ensure that affordability, access, and equity remain central in any postsecondary decision-making to best support the short-and-long-term success of our students.

We recognize the province's recent announcement of \$6.4 billion in postsecondary investment and the stated goal of supporting long-term institutional sustainability. Stable and well-resourced colleges are essential to maintaining high-quality education and supporting strong student outcomes. For that, we are thankful for the initial investment and on-going funding allocations.

At the same time, Mohawk College students are seeking clarity regarding the combined impact of recent policy changes, including the shift in OSAP funding from grants toward loans and the unfreezing of domestic tuition.

Our students are asking practical, day-to-day questions:

- How will the revised grant-loan framework affect individual financial aid packages?
- What will increased loan reliance mean for student debt after graduation?
- How will tuition increases interact with changes to OSAP support?
- What safeguards are in place to ensure low-income, marginalized, students with dependents or students with disabilities are not disproportionately affected?

For many students, predictability is as important as the funding amount itself. Students are balancing tuition, rent, food, transportation, employment, and family responsibilities. Policy shifts that alter affordability must be accompanied by transparent communication and active monitoring of their real-world impact.

Affordability cannot be considered in isolation. Tuition adjustments and changes to student aid operate together and their cumulative effect must be carefully assessed.



MSA calls for:

- Consultation with students to understand how the OSAP changes will affect different student circumstances;
- Transparent monitoring of affordability and access indicators as tuition adjustments take effect; and
- Focused attention to equity impacts to ensure barriers to completion are not increased

Students deserve clarity. They deserve predictability. And they deserve confidence that postsecondary education will remain accessible and achievable.

MSA will continue gathering student feedback, engaging constructively with the college and all provincial parties, and keeping students informed as further details emerge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pedro Nemezio de Campos Silva'.

Pedro Nemezio de Campos Silva
MSA President (on behalf of the MSA Board of Directors)