

The Mount Royal Faculty Association is deeply concerned about the cuts to funding for post-secondary education announced in yesterday's budget.

After two years of no increase in operating grants, the government promised a 2% increase. Suddenly that has turned into an almost 7% decrease.

These cuts will inevitably reduce the quality of our post-secondary education and harm the future of Alberta. This budget ensures that Alberta students, who already graduate with an average of \$28,000 in government funded debt, will suffer.

Alberta needs to diversify its economy and a well funded system of post-secondary education is required to do this.

The Mount Royal Faculty Association urges the provincial government to collaborate with post-secondary institutions to create affordable, accessible education so that all Albertans have an opportunity to contribute to the future of the province in productive ways.