



an overwhelming burden of work, school, and life, at an exceptionally greater cost than the average domestic student. Many international students are afraid to seek emotional support out of fear of getting deported, or the denial of a work permit (Celeste 10). For many students travelling from abroad, they also face the language barrier, therefore effecting their ability to pass classes, and create bonds with Canadian students (Celeste 10). The students are not the only ones feeling pressure to pass; faculty across all colleges and universities and feeling compulsion to pass students whether they are meeting criteria or not (Celeste 9). The pressure to pass unprepared international students places the reputation of Canadian education at risk when faced against other higher education institutions (Celeste 9). Through this, BC shows that although international students are valued financially, they are not shown the same socio-cultural and physical appreciation as domestic students are (Celeste 9). The solution to these issues is much

simpler than it may appear. The British Columbia Federation of Students (BCFS), also known as the student union, has proposed a two-phase solution in order to create fairness for international students. Step one would be for the government to: “amend the Tuition Fee Limit Policy to include international students.” The first step would create the predictability and fairness that domestic students have had since 2005 (Celeste 11). The second step would be to strategize and provide a sufficient increase in support to international students to help in the integration socially, culturally, and academically (Celeste 11). The second step is there to create a platform for international students to feel comfortable and secure, while enjoying their time spent in classrooms in Canada—as opposed to the government thinking of international education in terms of increasing numbers. In conclusion, British Columbia’s government must act sooner, rather than later, to avoid a complete crash in international education, and the

great economic support it gives to the government. With BC hosting such a significant number of international students in Canada, there is a significant amount of room for the current tuition fee model to fail miserably. Though the cost of education is high, international students are also dealing with the burden of not having access to support. The current model is irresponsible, unregulated, unpredictable, and finally, unfair. The mission the BCFS has been given, is to flip that around. The BCFS is campaigning for fairness for international students, using the two-step initiative they have designed. The first is to amend the Tuition Fee Limit Policy, and the second is to provide more support in all areas to the international students, to create a successful post-secondary experience.