



March 14, 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SENATES

An Exceptional and Transformative Student Experience

Canada's Business Model Competition

Curtis Kennedy, a mechanical engineering student who is part of the Technology, Management and Entrepreneurship program was the winner at the sixth annual Canada's Business Model Competition this weekend.

He took home \$15,000 for Vertiball, a wall-mounted roller ball for back-pain relief. His design uses suction cups so users can mount the ball at any height on a wall and roll out hard-to-reach muscle knots.

Curtis participated in both the Summer Institute and the RBC Technology Commercialization programs. The new makerspace helped him develop his product.

Student Mental Health Task Force

Thank you to Laurelle LeVert, Associate Vice-President Saint John and Kathy Wilson, Associate Vice-President Academic (Learning Environment) who have agreed to co-chair a Student Mental Health Task Force. We are in the final stages of populating the task force with members of faculty, staff and students from both campuses. We expect the task force to begin meeting in April. While their first task will be to define terms of reference for the group, the intention in striking the task force is to ensure we are engaged in best practices related to supporting our students in their mental health.

Copyright Act Review

Following the adoption of a motion put forward in Parliament by Ministers Bains and Joly, Parliament will undertake a review of Canada's Copyright Act. Supreme Court decisions have indicated on multiple occasions that the "Fair Dealing" provisions of the Copyright Act set out important user rights for those wishing to use copyrighted materials. Education has consistently been recognized as an important exception to copyright infringement.

UNB has taken reasonable steps to develop best practice policy and procedures, to provide proper copyright clearance, and to manage the risks of inadvertent or unintentional infringements. UNB already pays approximately \$4 million per year for licensed resources. Universities spend these large sums because access to knowledge is critical to providing students with the state-of-the-art education and training necessary to advance innovation.

There is a consistent position on educational fair dealing within the post-secondary sector. Universities Canada, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, and others, are seeking a modernized, reasonable, and balanced approach to educational fair dealing. As the review process unfolds, UNB will engage in collaborative advocacy in support of a fair and balanced approach to fair dealing. This may include representation at in-region review hearings, if and when these are announced. UNB has already engaged its MPs and staff on this issue, and will continue to present its case.

Experiential Education

The successful launch and funding of the much-anticipated experiential education project is currently under way. The position of Director, Experiential Education is posted for a three year, externally funded term. Additional funding is being released as we roll out the program, including incentive funding to assist faculties or departments to support the creation or growth of experiential education capacity in partnership with external business or non-profits. An internal call for project submissions has been sent to Deans for consideration.

Leadership in Discovery and Innovation

CIHR Funding Announcement

On March 16, Federal Health Minister Ginette Petitpas Taylor and federal MP Matt DeCoursey were on the Fredericton Campus to announce \$300,000 to three universities to fund research into antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The project, led by, Dr. Suzanne Hindmarch and a majority-Indigenous research team, will consult with Indigenous organizations in Canada to learn about their perspectives on AMR. It will examine the extent to which Indigenous organizations see AMR as a health challenge in their communities, and how Indigenous organizations have, and would like to be, involved in the Canadian and international groups and networks that are working to address AMR.

Crabtree Visiting Scholar

James Hughes, a Crabtree Visiting Scholar in New Brunswick Public Policy at UNB and a former deputy minister of social development is one of the architects of the province's poverty reduction strategy. He will be taking centre stage at two upcoming events hosted by the Urban and Community Studies Institute at UNB's Saint John campus that are examining the role of government intervention in reducing social ills.

As Crabtree Visiting Scholar, Mr. Hughes will spend time with faculty, staff and students on both campuses as well as with community partners, government officials and politicians, to explore and discuss the need for improved policymaking in poverty reduction, the capacity of UNB to fill at least part of this need and the various options available to implement a plan of action.

A distinguished professional who has been active in the social development arena since the early 1990s, Mr. Hughes has held a number of senior social policy roles during his career, primarily in Montreal. He is currently executive lead for government and partner relations at J.W. McConnell Family Foundation in Montreal, one of Canada's oldest private family foundations.

From 2008 to 2011, while serving as deputy minister with the Department of Social Development in New Brunswick, Mr. Hughes was instrumental in the development and implementation of the provincial poverty reduction plan.



Financial Resilience and Responsibility

MOU with province

The provincial government signed our memorandum of understanding on March 13, 2018. This MOU represents stable tuition for students and predictable multi-year funding for UNB. The agreement also represents an investment of almost \$28 million over four years and is in addition to our existing operating funding. Other highlights include:

- Increases to the university's operational funding will be one per cent in each of the first three years, followed by two per cent in 2020-21.
- Tuition increases will be capped at two per cent per year for the duration of a degree in which a New Brunswick student is already enrolled in 2018-19 or earlier.
- Universities may undertake a tuition review for which results would only be implemented in 2019-20 and apply to new students enrolled in 2019-20.
- Funding for pilot projects aims to increase enrolment and allow for more research and development opportunities

Building a Better University

Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre marks 25 years

On International Women's Day, the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre (MMFC) held an anniversary celebration. The MMFC has spent the past 25 years leading the way towards a solution to violence against women and children. This celebration was the first of many events to mark 25 years of changing the conversation. Other events include: an event with Nora Spinks, president of the Vanier Institute of the Family, and the release of a commemorative book.

Through collaborative and action-oriented research, the MMFC has shaped policy and service delivery, as well as provided the basis for education and training materials. The centre translates research into information that's easily accessible to the public. MMFC and its partners have contributed to society's understanding of the different forms of family violence, the effects of family violence on women's equality, and the different contexts which shape the services available to victims and perpetrators.

Rina Arseneault headed to United Nations

Rina Arseneault, the associate director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research (MMFC), is headed to the United Nations to share her expertise on family violence with representatives from across the globe.

She has been invited to join the Canadian delegation at the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The session will take place at the United Nations headquarters in New York from March 12 – 23. Ms. Arseneault is one of 12 leaving from Canada to join Canadian delegates already in New York as well as representatives from member states, UN entities and non-governmental organizations from around the world.

Delegates at the session will discuss issues and action items around this year's theme: challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.

The issue of access to services and programs for women and girls in rural areas, like rural New Brunswick, is of particular interest to Ms. Arseneault, whose past research has examined access to the justice system for women who have experienced intimate partner violence.

The 203 Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity

The 203 Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity opened on the Fredericton Campus in February. It is run by an advisory board comprised of UNB students, faculty and staff. It provides LGBTQIA2S+ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgendered, queer, intersex, asexual, two-spirit) students, faculty and staff with a welcoming, safe, and comfortable place to gather and socialize.

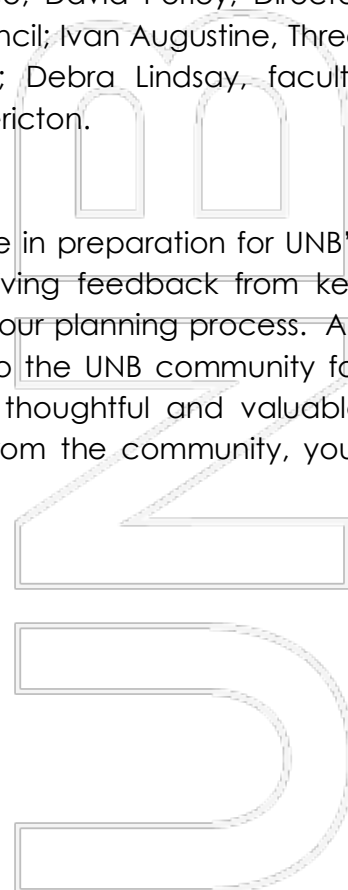
As a community-driven space, the advisory board is asking community members to come forward with suggestions and ideas on programming that The 203 should offer. Through these initiatives, the centre's goal is to help foster a culture of advocacy with regard to LGBTQIA2S+ issues on the UNB campus.

TRC Strategic Action Plan

On Monday, March 12 we announced UNB's TRC Strategic Action Plan to the UNB community. The report is now available online at: <http://www.unb.ca/president/reports.html>. The first item in the plan, appointing an Indigenous Lead, is underway and I am grateful to members of the Indigenous Lead search committee who have agreed to take part in this important search: George MacLean, Vice-President Academic (Committee Chair); Imelda Perley, Elder-in-Residence; David Perley, Director Mi'kmaq Wolastoqey Centre; Kenya Plut UNB Student Representatives Council; Ivan Augustine, Three Nations Education Group; Bob Atwin, First Nations Education Initiative; Debra Lindsay, faculty representative from Saint John; Susan Blair faculty representative from Fredericton.

Strategic Planning

We continue to populate membership for the Strategic Planning task force in preparation for UNB's next strategic planning process to be launched. We have been receiving feedback from key stakeholders, including both senates, which has been helpful in improving our planning process. An updated process document, including new timelines, will be presented to the UNB community for feedback via electronic survey shortly. Thank you to senators for your thoughtful and valuable feedback in recent meetings. We continue to welcome all feedback from the community, your comments can be sent at any time to strategic.planning@unb.ca.



UNB's Green Review

UNB Sustainability has taken part in an annual Green Review for the past three years. The Green Review (<http://unb.uberflip.com/i/942852-unb-green-review-2016-17>) focuses on areas where UNB is taking action to help the planet, featuring information on food waste and sustainability, education, reducing your ecological footprint and how the community can make a difference with small changes to their daily lives. The report highlights initiatives, projects, practices and research that departments and faculties are implementing across UNB's Fredericton and Saint John campuses as well as surrounding communities to reduce their ecological footprints.

UNB has been working on green initiatives since 1997 when it implemented an energy management program on the Fredericton campus. Since that time, UNB has saved \$15.7 million with \$1.9 million being saved last year alone.

The audits reveal areas, that if improved, will provide a return to the university over an eight-year period. UNB is also registering the buildings under NB Power's Commercial Building Retrofit Program, which provides incentives for improvements made to the buildings.

This year, six buildings on the Fredericton campus have been retrofitted with LED light bulbs replacing their inefficient counterparts. Accompanying the changes, automatic sensors have been installed in low-traffic areas to shut off lights when they are not necessary. Saint John has already swapped 55 per cent of its interior lighting to LED, and all of its exterior lighting.

