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**Abstract**

The citizens of Ontario are requiring increasingly specialized skills. These are needed by the business community so that it will be able to compete effectively in the global economy. A perception exists that the traditional, publicly funded universities in Ontario are ill equipped to provide the necessary training that is required by employers. The reasons cited are the following: (i) inadequately applied science programmes; and (ii) insufficient space to accommodate students pursuing university education. The reduction in funding for Ontario universities makes the expansion of their current infrastructures a rather difficult proposition. Therefore, permitting private universities to operate in Ontario might be a viable option for increasing access to university education. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)