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UNC Youth Arm warns: Students to feel wrath of property tax

Darlisa Ghoural | May 5, 2017 09:20 AM ET



The Youth Arm of the United National Congress (UNC) has expressed concern over what it believes is a complete disregard by the government towards tertiary education students at the University of the West Indies (UWI) who rent off-campus as the new Property Tax regime is set to come on stream.

In a statement, it says students - particularly those from south Trinidad who access accommodation off campus - stand to be directly affected by the implementation of the property tax as they will likely face increased rental fees as landlords seek to cover the expense of the tax.

“Once more the interest of students have been sacrificed at the hands of the government who have grown accustomed to treating the young people of Trinidad and Tobago with much disdain,” the party’s youth arm said.

In addition to this, it said, the restructured GATE scheme is set to take effect in the upcoming academic year which will see students having to bear the cost of their tuition at tertiary level institutions.

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“We remain steadfast in our view that education and training is necessary for a nation to prosper and this government has shown much contempt for same at every turn,” it stated.

The UNC Youth Arm called on the Government to address the issue and questioned what plans are in place to address the “impending high tertiary education drop-out rate as students will no longer be financially able to gain an education”.

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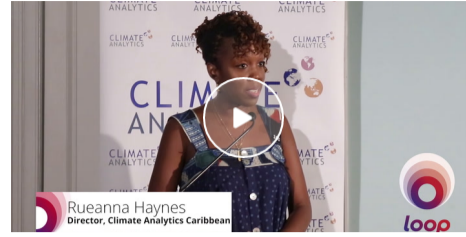
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