



Federation of New Brunswick Faculty Associations
65 Brunswick Street Suite 287 Fredericton, NB E3B 1G5
Tel: 506-458-8977 Fax: 506-458-5820 fnbfa@nb.aibn.com www.fnbfa.ca

The Federation of New Brunswick Faculty Associations (FNBFA) represents the interests of more than 1200 university faculty at St. Thomas University (Fredericton); Mount Allison University (Sackville); l'Université de Moncton (Edmundston, Moncton and Shippagan); and the University of New Brunswick (Fredericton and Saint John).

2006 ELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

You are asked to consider the issues outlined below, and to respond to the related questions that follow. Please be kind enough to complete this brief questionnaire and return it to the Federation, preferably by e-mail to

fnbfa@nb.aibn.com
or
by fax to (506) 458-5620

on or before **September 13, 2006**, to permit us to communicate your responses (or failure to respond) to our members before they cast their vote on **September 18**.

Background

- According to a recent study conducted by the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the New Brunswick families on the lowest one-fifth of the income scale would have to devote an average of 53.6% of their after-tax income to university tuition fees.
- This province has the second-highest university tuition fees in Canada. Consequently, although a highly educated workforce is essential for New Brunswick's economic success, many New Brunswickers cannot afford a university education. Student loans, which ultimately must be repaid, simply make a university education more widely accessible—they do not make it more affordable.
- In the "best case scenario" (i.e., assuming that none of them have taken voluntary early retirement in the interim), 30% of the 2003-2004 academic year's full-time New Brunswick university faculty will have been forced out of the system by mandatory retirement by the year 2013.

Questions

1. Will your Party support a fully adequate system of non-repayable student financial assistance?

_____ Yes _____ No

If not, why not?

2. Will your Party increase universities' operating funding by a sufficient amount each year to keep pace with inflation and eliminate tuition fee hikes?

_____ Yes _____ No

If not, why not?

3. Will your Party pass legislation to abolish mandatory retirement in New Brunswick?

_____ Yes _____ No

If not, why not?

4. Does your Party have a plan to retain and recruit new faculty members for New Brunswick's universities to address increasing workload demands on the shrinking group of university faculty?

_____ Yes _____ No

Thank You!