

Christine Brown, BA in Economics (Hon) (2008)

As the Department of Economics at the University of Regina is smaller than many other institutions in Canada, I was afforded opportunities that I imagine those in larger departments don't receive. For example, in the last year of my undergraduate program I had the opportunity to do an Arts Work Experience Internship for course credit. As Dr. Stuart Wilson's Research Assistant, I helped him conduct research for his Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy (SIPP) Research Fellowship to study child-rearing decisions and public pension systems. This position allowed me to gain research experience which ultimately helped me to be awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant for my Master's program. I was also extremely fortunate to work with Dr. Wilson on my Honours paper. As I was one of the few Honours students he supervised that year he always had time to meet with me and made sure I had all the tools I needed to succeed.

Furthermore, the undergraduate program at the University of Regina provided me with the necessary background to pursue a Master's degree in economics. Through the Bachelor of Arts Honours program I developed skills in numeracy, writing, problem solving and working with data. Upon graduating I was offered a job with Finance Canada in Ottawa where I still work nine years later. If my experience at the University of Regina was not as positive as it was, I may never have pursued further education in economics which allowed me to get a great job with the federal government doing something I am passionate about.