

April 18th 2016



Dr. David T. Barnard, Ph.D.
President & Vice Chancellor
University of Manitoba
202 Administration Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2

Dear Dr. Barnard,

Thank you for very much for writing on behalf of the University of Manitoba community and especially the almost 30,000 students and 9,000 faculty and staff for whom the University is host to their educational and professional pursuits.

With respect to your specific questions I can advise:

- (a) The University of Manitoba deserves to be commended on its Front and Centre campaign. This campaign clearly demonstrates the positive impact Manitoba's largest post-secondary institution has on the community at large.

A Progressive Conservative Government is committed to strategic infrastructure investments as part of our economic strategy. We look forward to investing with the University of Manitoba and all post-secondary institutions in Manitoba as partners in infrastructure investments. In particular, we look forward to working with the Government of Canada as partners in the \$2-billion strategic investment fund announced in Budget 2016 that will support infrastructure projects at post-secondary institutions.

- (b) We are committed to ensuring post-secondary education is affordable and accessible while ensuring post-secondary institutions have predictable funding and tuition regimes. We will work collaboratively with the University of Manitoba to ensure predictable funding and appropriate tuition structures are in place.

We have announced that we will increase the total funding available for scholarships and bursaries for post-secondary students by increasing the capacity of the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative fund to \$20 million. This is just part of our commitment to accessible post-secondary education in Manitoba.

- (c) Above all else we are committed to being a government that's reflective of the values of Manitobans. One of those values is partnership because, when we work in partnership there's nothing we can't accomplish. Researchers at the University of Manitoba need to be empowered and deserve a genuine partner in government. We will be a partner that works in collaboration to ensure we empower and enhance our province's world class researchers.

Sincerely,

Brian Pallister
Leader
Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba