



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **THE FEDERATION OF BLACK CANADIANS (FBC) RECEIVES FUNDING FROM THE STUDENT SUPPORTS FOR LEARNING PROGRAM (SSLP)**

We are excited to announce that we have launched a program that will support over 120 high school youth across five provinces and provide educational bursaries to several hard working youth from among the provincial cohorts. In addition, FBC will be working with several front line Black led agencies in various provinces to provide academic tutoring, persistence and preparedness coaching, as well as comprehensive mentorship, physical and mental wellbeing support.

The funding is being provided by the Student Supports for Learning Program (SSLP) within the Federal Government's Service Canada department. Founded in 2017, one of FBC's focus areas has been to eliminate systemic barriers in all levels of education, which is in line with the SSLPs goal to make sure students have the educational support needed for future success.

"I am very excited to see this opportunity finally come to fruition. Our hope is that this program helps to showcase that there are greater ways schools can work with Black led community agencies to promote higher education, access to greater representation, and equitable support for youth. The hope is that this encourages more unique working relationships between schools and grass root community groups who can assist in reducing barriers, bringing in more diversity, and increasing graduation rates among marginalized groups."

- *Chris Thompson, Executive Director FBC*

The SSLP is designed to fund expert organizations to provide services and open opportunities to students. These supports, provided outside the classroom, make it easier for students to stay in school, continue their studies and gain new skills that will help them succeed in their education. Through this program, the FBC will be organizing a youth program as well as providing support such as after school tutoring and one-on-one mentorships.

For more information about the Federation of Black Canadians and our current and past projects, please visit [www.fbcfcn.ca](http://www.fbcfcn.ca)

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