



## **MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION – Maritime Student Photographers Win Big**

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**Fredericton (NB)** — The fourth-annual Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) Student Photo Contest has now wrapped up, and three talented students will be rewarded with cash prizes for their thoughtful and creative entries. The Contest focuses on capturing what a high-quality university experience looks like, and students rose to the challenge this year; the MPHEC considered dozens of entries from students representing 13 Maritime universities.

“It is always a joy to see the imaginative ways students show what a quality student experience means to them,” said Jean-François Richard, MPHEC Chair. “This contest has become a wonderful tradition at the MPHEC and I’m thrilled at the response we’ve seen over the past four years. The work we do is for students and this is a great opportunity for them to communicate what they value in their university education.”

This year’s winning entry, entitled “Inspiration”, by Sydney MacLennan of Dalhousie University, shows a woman’s face overlaid on stacks of books. MacLennan says she feels most inspired to learn when she is surrounded by quality literature. The first-year student will be taking home a prize of \$500 for her work.

Two runners-up will also each receive \$250 for their entries. Mount Allison University’s Adrian Kiva’s “Down by the Bay” depicts marine biology students collecting data in the Bay of Fundy. Yinghao Zheng from Cape Breton University submitted a photo entitled “Engaging with the world” of a student looking at a display of flags, contemplating his upcoming graduation and transition from thinking to acting in the world.

“I think it’s very telling that this year’s three winning photographs show very different but equally important sides of student life and learning,” says Richard. “From literature and introspection, to experiential learning, to becoming an active global citizen, students’ paths to learning are diverse, as reflected in these photos.”

The MPHEC was established in 1974. The MPHEC is an arm’s length organization accountable to the ministers responsible for postsecondary education in the Maritimes. The Commission comprises 20 members representing universities, the public-at-large (including students), and the three Maritime governments. The Commission’s primary orientation in carrying out its duties is to give first consideration to improving and maintaining the best possible service to students as lifelong learners.



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