



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **MASU FINANCIALLY SUPPORTS THE EXTENSION OF LIBRARY HOURS FOR THE REMAINDER OF SCHOOL YEAR**

**SACKVILLE, NB** — On Monday, November 2, 2015, the Mount Allison Students' Union (MASU) is proud to announce its official support in extending library hours for the remainder of the semester and 2015-2016 school year. The MASU conducted a survey with its membership last year, regarding the demand for longer library hours, which proved desired. Formerly, the MASU has only financially funded the extension of library hours in peak exam season, beginning at the end of each semester.

Vice President Academic Affairs, Mary Emma MacNeil, led the proposition of yearlong extended library hours, in collaboration with the Mount Allison library staff. A survey was conducted, along with a report given by former MASU President, Heather Webster, stating that of the 296 students responses, 50% of students reported 'strongly agreeing' with the option of extended hours, and 33% of students 'agreeing'.

The total cost for longer operational hours of the Mount Allison library for the remainder of the semester will cost \$1391.50. Included is the cost of an Event Services Staff (ESS) as well as a student assistant. The MASU and the Library will be cost-sharing this additional fee; a total of \$566.50 will be paid by the Library (rate of a student assistant), and a total of \$825.00 will be paid by the MASU (rate of ESS). The library will be open for 55 additional hours this fall 2015 semester. The operational hours will revert to its former exam season hours (December 8th to the 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am – 1:30am on Monday to Saturday & Sundays 10:00am – 1:30am).

Due to the overwhelming support for extending library hours, the current MASU executive committee decided that \$825.00 would be paid from MASU surplus to pay longer operational hours this semester. A motion has yet to be passed through the Students' Administrative Council (SAC), but will be brought forth by MacNeil on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2015. The MASU executives have lobbied and advocated for the approval of the motion prior, by meeting with all senators and councillors.

"The discussion surrounding more student and study space has been a frequent topic within the MASU for years," says MacNeil, "the efforts to extend library hours prove that MASU is proactively recognizing the importance of the needs of its memberships".

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