



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICES NOW ACCESSIBLE TO MOUNT ALLISON STUDENTS

Sackville, NB — On October 22nd, 2014, Mount Allison University announced a partnership with the Mount Allison Students' Union (MASU) and Emmrys, Dawe, Parlee & Associates to offer psychologist services on Mount Allison's campus once weekly on Wednesday mornings.

The Mount Allison Students' Union is proud to celebrate the accessibility to psychologist services on campus as an advocacy win for our members.

"This is something that the Mount Allison Students' Union has been working on for a very long time," says Heather Webster, Mount Allison Students' Union (MASU) President. "Vice-President, Campus Life 2012-2013, Nikki Bhatia first passed the MASU Policy on Mental Health (Policy 2013-04) with the Campus Life Committee. In February of 2013, my campaign for Vice-President, Campus Life promised members we would bring a psychologist to campus, and it is so rewarding to see this finally taking place."

Gayle Churchill, Director of Student Life at Mount Allison University, says, "Our combined diligence and persistence has paid off – Mount Allison students now have psychological services coming to campus."

"When members identify that there is a gap in services available on campus, a student association has two options," says Webster. "We can either provide the service ourselves, which was done with our Health and Dental Plan, or we can lobby the university to bring the service to campus, which is what has been done with the addition of psychologist services."

While these services are offered directly through Emmrys, Dawe, Parlee & Associates, we are proud again to announce that recent changes to our Health and Dental Plan will cover many of the associated costs with making use these psychologist services. "Under the Health & Dental Plan offered by the MASU, up to \$400 dollars of service will be covered, with a maximum of \$50 per visit," says MASU Vice-President, Finance & Operations, Josh Outerbridge. "We will be closely monitoring how this portion of the plan is used and what adjustments will be necessary to best fulfill our members' needs."

While this is a huge step forward, the MASU remains committed to working with faculty and staff at Mount Allison to develop an evidence-based mental health strategy for the community to ensure a holistic approach is being taken to address the issue of mental health on this campus.

"It shows that advocacy does take time and that perseverance is necessary to make these goals become realities for our campus. This consistency and continuity is one of the benefits of a students' union," adds Webster.

The Mount Allison Students' Union represents all full- and part-time undergraduate and graduate students at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick.