

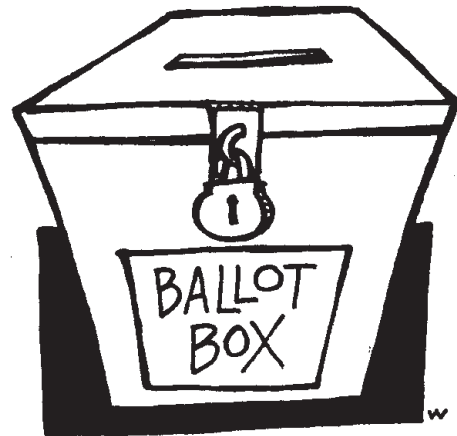
## Sample questions for candidates

**1** Average undergraduate tuition fees have more than doubled in the past 10 years, putting the promise of an education beyond the reach of more and more Canadians. If elected, what steps would you take to make post-secondary education more affordable?

**2** Upon graduation, the average student in Canada now owes more than \$25,000. What, in your view, is the best way to reduce this burden?

**3** In 1996, the federal government cut nearly \$7 billion in cash transfers to the provinces in support of health care, social assistance and post-secondary education. Today, when adjusted for inflation and population growth, the value of these cash transfers for post-secondary education remain well below that of 10 years ago. Do you support an increase in federal cash transfers for post-secondary education? If so, by how much?

**4** CAUT has proposed that the federal government implement a *Post-Secondary Education Act*, modelled after the *Canada Health Act*. The purpose would be to provide stable federal funding for post-secondary education in exchange for greater



provincial accountability over how funds are spent. Would you support this Act? Why or why not?

**5** Demographic changes and rising demand mean enrolments are expected to increase steadily over the next decade. What would you do to make sure there are enough spaces and academic staff to meet this demand without compromising the quality of education students receive?

**6** As core funding for universities and colleges has been reduced, the infrastructure of campuses across Canada has fallen into serious disrepair. Classrooms are over-crowded, library acquisitions have been reduced, research facilities are inadequate and many buildings are unsafe. What would you do to ensure universities and colleges have the funding needed to deal with these urgent problems?