

**For Immediate Release
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Post-secondary students and the environment fall of the radar screen and infrastructure promises recycled in budget, Thornhill MP Susan Kadis says

OTTAWA – Thornhill MP Susan Kadis, the Associate Critic for Infrastructure and Communities, says the budget fails to offer direct financial support for post-secondary students; ignores the environment and largely recycles money already committed to infrastructure investments.

“This government has enough money to invest in the environment and post-secondary education and should not be letting these students and the environment down so significantly as they have today,” Mrs. Kadis said.

“What legacy are they leaving our children?” Mrs. Kadis added.

Mrs. Kadis added: “There is no renewal of the Green Municipal Funds, which successfully leveraged \$1 billion of investments in environmental and sustainable infrastructure.”

“There is very little new money in the budget for infrastructure after taking away the nearly \$4 billion already allocated to existing infrastructure funds, along with the GST rebate and the gas tax transfer of \$7.1 billion which has also already been committed in previous budgets,” Mrs. Kadis said. “Approximately 75 per cent of this budget’s new commitments will not be delivered to our cities and communities until 2008-09.”

Mrs. Kadis pointed to the elimination of \$2 billion in climate change programs and the non-mention of Kyoto as additional areas of deep concern. She also said that the budget does nothing towards relieving the heavy costs and financial burden student’s face for post-secondary education.

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