



December 22, 2020

The Honourable Scott Moe
Premier of Saskatchewan
226 Legislative Building
Regina, Saskatchewan
CANADA S4S 0B3

Season's Greetings,

My name is Jesse White; I am the President of the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Students' Association (SPSA). I am writing to you today as the official representative of over seven thousand post-secondary students across Saskatchewan attending Sask Polytech. As students, we have chosen this, one of the most challenging times in our Province's history, to pursue higher education to contribute to the future of our Province.

That brings me to the reason for this letter. The holidays are usually a relaxing time for students. We finish our finals, get our marks and enjoy well-earned rest with our family and friends. We take this time to recharge and rejoice with loved ones to put our best efforts into the next semester. This holiday, however, we are frustrated, we are tired, and we are alone. The COVID-19 pandemic is a complex issue that has taken longer to contain and maintain than anyone expected. Regardless of its complexity, Saskatchewan students need a more direct and effective response to the pandemic and its resulting conditions from our government.

Students are struggling with the learning from home environment. We are facing issues that no group of students have ever encountered before us. We are receiving less of an educational experience, and we are paying just as much. We have brought these concerns forward to both the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Senior Management team and the former Minister of Advanced Education. Still, they have responded that as our credential remains the same, so too should our tuition cost.

It is looking more and more likely that most students will not see the inside of a Saskatchewan Polytechnic Campus this fall. The Ministry has decided to keep learning online until everyone is safe, and we as an Association, support any decision to keep our members safe. However, if students are to thrive in this environment, we need more support from our elected officials.

I hope you and everyone in your office have a Happy Holiday. I hope you recharge and rejoice with loved ones through a Zoom call or in an outdoor gathering with no more than ten people socially distanced. I hope you and your fellow elected officials then come back to work and make difficult decisions to contain and maintain this pandemic even if not every one of your supporters agrees with the actions necessary to do so.

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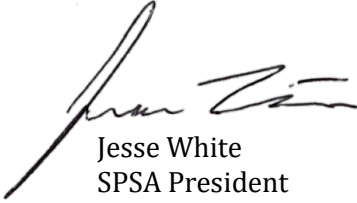
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This message comes to you on behalf of future leaders of Saskatchewan. Please take it to heart.



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CC: Hon. Gene Makowsky, Minister of Advanced Education

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