

MEMORANDUM

To: Dalhousie students

From: Ian Nason, Vice-President Finance and Administration

Date: April 9, 2015

Re: Update on tuition and fees for 2015-16

In light of Thursday's tuition announcements within the Nova Scotia provincial budget, we wish to update on tuition and fees for 2015-16.

The Budget Advisory Committee's tuition and fee recommendations for 2015-16 are not affected by Thursday's provincial budget. The recommendations include a 3% general increase in tuition fees, the international differential fee and the facilities renewal fee. These, together with budget reductions for Faculties and service units, are necessary to balance the university budget given rising costs and only a 1% increase in the provincial operating grant, the university's largest source of income.

(For more on Dalhousie's budget scenario for 2015-16, see [Dal News' "BACgrounder" article](#).)

The updated Operating Budget Plan — [now available on the Dalhousie website](#) — reflects feedback received on our draft plan that was shared in early March. It will be presented to the Board of Governors at its April meeting in advance of the final budget being approved in June. Also at the April meeting, the Board will vote to approve the tuition and fee recommendations for 2015-16.

In Thursday's provincial budget, the Government of Nova Scotia announced it will allow universities to make one-time market adjustments to tuition, after which it will reinstate a 3% cap on tuition increases for Nova Scotia undergrads. There will no longer be any cap on tuition increases for out-of-province or graduate students.

It is premature to speculate how these changes will affect tuition rates for the 2016-17 academic year. Any changes will be considered as part of Dalhousie's open and consultative budget process in the coming year. As always, there will be many opportunities for students and other stakeholders to contribute to this process. We remain committed to maintaining nationally competitive tuition rates that balance financial sustainability with ensuring a high-quality academic and student experience.

Ian Nason
Vice-President Finance and Administration