



Advanced Education, Skills & Immigration

Office of the Deputy Minister
Room 160
Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

February, 15, 2022

Ms Linda Markus
Vice-Chair, Board of Governors
University College of the North
linda_markus@hotmail.com

Mr. Doug Lauvstad
President and Vice-Chancellor
University College of the North
dlauvstad@ucn.ca

Dear Ms Markus and Mr. Lauvstad:

The Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration continues to promote access to advanced education opportunities for Manitobans through strong, competitive post-secondary institutions providing the quality education Manitobans have come to expect. As the pandemic eases into an endemic, economic recovery and growth remains a top priority. The department will continue to work closely with post-secondary institutions and employers so Manitobans can gain the right skills to succeed and build their careers here at home.

Our efforts will continue to be guided by our shared priorities detailed in your mandate letter, recommendations from the Auditor General, and the Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy. Together we will continue to promote student success, foster partnerships with industry, increase work-integrated learning opportunities, advance Indigenous and International Education and ensure that we remain good stewards of public funds and maintain balanced budgets.

The overall post-secondary funding envelope for 2022/23 is \$702.4 million. The University College of the North will be receiving \$36,391,914.00 to support operational needs. Funding should be invested into programming that supports successful outcomes for students and efforts to ensure that post-secondary education remains accessible.

As you know, after consulting our universities and colleges regarding the possible expansion of nursing programs, government announced its plans to add new nursing education seats across the province. The department appreciates the responsiveness of our post-secondary institutions in starting to address this immediate and critical need. In support of this effort the 2022/23 funding allocation to the University College of the North includes an increase in support for the University College of the North approved nursing seat expansions.

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We appreciate the work that has been done to maintain access and affordability for Manitoba students. Respecting the intent of keeping tuition affordable for students, your institution should target 3.75% as the maximum tuition increase for university programs and \$250.00 per program as the maximum allowable increase for college programs this year. Institutions may propose variable tuition increases by university program under certain conditions. To assist in this regard, as in previous years, the department will provide a template for approval of allowable tuition increases. If you have any questions regarding tuition increases, please contact [REDACTED]

Having received this information in advance of Budget 2022, the department is requesting that institutions return to government with a revised budget no later than March 1, 2022 to facilitate the provincial Budget development. Revised budgets should be submitted to [REDACTED] with a copy to the Post-Secondary Institutions Branch at psi@gov.mb.ca.

I look forward to our continued collaboration as we ensure the success of Manitoba students and restart our economy. If you have any questions please contact [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Eric Charron
Deputy Minister
Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration

c. Honourable Jon Reyes, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration

[REDACTED]