

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION - Tuition fees at Maritime universities: modest increases keep pace with the rate of inflation

October 6, 2011
For immediate release

Fredericton, N.B. - According to figures released today, October 6, 2011, by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, after three years of stability, tuition fees at Maritime universities did increase this year.

Tuition fees for an undergraduate arts program for 2011-2012 range from \$4,770 to \$6,920, while tuition fees for an undergraduate science program range from \$4,950 to \$7,044, up 3 % from last year, on par with the inflation rate.

"The cost of education is front and center among the concerns of students and their parents." said Mireille Duguay, CEO of the MPHEC. "Since tuition fees in the region vary by program, by institution, and by province, the information released today will assist students and parents in decision-making".

In New Brunswick, tuition fee increases were capped by the provincial government at \$200, ending a three-year tuition fee freeze. This resulted in a 3.0% to 4.4% increase in tuition fees. In Nova Scotia, a 3.0% increase in tuition fees was allowed by the provincial government after four years of steady fees. In Prince Edward Island, tuition fees were increased by \$90, or 1.9%.

Students from Prince Edward Island studying in the province receive the \$2,000 George Coles Bursary in their first year of studies and the Island Student Award over the next three years, for a total of \$3,600 in tuition support over four years. Nova Scotia students studying in the province benefit from an annual provincial tuition rebate worth \$1,283 if they are studying full-time; out-of-province students are eligible for a rebate of \$261.

Tables released by the Commission contain information on undergraduate arts and science as well as graduate tuition. The tables are available at www.mphec.ca.

The MPHEC was established in 1974 to assist institutions and governments in enhancing the post-secondary learning environment. The commission's 20 members are drawn from the Maritime provinces, and represent higher education institutions, provincial governments and the general public.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

After three years of stability, tuition fees at Maritime universities increased this year. The 3 per cent increase keeps pace with the rate of inflation.

In the Maritimes, undergraduate arts tuition fees for 2011-2012 range from 4-thousand, 770 dollars to 6-thousand 920 dollars, according to figures released today, (October 6, 2011), by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.

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