



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2023

Contact: Sydona Chandon
Executive Director
(506) 259-5700
director@nbsa-aenb.ca

**NBSA Announces its Advocacy Week:
Investing in a Sustainable Future for the Leaders of Tomorrow**

Fredericton, NB- From October 16th to 20th, 2023, the New Brunswick Student Alliance (hereinafter NBSA) plans to host Advocacy meetings while introducing the 'Investing in a Sustainable Future for Tomorrow's Leaders 2023-2024' advocacy document. This document will comprehensively outline our recommendations to the Government of New Brunswick, addressing critical areas within the post-secondary education landscape.

NBSA Board of Directors and student delegates from Mount Allison University, St. Thomas University and University of New Brunswick Saint John, will meet with Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), university administrators, and relevant stakeholders to advocate for our key priorities which include; affordability, international students, mental health services, sexual violence support, adequate housing, and food insecurity.

"During Advocacy Week, we bridge the gap between students and change-makers, igniting urgent conversations to build a brighter future for higher education," says Emily Boucher, Chair of the NBSA. "We are eager to engage with stakeholders during Advocacy Week to address the critical issues students face in post-secondary education. In these challenging times, their voices need to be heard across the province."

This year, the NBSA is bringing key recommendations that are integral in breaking barriers to postsecondary education in New Brunswick. These recommendations include: investing in an EDI Action Plan, implementing recommendations outlined in the 2022 Systemic Racism Commissioner's Final Report, creating a rental registry, thoroughly create additional off and on-campus student housing, urging university administration to support efforts in fighting food insecurity, accounting for inflation rates and the rising costs of living while incorporating student consultation when limiting increases to operational grants, further increase to operational grants, assist in developing a provincial strategy for mental health on university campuses, invest in mental health initiatives, support on-campus trauma-informed support services and initiatives, and adopt an accountability framework requiring universities to review and update sexual violence policies.

“This document is a visual representation of months of consultation between committees, stakeholders, students and our board members who have dedicated their time to serving student needs. Investing in a Sustainable Future for Post-secondary Education is vital to the economic growth and transformation of our province.” Says Sydona Chandon, Executive Director.

We seek the continued support of our stakeholders as we advocate for student needs, further breaking the barriers to an accessible, affordable, inclusive and quality postsecondary education in New Brunswick.