

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Students vote in favour of a U-Pass at Sheridan College

December 3, 2018 (Oakville, ON): From November 26-30, full-time students at Sheridan were asked to vote in a U-Pass Referendum, jointly hosted by the Sheridan Student Union (SSU) and Sheridan College. Students were able to vote in favour of, or against, the implementation of a Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass) that would provide unlimited ridership on public transit routes operated by the three municipal transit authorities in Brampton, Mississauga, and Oakville for all eligible full-time students at Sheridan College.

For results to be binding, a minimum of 15% of eligible voters were required to participate in the referendum. The SSU and Sheridan College are happy to report a voter participation rate of 25%, with 4,805 of the 19,260 eligible full-time Sheridan students casting their ballots last week.

In the online vote, eligible students were asked if they were in favour of establishing a non-refundable ancillary fee of \$197.15 per term to enable the proposed U-Pass to be introduced at Sheridan College. The votes were as follows:

2742 - YES
2063 - NO

The majority of voters were in support of the U-Pass implementation and as a result, SSU will work collaboratively with Sheridan College to begin Steering Group meetings immediately with our transit partners to ensure a seamless transition to the U-Pass.

“I’m pleased with the strong turnout during this referendum, and seeing students provide clear direction on our path forward. Students chose their route, and we’re pleased to work with Sheridan College to undertake their wishes.” Enrique Ponce, President

“The SSU Board of Directors are proud to have been able to bring forth a transit referendum proposal to Sheridan students. As a student-led organization, we are delighted to have secured a binding result, and we thank all students for the participation in this important vote.” David Siringo Ringo, SSU Board Chair.

“We know that public transit is key to students’ mobility and access to our campuses”, adds Wayne Steffler, Vice President Finance and Administration at Sheridan College. “Over the coming months, the College looks forward to working

with our transit providers and the Sheridan Student Union to bring discounted and unlimited transit, through a U-pass, to our student body.”

Sheridan Student Union is pleased to have had such strong support from Oakville, Mississauga(MiWay) and Brampton Transit (including Züm) as partners in the formulation of the successful U-Pass proposal, and looks forward to working closely with each of the partners in order to secure official municipal approval of the proposed U-Pass proposal, as we work towards a September 2019 implementation.

Sheridan Student Union will continue inform the Sheridan community about next steps through their website (thessu.ca/referendum) and social media channels.

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About the SSU:

The Sheridan Student Union (SSU) is an organized body that represents the full-time and part-time students of Sheridan College. Governed by 12 elected student leaders, the SSU strives to unite the student body and improve the student experience through programs and services and is responsible for advocating and being a voice for Sheridan students. www.thessu.ca

About Sheridan:

Founded in 1967, Sheridan has grown from a local college of 400 students to one of Ontario’s leading postsecondary institutions, educating approximately 23,000 full-time and 18,500 continuing and part-time studies students every year, on three campuses in Oakville, Brampton and Mississauga. An award-winning institution, Sheridan attracts students from across Canada and around the world. Sheridan’s 170,000 alumni play a critical role in shaping the future of our society in the fields of arts, business, community service, health, technology, and the skilled trades.

For more information, contact:

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