

MPHEC 2023-2024 ACTION PLAN

Strategic Action Plan

Strategic Priority Area: MODERNIZATION		
Quality Assurance (QA) ¹		
Improvement Strategy	Activity	Timeline
1. Improve timeliness and transparency of key processes	Publish revised assessment standards and criteria for assessment of program proposals	October 2023
	Publish revised information requirements for proposals for new degrees	October 2023
	Publish revised information requirements for proposals for new certificates and diplomas	October 2023
	Release for consultation an update to the Commission's definition of significant program modification	January 2024
	Release for consultation revised information requirements for proposals to modify existing degrees, diplomas and certificates	January 2024
	Carry out review of information requirements for new degrees proposed under the New Brunswick Degree Granting Act (NBDGA)	As resources allow
	Implement other improvements to NBDGA policies, procedures and processes	As resources allow
2. Expand value-added products and resources	Publish <i>Guidelines for Institutional Frameworks for Online and Technology-Supported Learning</i>	May 2023
	Explore options for the development of a program proposal management system	November 2023
Data & Research		
Improvement Strategy	Activity	Timeline
1. Improve timeliness and transparency of key processes	Explore options to provide stakeholders better access to MPHEC data	March 2024
	Align Graduate Outcomes (GO) Survey questions and data across surveys to provide better access to data trends over time	March 2024
	Develop standard enrolment and credentials granted statistics and reports for colleges	Fall 2023

¹ The estimated timelines for any work related to QA are subject to change based on the number of program proposal submissions from public universities, the number of responses to conditional approvals and the number of assessments under the New Brunswick Degree Granting Act.

2. Expand value-added products and resources	Publish report on trends in college enrolment and credentials granted	Fall 2023
	Publish statistical tables on college enrolment and credentials granted	Fall 2023
	Publish ad hoc reports, infographics and statistical tables on emerging topics of interest	As applicable
	Link responses of 2022 first-year student survey to measures of student progression	Start in Winter 2024
Strategic Priority Area: COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION		
Improvement Strategy	Activity	Timeline
1. Improve collaboration and communication with stakeholders	Host meetings with institutional QA contacts	1-2/year
	Develop communication plan	March 2024
	Explore ways to improve visibility of data, research and quality assurance on MPHEC website	October 2023
2. Ensure alignment with government and institutional needs	Undertake Review of Academic Programs in Nova Scotia Universities (cost-recovery project)	July 2023
	Prepare a report for the Association of Atlantic Universities on the Outcomes of the Class of 2020 in 2022 Atlantic University Graduates (cost-recovery project)	April 2023
	Sponsor the Canadian Digital Learning Research Association national-level surveys on digital learning in Canada	Spring and Fall Surveys
	Continue to work with the three provincial governments to amend their respective MPHEC Act to allow the sharing of data	As required
Strategic Priority Area: EQUITY		
Improvement Strategy	Activity	Timeline
1. Support equity	Incorporate question(s) in the information requirements for public universities proposing a new certificate, diploma or degree that asks how the university has addressed equity in their program development	October 2023
	Include in publications additional analyses based on certain demographic variables (e.g., gender, disability, population group)	As applicable

Strategic Priority Area: SUSTAINABILITY		
Improvement Strategy	Activity	Timeline
1. Ensure sustainability of organization	Provide services on a cost-recovery basis to generate revenue	Ongoing
	Explore opportunities for operational efficiencies	Ongoing

Operational Action Plan

Quality Assurance

Objective	Activity	Timeline
1. Provide assurances that programs offered by universities within the MPHEC's scope meet established standards of quality	Assess new and modified programs prior to implementation	Ongoing
	Validate that all programs with enrolments have been approved by the Commission	December 2023
	Confirm that conditions to approvals have been met	Ongoing
	Confirm that existing certificates and diplomas align to the <i>Maritime University Certificate and Diploma Framework</i> ²	Ongoing
2. Provide assurances that universities within the MPHEC's scope have an appropriate QA framework to ensure the on-going quality of their programs and services offered to students	Complete the second cycle of the monitoring of institutional QA frameworks with four universities	<u>Final Report & Action Plan:</u> UdeM: May 2023 NSCAD: October 2023 UPEI: October 2023 CBU: November 2023
	Receive and approve the one-year follow-up QA monitoring reports from universities	<u>One-Year Follow-Up Reports:</u> STU: due April 2023 SMU: due April 2023 UNB: due November 2023

² In February 2023, the MPHEC released the MUCDF. Universities have until December 2029 to revise their existing programs.

Objective	Activity	Timeline
	Carry out the QA monitoring process with two to three new universities	Site visits: March/April 2024

Data & Research

Objective	Activity	Timeline
1. Provide data and research to uncover important trends and emerging issues in the Maritime post-secondary sector 2. Support evidence-based decision making by the region's governments and institutions 3. Disseminate data and analysis in relevant/usable formats	Publish report on <i>Employment Profile of Maritime University First-Degree Holders</i>	April 2023
	Publish report on <i>Mobility and Activity of Recent University Graduates</i>	April 2023
	Publish statistical tables and interactive graphs on university participation rates	May 2023
	Publish report on <i>Financing a University Education</i> (Class of 2020 in 2022)	Fall 2023
	Publish statistical tables on university tuition fees, ancillary and residence fees	September 2023
	Publish statistical tables on university enrolment and credentials granted	November 2023
	Publish statistical tables on university full-year full-time equivalent statistics	November 2023
	Publish interactive graphs and downloadable databases on university enrolment and credentials granted	November 2023
	Publish a <i>Digest</i> of university enrolment	January 2024
	Provide custom-generated statistics to stakeholders	Ongoing
	Provide advice and support to government and institutions	Ongoing
4. Collect, store and maintain quality, comprehensive, and relevant student and graduate data	Maintain the Post-Secondary Student Information System (PSIS) database and reporting tools	Ongoing
	Collect university PSIS data	August 2023
	Collect college PSIS data	March 2024
	Develop questionnaire, RFP and select vendor to run Graduate Outcomes (GO) Survey of Class of 2018 in 2024	March 2024
	Link 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 PSIS student records across institutions and years	Winter 2024
	Run IT security program	Ongoing
	Run privacy program	Ongoing

Cooperative Action

Objective	Activity	Timeline
1. Foster collaboration, communication and cooperation	Host workshops and information sessions for universities and governments to learn about MPHEC QA processes ³	Ongoing
	Provide QA related advice and support to institutions	Ongoing
	Support the New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island Educational Computer Network	Ongoing
	Participate on various national, regional, and provincial committees and working groups	Ongoing
	Host stakeholders meeting(s) and Forum on Data Collection and Research	1-2 meetings per year: Forum in Spring 2024
	Host college working group meeting(s)	1-2 meetings per year
	Host Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC) collaboration group meeting(s)	As required
	Present on the MPHEC research activities to stakeholders	By request
	Support evidence-based decision making in New Brunswick by providing data and expertise to the New Brunswick Institute of Research Data and Training	As required

Services to Provinces

Objective	Activity	Timeline
1. Provide services to the Provinces as requested	Support the post-secondary budget in Prince Edward Island	Ongoing
	Administer funding under the <i>Preferred Admissions Agreement</i> between Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia as well as the rehabilitation (i.e. physiotherapy and occupational therapy) funding between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia	Ongoing
	Undertake institutional reviews and program assessments for private degree-granting institutions in New Brunswick	Ongoing

³ Possible topics include: program approval process, program proposal writing, frameworks for online and technology-supported learning, cyclical reviews.

Objective	Activity	Timeline
	Initiate the full accreditation of Bachelor of Education programs offered by universities in Nova Scotia (including requesting universities prepare a self-study, establishing site visit schedule and searching for external consultants)	<u>Self-study request / establish schedule:</u> October 2023 <u>External consultant search:</u> March 2024