

Glossary of Terms

AAU	Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) is a voluntary association of the 16 universities in the Atlantic region and in the West Indies which offer programmes leading to a degree or have degree-granting status. The AAU represents the interests of universities across the region, ensuring public visibility for the important role they play in preparing future leaders of our communities, in path-breaking research and innovation, and in contributing to the economic prosperity of life in Atlantic Canada. The AAU also provides a forum where university executive heads reflect, consult and collaborate on all aspects of the whole university; define common objectives and positions; develop strategies to promote, collectively and co-operatively, the highest ideals of post-secondary education; and exercise leadership to promote the objectives of the collective. One of the fundamental roles of our association is to create greater awareness and understanding of the important contribution of universities to the social and economic development of the Atlantic Provinces.
Academic Year	The academic year at MSVU runs September to August (September to May and two (2) summer sessions that run May to August)
Bicameral	Two governing bodies. At MSVU, the bicameral structure consists of the MSVU Board of Governors, responsible for overall management of the university, with particular responsibility for property, revenues and finance, and the MSVU Senate, responsible for overseeing the academic and research policies and activities of the university.
Bilateral Agreement	The Bilateral Agreement refers to the funding agreement between the Department of Advanced Education and MSVU. The agreement outlines stipulations for funding over a two-year period, including a tuition freeze for Nova Scotian residents in undergraduate programs, new financial indicators and financial reporting requirements.
Bill 12	Bill 12, or <i>An Act Respecting Advanced Education and Research</i>, is legislation put forward in February 2025 by the Department of Advanced Education that would increase provincial government oversight of higher education, including potential impacts to the size and representation of universities' boards of governors.
Board Year	The "Board year" at MSVU begins July 1 and ends June 30
CAPP	Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning.
CAPTPAA	Committee on Appointment, Promotion & Tenure or Permanence for Academic Administrators (CAPP) the MSVU Senate committee that serves as consultant and advisor to the Senate on matters dealing with academic policy and planning. The

terms of reference for the Committee can be found within the Senate By-Laws (14.3).

CAUBO	<u>Canadian Association of University Business Officers</u> (CAUBO) is a non-profit professional organization representing the chief administrative and financial officers at over 100 universities and affiliated colleges in Canada. CAUBO provides a national perspective on matters related to higher education administration. It strengthens the capacity of leaders in the sector by connecting them with peers and information, enabling them to pursue opportunities and create solutions for shared issues.
CAUT	<u>Canadian Association of University Teachers</u> (CAUT) is the national voice for academic staff representing 72,000 teachers, librarians, researchers, general staff and other academic professionals at some 125 universities and colleges across the country. CAUT is an outspoken defender of academic freedom and works actively in the public interest to improve the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada. From lobbying governments to providing collective bargaining and legal support, CAUT actively advances the social and economic interests of its members. CAUT offers courses, workshops and conferences, and investigates threats to academic freedom. The national office undertakes extensive research, and publishes reports, newsletters, books and a monthly newspaper. CAUT liaises with Canada's media and works in national and international coalitions dedicated to the welfare of academic staff and students.
CBIE	<u>Canadian Bureau of International Education</u> (CBIE) is the national voice advancing Canadian international education by creating and mobilizing expertise, knowledge, opportunity and leadership. They are a global leader in international education, dedicated to equity, quality, inclusiveness and partnership.
CFI	<u>Canada Foundation for Innovation</u> (CFI) is a non-profit corporation that invests in research infrastructure at Canadian universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions. Their mandate is to increase the capability of Canada's universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research organizations to carry out high quality research by investing in research infrastructure.
CIHR	<u>Canadian Institutes of Health Research</u> (CIHR) is Canada's federal funding agency for health research. Composed of 13 Institutes, we collaborate with partners and researchers to support the discoveries and innovations that improve our health and strengthen our health care system
Cohort	A cohort is a group of students who work through a curriculum together to achieve the same academic degree together
CONSUP	<u>Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents</u> (CONSUP) is an informal body consisting of the presidents of the 10 degree-granting institutions in the province.

CONSUP members meet on a regular basis to deal with matters of common concern, and also meet on occasion with the appropriate minister and/or the premier. The objectives of the Council are to work for the improvement of higher education in Nova Scotia, to exercise leadership in matters concerning post-secondary education, to promote cooperation and interuniversity planning among those institutions listed in the membership, to be the channel of collective communication between the universities and the government, as well as between the universities and other bodies or individuals. The Council will make or recommend appointments to national, regional and provincial bodies as required.

CUGA	Canadian University Governance Association (CUGA) was formed in 1987 as a forum for discussion among the governing boards of member institutions. The association exists to improve the governance of Canadian universities by providing a forum for members of governing boards and board professionals to exchange of information about effective governance in higher education. The association promotes and supports the development of policies and programs that enhance the ability of university boards to discharge their fiduciary duties in an accountable way. The association holds an annual conference for board chairs, vice chairs and board professionals each spring. The annual general meeting is also held at that time.
CURIE	Canadian Universities Reciprocal Insurance Exchange (CURIE) was formed in 1987 in response to major changes in the availability of affordable commercial insurance coverage for universities. CURIE is dedicated to addressing the common and unique needs of its members by securing long-term, stable and cost-effective insurance coverage; managing claims effectively and in a way that recognizes the long-term interests of its members; providing a range of risk management and loss protection services; and sharing information and communicating best practices in risk management to its members.
Fiscal Year	MSVU's fiscal (or financial) year runs April 1 – March 31.
FTE	Full-time equivalent (FTE) refers to a measure that combines the enrollment of full-time and part-time students to provide a more accurate representation of the total student body.
GHP	Greater Halifax Partnership is Halifax Regional Municipality's economic development organization. They work to attract and grow business, talent and investment in Halifax.
Headcount	Refers to the total number of individual students enrolled at an institution, regardless of their enrolment status (e.g. full-time or part-time).
International student differential	International students often face higher tuition fees in Canada compared to domestic students. The differential is the extra amount added to the base tuition fees to cover full costs of instruction, which are not fully subsidized by government funding.

Invest Scotia	Nova	In 2022 Nova Scotia Business Inc (NSBI) and Innovacorp were consolidated to form Invest Nova Scotia . From starting up and raising capital, to incubation and acceleration, export development and investment attraction, Invest Nova Scotia helps businesses seize opportunities. They support the growth and momentum of Nova Scotia businesses of all sizes, and welcome businesses from elsewhere to join us here.
IRCC		Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is the federal department that develops policies, programs, and services that facilitates the arrival of people into Canada. They are responsible for processing applications from people wishing to visit, live in, work in, and/or study in Canada.
ISI		Inter-University Services Inc. (ISI) is comprised of a team of professionals with expertise in public procurement and administrative services within a post-secondary environment. Established in 1984, ISI has evolved and grown over the last number of years, forging stronger collaboration with member institutions and delivering significant realized value in terms of saving costs, generating efficiencies, and mitigating risks.
MOU		A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is a document that describes the broad outlines of an agreement that two or more parties have reached.
MPHEC		Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) Is an Agency of the Council of Atlantic Premiers that provides advice to Ministers responsible for Post-Secondary Education in the Maritimes. The MPHEC assists institutions and governments in enhancing the post-secondary learning environment.
NSERC		Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) funds visionaries, explorers and innovators who are searching for the scientific and technical breakthroughs that will benefit our country. They are Canada's largest supporter of discovery and innovation. They work with universities, colleges, businesses and not-for-profits to remove barriers, develop opportunities and attract new expertise to make Canada's research community thrive. As well, they give Canadian scientists and engineers the means to go further because they believe in research without borders and beyond frontiers.
PAL		Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) is an official document issues by a Canadian province or designated learning institution confirming a student's acceptance into a designated learning institution. This is typically required for international students to apply for a study permit.
Registered unit		Registered unit refers to the credits for an individual course. Data on registered units is relevant to the budget as it shows an accurate representation of the number of courses taken, regardless of student headcount.
RFP		Request for Proposal; A request for proposal (RFP) is a business document that announces a project, describes it, and solicits bids from qualified contractors to

complete it. Most organizations prefer to launch their projects using RFPs, and many governments always use them.

SEM Plan [Strategic Enrolment Management \(SEM\) Plan](#) is a deliberate and targeted approach to enrolment taking a student-centred approach, considering student progression from recruitment to completion and engagement as an alumni. This plan is a comprehensive road map that will guide our approach to enrolment, retention, and graduation over the next five years.

SIF The [Strategic Innovation Fund \(SIF\)](#) provides major investments in innovative projects that will help grow Canada's economy for the well-being of all Canadians. Mount Saint Vincent University is receiving funding under the Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, which aims to reinvigorate Canada's research and science base, address existing infrastructure needs while contributing to Canada's long-term innovation and sustainability objectives.

SSHRC [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council \(SSHRC\)](#) is the federal research funding agency that promotes and supports research and training in the humanities and social sciences

Universities Canada [Universities Canada \(UA\)](#), formerly know as the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, is the voice of Canadian universities, at home and abroad. They are a membership organization providing university presidents with a unified voice for higher education, research and innovation. Universities Canada, formerly the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, advances the mission of their member institutions to transform lives, strengthen communities and find solutions to the most pressing challenges facing our world.

UA advocates for Canadian universities at the federal level; provides a forum for university leaders to share ideas and address challenges in higher education; support students by providing online information on university study and offering scholarships on behalf of private sector companies; and fosters collaboration among universities and governments, the private sector, communities and international partners to help build a better world.