



## Press Conference Held At The Ontario Legislative Assembly

*Request presented to the Premier of Ontario on February 10, 2015*

**TO:** *The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of the province of Ontario*

**C.C.:** *The Honourable Raza Moridi, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities*

*The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, Attorney General of Ontario and Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs*

The *Regroupement étudiant franco-ontarien (RÉFO)*, the *Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne (FESFO)* and *L'Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario (L'Assemblée)* request that the Premier of Ontario commit to creating a new French language university in Ontario by naming, before the end of the next parliamentary session, a **transitional Board of Governors** charged with the establishment of this university within the next three years.

Based on the results of the *États généraux sur le postsecondaire en Ontario français* (Estates General on French-language Postsecondary Education in Ontario), the transitionnal Board of Governors' mandate should be the following:

- To order a **study on the possible scenarios of implementation** for a new French language university. This independent university must have a provincial mandate with the initial priority of establishing a primary campus in central and southwestern Ontario;
- To follow-up on the results of this study and ensure the implementation of the recommended plan for the creation of a French language university, **while securing financing** from both the Provincial and Federal governments, as well as from the private sector, to ensure the establishment and the long-term operation of this new institution;
- To define the mandate of the university, and propose a **draft University Charter** to be adopted by the Government of Ontario;
- To create a **central administration** that will be responsible for the management of this new institution and the recruitment of the first cohort of students for the 2018-2019 academic year;
- To name an **academic senate** with a mandate to establish the initial programs and faculties in preparation for the **first academic semester in September of 2018**.

The members of the transitional Board of Governors, who must be representative of the main regions of the Province, will be named jointly by the Government of Ontario and the partner organisations of the Estates General. The Board must also be composed of experts from the university community and from post-secondary administration, as well as representatives of the Franco-Ontarian community and university students. Finally, the transitional Board of Governors must **receive appropriate funding** to hire a management team with the responsibility to lead these initiatives independently over the course of the next three years.