



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **CBIE announces renewed financing for Libyan scholars in North America**

*Ottawa, June 22, 2011:* The Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) is pleased to announce that we have received confirmation that the Libyan Ministry of Education and Scientific Research has transferred funding to us through the Libyan Central Bank for the purposes of the continued operations of the Libyan-North American Scholarship Program. The new funding will cover monthly living allowances, health insurance and tuition fees to the end of May 2012, for the benefit of 2,500 Libyan scholars as well as their dependents studying at several hundred educational institutions across Canada and the United States.

“I gratefully acknowledge the vigorous behind-the-scenes efforts of government officials in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom, as well as the United Nations Security Council, in achieving this successful outcome for Libyan students in North America and for their host institutions,” said Karen McBride, CBIE President and CEO. “In particular, CBIE is appreciative of the sustained support and cooperation of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, the U.S. State Department, and the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control. The Libyan Ministry of Education and Scientific Research is to be credited for its commitment to ensuring the continuation of this important educational program at a tremendously challenging point in time.”

Over the past few months, the distress of the Libyan scholars and their dependents, concerned about the security of families and friends while coping with the demands of their study programs, has been foremost in the thoughts of CBIE and colleagues. CBIE offers its sincere thanks to the North American educational institutions hosting Libyan scholars for the excellent support they have provided since February. As well, CBIE extends its appreciation to its partner associations in Canada and the United States, as well as to the many community groups and individuals who have played an important role in offering assistance to the Libyan students and their families when it was most needed.

CBIE has been administering the Libyan-North American Scholarship Program since early 2010. The Program will now pursue its objective of strengthening Libya’s future human resource capacity through enabling scholars to continue their graduate studies and post-graduate programs in North America.

*Founded in 1966, CBIE is a national non-governmental organization comprised of 155 colleges, universities, school boards, organizations and government departments. CBIE is dedicated to the internationalization of education and the expansion of educational partnerships between Canada and countries across the globe.*

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