

University of Regina

Economic Impact Study





University of Regina

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Executive Summary

The University of Regina's motto – "As One Who Serves" – has guided the institution's engagement with the Regina region, province and country since its inception by the Methodist Church as Regina College in 1911.

With the prairies lacking such natural amenities as oceans and mountains, people in the Regina region are accustomed to building things and creating their future. Surrounded by North America's largest human-made park and more than 300,000 hand-planted trees, the University of Regina is a monument to the creative spirit of Saskatchewan. It has both transformed and benefited from the Regina Advantage.

Prairie people are undoubtedly industrious. But they are also innovative, forward thinking and globally connected. Since 1911, Regina businesses, churches, community groups, students, faculty, university administration, and governments have embodied the University of Regina's motto. In doing so, they have built an educational institution integral to the Regina region's social and economic fabric.

Starting with only 27 students, Regina College went through periods of transition, which mirrored Regina's social and economic transformation, resulting in a university which is at once both locally and internationally focused. Of the University's record 14,360 students in 2015-16, 1,971 are international students, who total 13.7 per cent of the student population. A total of 1,666 are Aboriginal students – an increase of 5.8 per cent over the previous year.

The University of Regina's commitment to service is reflected not only in its key research clusters and productive alumni, but also its impressive economic contribution. With a budget of almost \$300 million, a staff complement of 2,995, and a student population of 14,360, the University is a key player in the Regina and provincial economies. Its total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) impact is estimated at \$408 million for Regina and \$542 million for the province. The University is responsible for generating more than 4,500 jobs and accounts for roughly 3% of the total regional economy. The University's GDP impact is equivalent to that of an additional city of 10,000 people in the province. In 2014-15, the University directly and indirectly, through personal, corporate, sales and excise taxes, contributed approximately \$82 million to federal government revenues and \$69 million to provincial government revenues.

The physical university has also transformed and grown. The modest campus originally designed by Minoru Yamasaki, architect of New York's original World Trade Center, has expanded to meet the demands of Saskatchewan's export-orientated, innovative and growing economy. World-class research institutions interface with key industrial sectors, providing local and international researchers tools to contribute to the Regina Advantage and address global opportunities and challenges.

Research at the University is comparable to the operations of a business with revenues of \$15 to \$20 million annually and a growth target of \$25 million. Research activities at the University carry a dual benefit. They create the foundation for major advances in areas such as public health, environmental sustainability, economic development, new technologies, and advancements for Indigenous people, while educating students to become leaders and innovators.

The University continues to evolve and modernize to meet the needs of Regina and Saskatchewan. It does so while embracing its history, values and core principles. The College Avenue Campus (CAC) is fully intertwined with the ongoing social and economic development of Regina and beyond, but is in need of significant repair and upgrades. Renewing CAC will not only protect this historic and educational asset, but also generate 200 jobs in the city and almost 400 in the province over the course of the construction phase. The Regina and provincial GDP impacts of CAC will be \$23 million and \$41 million, respectively. Clearly, the CAC Renewal Project is critical for the Regina region.

The Regina regional economy is largely supported by four main pillars – mining, oil, agriculture and government services. The world's demand for food, fuel, and fertilizer provides opportunities for value-added supply-chain products and services to be sourced from Regina. In addition, as a capital city, Regina has a workforce that includes tens of thousands of skilled public servants in the health care, education and public policy fields. In all cases, the applied research and skilled graduates from the University provide essential innovation and productivity for these key economic pillars.

Globally connected, locally focused, and committed to service, through its transformation the University of Regina has mirrored the city's and the province's economic and social progress over the years. The University's research clusters, proud history, highly diverse and talented student body, significant economic and social impact, and collaborative relationship with the community are documented in these pages.

Economic Development Regina (EDR) acknowledges the University of Regina's role as a driver of economic growth in the Regina region, and an essential contributor to the Regina Advantage. EDR was pleased to lead this University of Regina Economic Impact Report, and would like to recognize the essential contribution of our partner, Praxis Consulting. In collaboration with Praxis and the University of Regina leadership, EDR analyzed internal University data, and drew on a variety of secondary sources to illustrate the social and economic impact the University has on the city, region and province.



Economic Impact

The University of Regina plays a vital role as a driver of economic, social, and cultural well-being in the Regina region and across Saskatchewan. With a student body of 14,360, a staff complement of 2,995 and a total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) impact estimated at \$408 million for Regina and \$542 million for the province, the University is a critical economic asset for the Regina region. The University's multi-faceted impact includes training the region's productive and innovative workforce, collaborating with industry to address opportunities and challenges in the economy, acting as a conduit to the global economy, and generating hundreds of millions of dollars in local and provincial economic activity. Clearly, the University embodies its motto, "As One Who Serves".

Student Economic Impact

University-educated citizens are key to a productive society. University graduates enjoy higher incomes, have lower unemployment, and enhance productivity in the economy. In fact, the unemployment rate for university graduates is half that of those who graduate only from high school.ⁱ Across Canada in 2013, 87 per cent of young university graduates age 25 to 29 were in full-time jobs, and 82 per cent of those were in permanent positions.ⁱⁱ The average Canadian aged 55-64 working full-time in 2010 with a university Bachelor's degree made \$44,744 more a year than his or her counterpart with a high-school education only.ⁱⁱⁱ During a 20-year period the average woman aged 34-52 will make \$510,000 more than her counterpart with a high school education only.^{iv} In the Regina region, these graduates not only add productivity to the workforce, they pay higher taxes to provincial and federal governments.

University-educated people on average tend to maintain healthier and more productive lives, putting less strain on publicly funded provincial health systems, and government-funded social safety nets such as workers' compensation and Employment Insurance. The University of Regina's contribution to the Regina Advantage is perhaps best illustrated in the important role it has in educating Aboriginal students through its partnership with First Nations University of Canada (FNUUniv).

In Saskatchewan, First Nations males who graduate with a degree earn 55% more than the average for First Nations men. The gap is even greater for First Nations women who graduate with a degree; they earn 73% more than the female First Nations average in Saskatchewan. For males, the unemployment rate for graduates is 36% lower than the average, and for females, the unemployment rate is 26% lower than the average. The lifetime earnings for a female Aboriginal person in Saskatchewan with a high school education are \$497,788. It surges to \$1,382,858 if that person attains a Bachelor's degree.^v If Saskatchewan employed First Nations people at the same rate as the two neighboring provinces, it would increase the province's GDP by \$6.7 billion over a 20-year period.^{vi} The University of Regina's contribution to address the labour market and educational outcome gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples is crucial, and the results long lasting.

The University of Regina and FNUUniv contribution to the Regina Advantage is helping to address the educational and employment outcome gap in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Indian Federated College – the precursor to FNUUniv – first opened its doors in the fall of 1976 with nine students. Today, FNUUniv now provides education for more than 3,000 students annually. In addition, more than 30,000 learners have made FNUUniv part of their journey to the labour force.^{vii}

University graduates are an important part of the Regina region's economy, enhancing productivity, and the University is a major engine of growth with considerable economic multipliers for the region and province.

University Economic Impact

This section assesses the impact of the University in quantifiable terms:

- Day-to-day operations (included in the University's spending is CAC and that of the three Federated Colleges associated with the University);
- Student spending; and
- Convocation and conferences hosted by the University.

The University of Regina employs more people than either of SaskTel and SaskPower, and its GDP impact to the province is equivalent to that of a 10,000-person city.

| University and Federated Colleges, Student Spending, Convocation and Conference Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Jobs Supported | Labour Income (\$M) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Regina Region | 408.3 | 4,545 | 259.0 |
| Rest of Province | 133.7 | 1,874 | 63.6 |
| Total Province | 542.0 | 6,419 | 322.6 |

Overall:

- Supported 4,545 jobs in the region, including 2,995 directly on campus, 1,550 elsewhere in the Regina Region, with a further 1,874 elsewhere in the province.
- Added \$408 million to Regina Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and \$542 million to provincial GDP.

The University of Regina student enrolment, GDP contribution, employment and overall economic impact continues to grow.

| Indicators | 2014-15 | 2010-11 |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Enrollment | 14,000 | 13,069 |
| Aboriginal Enrollment | 11.3% | 8.30% |
| International Enrollment | 1,816 | 1,255 |
| GDP Contribution Regina (\$M) | 408.3 | 384 |
| GDP Contribution Provincial (\$M)* | 542.0 | 331.9 |
| GDP Contribution National (\$M) | na | 319.1 |
| % Regina GDP** | 3 | 4 |
| Individuals Employed by the University | 2,995 | 2,948 |
| Student Spending (\$M)*** | 150 | 77 |

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University Operations

In 2014–15, the University and its federated colleges:

- Supported more than 3,600 jobs in the Regina region, including 2,995 directly on campus, with a further 632 in the Regina Region and a further 1,442 elsewhere in the province.
- Added \$288 million to Regina Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and \$388 million to provincial GDP.
- The College Avenue Campus (CAC) alone accounted for almost 485 jobs in Regina, including 65 permanent faculty and staff and more than 400 contract instructors, and a further 70 elsewhere in the province.
- The total GDP impact of CAC operations was \$13 million in Regina and \$18 million provincially.

Student Spending

- In 2014-15, 14,000 students (70% of whom were non-local) spent \$200 million in Regina, supporting a further 900 jobs in the city and 424 jobs elsewhere in the province.
- The total GDP impact of student spending was \$119 million in Regina and \$151 million provincially.
- In 2015-16, 1,900 international students are expected to spend almost \$40 million in the city.

Convocation

- In 2014-15, Convocation events attracted 6,172 guests, almost 75% from outside of the city.
- Total Convocation guest spending in Regina was estimated at \$1.5 million.
- Convocation supported 26 jobs within the city and 32 in the province.

Conferences

- In 2014-15, the University played host to 319 conferences of varying sizes.
- Of these, 44 were of sufficient scale to attract a total of 4,200 visitors from outside Regina who spent approximately \$750,000 in the city.

2018 Congress

- The 2018 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in 2018 is expected to attract 7,000 attendees.
- Total visitor spending is estimated to be \$8 million, creating 107 jobs in the city, and \$6.2 million in additional GDP for the city.

Fiscal Impact

- In 2014-15, the University, directly and indirectly, contributed approximately \$82 million to federal government revenues and \$69 million to provincial government revenues through personal and corporate income taxes, taxes on unincorporated business profits, and sales and excise taxes.

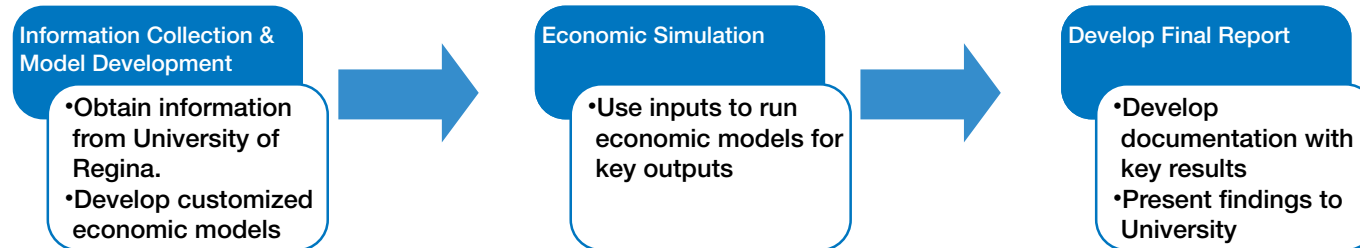
Approach and Methodology

In 2012, the Conference Board of Canada produced a detailed study entitled “Fuelling the Surge: The University of Regina’s Role in Saskatchewan’s Growth.” This in-depth study examined the University’s impact through multiple measurements, including:

- University Operations and Spending;
- Human Capital Development; and
- Contribution to Knowledge, Innovation, Culture and Leadership.

The 2012 study helped demonstrate the critical role the University plays in terms of Regina’s and the province’s economic, community and social impact. To build off this foundational study, updated research was required for the University to report on progress, development, advancements, and continued success. This project uses the Conference Board of Canada study as a baseline upon which to revisit and update the key findings regarding the economic and social impact of the University on the City of Regina, region and province.

For the Economic Impact work, the following approach was adopted



Information Collection and Model Development

The provincial economic impacts were estimated using Praxis’s Saskatchewan Economic Impact Models based on the latest available Statistics Canada’s Saskatchewan input-output tables. Using standardized methodologies, the results are consistent with Statistics Canada’s inter-provincial model and the Sports Tourism Economic Assessment Model. Inputs into the model were:

- Staff position count including both full and part-time for 2014-15;
- Total payroll for 2014-15;
- Annual major operational expenditures such as utilities, insurance, and professional fees and where these are sourced: within region, outside region but still in province, and outside of the province for both the University of Regina and Federated Colleges for 2014-15;
- Total enrolment for 2014-15, and estimate of origin (local, non-local, and international) and residency status;
- 2014-15 graduates;

- CAC Renewal costs, incremental payroll (if any) and incremental number of graduates (if any) resulting from Renewal;
- 2014-15 Convocation attendance and approximation of origin;
- 2014-15 events/conferences/conventions and attendance; and
- 2018 Congress estimated attendance.

Student spending was estimated based on provincial averages. Similarly, graduate incremental earning impacts were inflated from 2012 to 2014-15 levels using average annual earning inflation from Saskatchewan-specific Statistics Canada Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours data.

Key to this analysis was the estimation of impacts for the Regina region. Regional level impacts were estimated by constructing a separate economic impact model for the region using regional employment by industry to estimate regional output, a community hierarchy model to assess regional trade flows and leakages, and re-balancing to ensure model cohesiveness.

For the purpose of assessing operational impacts, both the provincial and regional models were constructed as a “mixed endogenous-exogenous model”. Using this approach, the education sector was “exogenized” so that the University’s operational expenditures are taken outside of the model and used to “shock” the remaining sectors in the economy.

University Operations

In 2014-15, the University and Federated Colleges spent \$294.1 million with an estimated \$252.2 million being spent locally. In 2014–15, as a functioning economic enterprise, the University and its Federated Colleges:

- Supported more than 3,600 jobs in the Regina region, including 2,995 directly on campus, with a further 632 elsewhere in the region and a further 1,442 elsewhere in the province.
- Added \$288 million to Regina Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and \$388 million to provincial GDP.
- CAC accounted for almost 485 jobs in Regina, including 65 permanent faculty and staff and more than 400 contract instructors, and a further 70 elsewhere in the province.
- The total GDP impact of CAC operations was \$13 million in Regina and \$18 million provincially.

Detailed Results are presented below:

| University and Federated Colleges Spending Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Regina Region | 287.8 | 3627 | 217.4 |
| Rest of Province | 100.6 | 1442 | 47.7 |
| Total Province | 388.4 | 5,069 | 265.1 |

| College Avenue Campus Spending Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Regina Region | 13.3 | 485 | 10.6 |
| Rest of Province | 4.7 | 70 | 2.3 |
| Total Province | 18.0 | 555 | 12.9 |

College Avenue Campus Renewal

Total construction costs are estimated at \$58 million.

- The College Avenue Campus Renewal project is expected to generate 205 jobs in the city and almost 400 in the province over the course of the construction phase.
- The Regina and provincial GDP impact are expected to be \$23 million and \$41 million, respectively.

Detailed results are presented below:

| College Avenue Campus Revitalization Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Regina Region | 23.4 | 205 | 11 |
| Rest of Province | 17.7 | 184 | 8 |
| Total Province | 41.2 | 389 | 19 |

Student Spending

- The University provided total enrolment by origin. Of the total number of students, approximately 30% were within commuting distance and excluded from the analysis (ie: likely still living at home). Annual living costs per student from the 2012 Conference Board study student survey were inflated to 2014-15 levels using the Regina All-Items Consumer Price Index. These totalled \$2,200 for utilities and household expenses, \$7,800 for rent, \$5,000 for food, clothing and electronics, \$3,400 for entertainment-related expenses, and \$2,000 for transportation. Excluded from these figures are tuition costs. These have already been included in the impacts of University operations, once converted to revenues and re-spent in the Region and Province.
- Student spending was multiplied by non-local enrolment and converted to input-output industries: utilities and household expenses; finance; insurance; real estate, rental and leasing (which includes rental dwellings); manufacturing for food; clothing and electronics spending; arts, entertainment and recreation for entertainment spending; and transportation and warehousing for transportation spending. It was assumed all expenditures could be met directly and indirectly, from local sources, with the exception of food manufacturing in the Regina region.
- In 2014-15, 14,000 students (70% of whom were non-local) spent \$200 million in Regina, supporting a further 879 jobs in the city and 424 jobs elsewhere in the province.
- The total GDP impact of student spending was \$119 million in Regina and \$151 million provincially.
- In 2015-16, more than 1,900 international students are expected to spend almost \$40 million in the city.

Detailed results are presented below:

| Student Spending Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Regina Region | 118.8 | 879 | 40.4 |
| Rest of Province | 32.5 | 424 | 15.5 |
| Total Province | 151.3 | 1,303 | 55.9 |



Convocation

- In 2014-15, Convocation events attracted 6,172 guests, almost 75% from outside of the city.
- The enrolment by student origin was used to estimate guest origin. Non-local guests totalled 4,300.
- A two-night stay was assumed.
- Spend by input-output category (Accommodation and Food, Entertainment, and Retail) and origin was obtained through Statistics Canada’s Travel Survey Residents of Canada 2013 and International Travel Survey 2012. The 2014 Average Daily Rate (ADR) for Regina hotels was used for daily accommodation spending. Total spend was \$1.5 million.
- This supported 26 jobs within the city and 32 in the province.

Detailed results are presented below:

| Convocation Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Regina Region | 1.1 | 26 | 0.8 |
| Rest of Province | 0.4 | 6 | 0.3 |
| Total Province | 1.5 | 32 | 1.1 |

Conferences

- In 2014-15, the University held 319 conferences of a varying size. Of these, 44 were of sufficient scale (provincial/national in scope or with attendance greater than 150) to attract a total 4,200 visitors from outside the city.
- One-night stay was assumed. Enrolment by origin was used to allocate visitors by origin.
- Spend by input-output category (Accommodation and Food, Entertainment, and Retail) and origin was obtained through Statistics Canada’s Travel Survey Residents of Canada 2013 and International Travel Survey 2012. The 2014 Average Daily Rate (ADR) for Regina hotels was used for daily accommodation spending. Total spend was \$0.75 million.
- Non-local spending supported a further 13 jobs within the city and \$0.6 million in GDP.
- The 2018 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in 2018 is expected to attract 7,000 attendees for a seven-day conference.
- A four-night stay was assumed.
- Spend by category and origin was derived per other conference spending (with the addition of Regina capturing 50% of flight costs) and totalled \$8 million.
- The 2018 Congress is expected to generate more than 100 jobs in the city and more than \$6 million in city GDP.

Detailed results are presented below:

| Conference Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Regina Region | 0.6 | 13 | 0.4 |
| Rest of Province | 0.2 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Total Province | 0.8 | 16 | 0.5 |

| Congress 2018 Impact | Gross Domestic Product (\$M) | Employment (Jobs) | Labour Income (\$M) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Regina Region | 6.2 | 107 | 4.2 |
| Rest of Province | 1.9 | 27 | 1.2 |
| Total Province | 8.1 | 134 | 5.4 |

Government Fiscal Impact

Total University of Regina contribution to Federal and Provincial Government coffers in 2014-15 is outlined below:

| University and Federated Colleges, Student Spending, Convocation and Conference Impact | Personal Income Tax (PIT) | Corporate Income Tax | Taxes Unincorporated Business Profits | Resource Revenue | Sales and Excise Taxes | Total Revenue |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Federal (\$M) | 61.7 | 5.5 | 12.7 | na | 2.6 | 82.5 |
| Provincial (\$M) | 36.6 | 4.4 | 9.2 | na | 18.7 | 68.9 |
| Total (\$M) | 98.3 | 3.1 | 5.9 | na | 21.3 | 128.6 |

Key takeaways

- The University of Regina is an economic engine for the regional and provincial economy.
- The University's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) impact estimated at \$408 million for Regina and \$542 million for the province.
- Nearly all aspects of Regina's and Saskatchewan's main economic pillars rely on the research and the skilled graduates such as those from the University of Regina.
- On average, University of Regina graduates will earn more, remit higher taxes, foster more productivity in the local economy, and lead more prosperous, healthy lives than those who graduate from high-school only.

“Globally Connected – Locally Committed”

“The relationship we developed decades ago with China has helped us establish an international perspective that has made us a truly global university. Today, there are students at the University of Regina from dozens of countries, enhancing Saskatchewan’s links to the global economy.” – Former Board of Governors Chair Paul McLellan

In the Regina region, the path to prosperity is paved by trade. Regina companies are experienced, expert exporters. International trade and investment are the lifeblood of the Regina region economy, and the University of Regina’s international research collaboration and international student body provide the Regina economy with a competitive global edge. International students, research collaboration, and public and private investment all create essential linkages to the global economy for the Regina region.

Saskatchewan companies ship more than 70 per cent of what they produce outside the province. In recent years, Saskatchewan exports have more than tripled, reaching a record level of \$35.12 billion in 2014, and breaking the \$32.25 billion record set in 2013^x. As the global economy transforms, and the regions of growth shift to Asia Pacific nations, the Regina region economy is well served by a university which acts as a conduit to the global economy by educating international students and sustaining research linkages with all of Saskatchewan’s top 10 trading partners.

International students who remain in Regina lend their skills, contacts and unique perspective to our export-oriented economy. Those who return home provide invaluable contacts for our research and business community. These alumni ambassadors form a unique cluster of Saskatchewan advocates connecting our economy to the world. Visiting researchers not only lend their unique expertise, but act as essential research and economic collaborators.

International Enrolment^x



| Country of origin | 2011 | 2014 | % Change |
|---------------------|-------|-------|----------|
| China | 537 | 680 | + 26.6 |
| Nigeria | 208 | 303 | + 45.7 |
| Saudi Arabia | 73 | 238 | + 226 |
| India | 48 | 197 | + 310.4 |
| Pakistan | 40 | 90 | + 125 |
| United States | 17 | 34 | + 100 |
| Bangladesh | 33 | 30 | -10 |
| Iran | 35 | 26 | -25.7 |
| Mexico | 15 | 22 | + 46.6 |
| Brazil | 2 | 21 | + 950 |
| Total All Countries | 1,255 | 1,816 | + 44.7 |

The University of Regina maintains academic partnerships with 110 educational institutions in 37 countries, including formal agreements with institutions from all of Saskatchewan's top 10 trading partners, and extensive partnerships with Brazil, China, India, and Japan.^{xi} The educational and economic linkages between China and Saskatchewan illustrate the role of university in a global economy.

Saskatchewan exports \$2.8 billion dollars of products and services to China. The University's research clusters, international students, and visiting faculty align closely with the key industrial sectors of the Regina region that frame trade relations with China, including mining, energy, and the environment. The University of Regina is doing more than collaborating on research; it is opening up a strategic market for Saskatchewan's economy.

In 2015 the University maintained 23 partnerships in China, educated 680 Chinese students, and hosted 30 visiting Chinese professors. The University's partnership with China is getting results. During the last five years, student registrations from China have increased 26 per cent, from 537 graduate and undergraduates in 2011 to 680 in 2015.^{xiii} Through these initiatives, the University is fostering linkages to the world's second-largest economy, Saskatchewan's second-largest export market, and the world's second-largest foreign direct investor.

The University's global connections are not limited to China. The number of students coming from India, Saskatchewan's third-largest trading partner, has increased 310% from 48 graduate and undergraduates in 2011 to 197 in 2015. The University is also seeing more students from Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, and the United States. Globally connected and locally committed, the University has links to the countries which influence the global economy, and most importantly, to the countries where Saskatchewan's economic interests lie.

Clearly, attracting and educating international students has long-term economic benefits for the Regina region. But, it also has an important immediate economic impact. International students work, live and enjoy the Regina region, frequenting restaurants, shops, and tourist attractions. For the 2015-16 academic year, the University has 1,971 registered international students who amount to 13.7 per cent of the total student population. The University's international student registration has grown by more than 113% since 2009. These international students, which don't include English as a Second Language students not enrolled in credit classes, generate more than \$20 million in revenue for the University, and the students contribute immensely to the local economy, spending almost \$40 million in the Regina region in 2015.

International research collaboration, investment, visiting researchers and students all provide a unique conduit to the global economy, and in doing so, provide very real immediate economic benefit to the Regina region.

Key Takeaways

- International students generate millions in revenue for the University and contribute significantly to the Regina region economy.
- International students, visiting researchers and University faculty act as a conduit to the global economy, and advance Saskatchewan's economic interests abroad.
- The University is connected to global markets that closely align with Regina's trade and investment interests.





U of R's Contribution to the Regina Advantage

The Regina regional economy is largely supported by four main pillars – mining, oil, agriculture and government services. The world's demand for food, fuel, and fertilizer provides opportunities for value-added supply chain products and services to be sourced from Regina. In addition, as a capital city, Regina has a workforce that includes tens of thousands of skilled public servants in the health care, education and public policy fields. In all cases, the applied research and skilled graduates from the University provide essential innovation and productivity for these key economic pillars

The Regina region sustains more than 34,000 government employees, ranging from health care professionals, primary, secondary and post-secondary educators to municipal, provincial and federal public servants. The University of Regina has a proud history of training critical-thinking, skilled public servants, educators and health care professionals. Whether it is through the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy's Master of Public Policy or Master of International Trade programs, or through undergraduate programs in Education, Sociology or Political Science, the University is training a critical segment of Saskatchewan's labour force.

The Regina region is known globally for its rich mineral resources. Much of that success can be attributed to the mineral- and oil-related research and training taking place at the University. There are more than 20 mine sites, including coal, potash, uranium and sodium sulphate, within a six-hour drive of Regina, and an estimated 40 billion barrels of recoverable crude in the nearby Bakken oil formation. An estimated 1,000 people are working in the high-paying, local mining industry, with another 600 employed by the mining and oil and gas service industry. Overall, the energy and mining industries combined are responsible for creating nearly \$3 billion, or 18.4 per cent, of the local economy's GDP. These critical sectors rely on the researchers, graduates and innovation produced by the University of Regina.

The University's applied research and skilled graduates in many fields (for example: Petroleum and Environmental Engineering; Geology and Geophysics; Economics, Accounting and Finance; Environmental Studies; Computer Science; and Biology and Chemistry) address the requirements of the mining and oil cycle from exploration to production to remediation. The skills training and applied research at the University plays a critical role in meeting the demands of the Regina region economy and labour force in key industrial sectors.

Every leading industrial country is moving to make University-industry links a centerpiece of its innovation systems. University research is the source of the basic building blocks for many of the core sectors of the Regina region economy. Regina's economy, and in particular business, benefits from interaction with the University through:

- Strategic partnerships;
- Consulting relationships with top scientists;
- Helping to commercialize technologies developed in universities;
- Hiring graduates and continuing education of personnel;
- Solving particular technological problems that stand in the way of introducing a new product or process;
- Having access to lab equipment and to scientific personnel who give a company a critical competitive edge; and
- Accessing critical thinkers and innovators as staff or collaborators.

Key Research Clusters

University Research

The University of Regina has purposely chosen to strategically focus its research in five areas where the impact can be optimized and embedded within the local community. The specific research clusters are: Water, Environment and Clean Energy; Anxiety Stress and Pain; Integrated Human Health; Social Justice and Community Safety; and Digital Futures. The research mission of the University is the pursuit of “influential research and creative endeavours” as a means of making local and global contributions to knowledge.

Research at the University is comparable to the operations of a business with revenues of \$15 to \$20 million annually and a growth target of \$25 million. Research activities at the University carry a dual benefit. They create the foundation for major advances in areas such as public health, environmental sustainability, economic development, new technologies and advancements for Indigenous people. It also helps educate students to become scientific leaders and innovators.

The University is home to more than 400 faculty and staff researchers, as well as 18 centres and institutes that support teaching and research activities and act as catalysts for interdisciplinary teamwork. The University is punching far above its weight as an applied research enterprise in comparison to other medium-sized universities in Canada. Numerous research partnerships have been conducted with local, provincial and national industry and government agencies. There are more than 35 partnership agreements with institutions worldwide, including institutions in the UK, Japan, USA, India and China. Re\$earch InfoSource Inc, Canada’s leading source for research and development intelligence, gave the University the top ranking in international research collaboration. In addition, at 13%, the University of Regina was the top university in Canada in terms of the corporate share of research funding it generated.

Some research highlights include:

- Federal funding for research totalled almost \$11 million in 2014-15;
- Contract research was close to \$3M for 2014-15. The contracts involved a diverse range of partnerships with SaskPower, ISM, Cameco, Shell Canada and other commercial enterprises;
- The \$13 million Institute of Environmental Change and Society opened in 2014 to study the shared interactions between human society and the environment;
- The University was ranked first by Thomson Reuters in research impact among Canadian comprehensive universities over the past decade;
- The University is home to nine Canada Research Chairs;
- Two University of Regina professors were selected as visiting scholars by Fulbright Canada for the 2014-2015 year. The University of Regina is the only Canadian institution to have had two Fulbright Scholars selected in that year to participate in this prestigious scholarly exchange program with the United States.
- Four University of Regina researchers received a total of \$1 million from an anonymous donor in 2015 to conduct research into brain health;
- Individual researchers were widely recognized this year. The list includes: James Daschuk for his national best-seller book “Clearing the Plains”, published by the University of Regina Press; Patrick Neary, who was asked to lecture at the Canadian Embassy in Washington on sport-related concussions; and Nick Carleton, whose Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder research received wide-spread interest throughout the country;
- Research develops Highly Qualified People (HQP) to support economic development and evolving social systems. They are needed for the transition of Saskatchewan from a largely resource-based extraction economy to an economy focused on innovation to enhance our competitive advantages sustainably in areas like manufacturing, agriculture and mining;

- University research effort regarding digital technologies is about adding value to Saskatchewan industry and commercializing new technologies to advance our key economic sectors and provide support for our social progress;
- The University leased 90 acres of land to support the development of the Regina Research Park. There are currently 29 tenants in the park primarily involved in energy, environment and information technology sectors, including the Petroleum Research Centre, ISM Canada, and Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan; and
- There was a strategic decision in 2011 to focus the applied research around three signature themes: Sustainable Development, Human Development, and Knowledge Creation and Discovery. Taking these themes to a more concrete level, in 2015 the University began nurturing its five research clusters that each define a unique outreach role for institution.

Water, Environment and Clean Energy Cluster

The water and environment research component of the cluster has an emphasis on understanding the human impacts on grasslands, lakes, rivers and forests. The unpredictable availability of water in the prairies poses challenges regarding water quality and the quantity available for drinking, agriculture, and industrial purposes. Accordingly, a large portion of the research is dedicated to examining the impact of climate change and land use on both our water resources and environment. The clean energy component of the cluster is focused on developing environmentally low-carbon technologies to mitigate the impact of CO2 emissions on climate change. These technologies are designed to allow Canada to continue to benefit from the use of lower-carbon-emitting fossil fuels as the transition is made to a more carbon-free economy.

The positive contribution of research in this interdisciplinary cluster is demonstrated by the fact that, in Canada, the cluster has the highest number of citations per clean energy research paper and the third highest in environment ecology. The value is also demonstrated by the number of industry partnerships that have been developed. A review of contracts for 2014-15 shows 10 partnerships, six industrial partnerships (Areva, Cameco, SaskPower, Shell Canada, Total E&P, WaterSMART Solutions) and four with government agencies addressing operational challenges (SaskWater Security Agency, Ministry of Parks, Ministry of Environment, Department of Fisheries and Oceans).

Anxiety, Stress and Pain Cluster

The Anxiety, Stress and Pain Cluster is focused on improving the quality of life of people suffering from physical and mental health difficulties. Pain, anxiety, depression and stress is often form a vicious self-perpetuating cycle that impacts millions of people worldwide with enormous social and economic consequences. To date, hundreds of Saskatchewan patients have been treated for mental health problems using the University's cost-effective online therapy program. As well, 30 mental health therapists working for the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region have been trained in the delivery of evidence-based online therapy for mental health problems. Members of the cluster are working with the RCMP, EMTs and firefighters on the early detection of post-traumatic stress disorder. The goal is to develop an effective treatment for those who are more likely to be impacted by trauma and stress-related mental health conditions. The cluster is also working with health regions and nursing homes on methods for the effective pain assessment of seniors with dementia who cannot effectively self-report their pain.

Integrated Human Health: Equity, Disease and Prevention Cluster

The cluster includes a remarkably diverse collection of researchers conducting social science, humanities, clinical and bio-medical health research aimed at improving health outcomes in the province. The cluster is dedicated to community engagement and working with clinicians, physicians, community health workers, policy makers and health regions. Their research informs and educates health policy makers and providers regarding the benefits of an integrated health approach. It goes beyond the biochemistry of disease to include the wider social and economic factors that impact a healthy life.

The cluster has had significant impact in the local community in a wide variety of ways, ranging from population health to biomedical research. On the population health and indigenous health side of the cluster, researchers explore the complex historical, social and economic factors that contribute to health disparities across different populations, through projects such as:

- A multi-year study into improving supports so seniors can remain in their homes and their communities as they age; and
- Examining how arts-based interventions and programming can help reduce suicide amongst indigenous youth.

On the bio-medical side there are multiple significant collaborations between University researchers, the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and the Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory. This research includes:

- Identification of biomarkers in a person's blood that could predict strokes;
- Targeting proteins to prevent neuron loss and slow the onset of dementia;
- Developing aids to improve drill placement/accuracy during knee surgery; and
- Combating antibacterial resistant bacteria in hospitals.

Social Justice and Community Safety Cluster

The social justice component of the cluster is geared to promoting equity and fairness for individuals by reducing inequities in social, economic and political power. The community safety component deals with research into circumstances and events that could jeopardize the safety of individuals or groups, such as food insecurity, crime, law enforcement practices, emergency preparedness and victimization. In this regard, the Bridging Research and Interoperability Collaboration is working with the Province to develop a Public Safety Broadband Network. These researchers are also involved with industry in developing products for the commercial marketplace, such as applications for smart phones that can monitor radiation levels to protect emergency services responders. There are also studies underway on how to improve the outcomes and support for families and individuals with the greatest housing need. A major focus is improving the employability and graduation rates of First Nations people and helping immigrants integrate more effectively into the fabric of the province.

The Digital Future Cluster

Ever-increasing amounts of data are being gathered on all aspects of human endeavours and then used to shape our future. The University's Digital Future cluster is designing and evaluating technologies that harvest Big Data, as well as assessing the social consequences of Big Data and its spreading uses. Moreover, the cluster is investigating the opportunities for Wise Computing, which emphasizes effective and efficient decision-making based on Big Data. The focus is to improve the natural cycle of Big Data from data acquisition, to data mining and visualization, to improved decision-making while ensuring privacy and security. The cluster is also fostering exchanges with researchers in China and Europe and is attracting graduate students from a variety of countries, including China, India, Brazil and Nigeria.



One project is focused on designing techniques for monitoring social media for anomalous events relevant to local business and government services. The cluster is also looking at the benefits of collecting personal data via wearable devices. Technologies developed at the University are enabling artistic productions in real-time based on spatializing sound on a diverse collection of speakers and are allowing the virtual environment for athletes to be adjusted according to their real-time actions.

Key Takeaways

- Research at the University is comparable to the operations of a business with revenues of \$15 to \$20 million annually and a growth target of \$25 million.
- At 13 per cent, the University of Regina was the top University in Canada in terms of the corporate share of research funding it generated.
- The University is home to more than 400 faculty and staff researchers, as well as 18 research centres and institutes that support teaching and research activities and act as catalysts for interdisciplinary teamwork.
- University of Regina research expertise closely aligns with Saskatchewan's key industry sectors, and addresses the province's most pressing social, ecological and economic opportunities and challenges.

Alumni Impact

The list of University of Regina alumni now totals 66,000 – a group that represents multiple generations, dozens of countries of origin, and every imaginable profession and business pursuit. We have chosen a small group of representative alumni, who epitomize the kind of everyday impact that graduates of this University make in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, and around the world. We asked them to reflect on the difference the University of Regina has made in their lives, how that has translated into their roles as community and business leaders, and how they see the University contributing to our community.

Jim Hopson Profile

Nothing came easy to Jim Hopson, but he has never been shy about hard work. That work ethic became his legacy during an outstanding life with multiple careers, all of which began with the University of Regina.

Jim played high school football for Thom Collegiate in Regina and then joined the Regina Rams to play junior football. He graduated from the University of Regina with a degree in education and went on to receive a Master's degree from the University of Oregon.

Jim began his professional football career in 1973 with the Saskatchewan Roughriders and had the opportunity to play with many greats, including Ron Lancaster and George Reed. In 1977 he left football to focus on his teaching career, completed his M.Ed. while a principal, and ended his career in education as Director of Education for the Qu'Appelle Valley School Division

"I didn't grow up thinking I was going to university, because I was the first person in my family to go," says Jim. "From university I learned about managing my time and commitments, balancing work and school and everything else. It's funny that people I met at university in undergrad classes remain connected to me."

Jim's next career made him one of the best-known and beloved people in Saskatchewan. In 2005 he became the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Saskatchewan Roughriders. Over the next ten years, under his guidance the Roughriders made four Grey Cup appearances and captured both the 2007 and 2013 Grey Cups. Jim's leadership helped turn the Riders into one of the CFL's model franchises.

Jim has spent a lifetime bringing people together. He feels that the University of Regina very much serves that purpose in Saskatchewan. "It's not just the full-time students of course, but we have so many people who are going back to school, taking summer classes, taking night classes, upgrading, and doing a post-graduate degree," he notes. "Then you also get the connection through the extracurricular activities which bring people into the city and into the university because of the sports, like national championships. All of those things are good for the city and bring people here who might not otherwise think about coming here."



"It is a source of pride for us to have a university of that standard, that size, that quality here in a relatively small city,"

- Jim Hopson

Paul McLellan Profile

The University of Regina's motto, "As One Who Serves", denotes an obligation of its graduates to use their education for the good of the community. Paul McLellan took that admonition to heart. Paul originally obtained his Bachelor of Business Administration degree at the University, and returned many years later to earn his Master of Business Administration. He is the CEO of Alliance Energy Ltd., an electrical contracting company originally established by his father.



Paul's record of service is long and impressive, including stints as a board member and chair of numerous industry and educational organizations such as the University of Regina and SIAST (now Saskatchewan Polytechnic). He has also volunteered his time as Assistant Vice-President of Canada Summer Games 2005, the Board of Directors of Globe Theatre, and Vice-President of the 1995 Grey Cup Committee.

Paul gives a great deal of credit for his community engagement to the spirit of volunteerism he learned at university. "It is well-known how engaged the people of Saskatchewan are in their home communities, and the university is a leader in that," Paul says. "They develop the folks who become volunteers in the larger community, but they are volunteers within the University and they certainly have always been engaged."

As a University of Regina alumnus, Paul feels that he is a member of a very large and distinguished group. "Many, many of them are leaders in their industries and their community, and the university has helped them do that. It's their culture and they have gotten folks to see and buy into it," he said.

So how does Paul believe that the University's presence benefits Regina?

"It's at least a three-pronged impact on the community," he says. "You can take it to a hard business number, you can take it from the cultural side, and you can take it for the scholastic and academic pursuits. It's just a great institution to be associated with and it's taught me so much, just being associated with real quality people."

"I cannot over-state the importance of the University and the support it gives our community. When they turn to us sometimes and want our support it is important for us, in particular the business community, to understand and help them as much as we can."

- Paul McLellan

Susan Barber Profile

For Susan Barber, the University of Regina was a big part of life, long before she enrolled as a student. It all started with her dad, the late Dr. Lloyd Barber.

"When my dad served as President from 1976 to 1990, I was exposed to so many people at the University and I came to know the University and all it does almost through osmosis, since the day-to-day goings on were part of our household!", Susan says. "It has always been a part of my life because it was such a big part of my parents' lives."

Susan was called to the Saskatchewan bar in 1988. Today she is a partner with Regina's McDougall Gauley, and is recognized as one of the best lawyers in Canada in the practice of labour and employment law. But the University of Regina has always been with her.

"Long after I graduated I became a member of the Board of Governors and served as chair of the board," she says. "That involvement introduced me to many other leaders and business people in the Regina community and beyond. As a lawyer those networking opportunities and business connections are a great asset."



"The U of R really is a jewel of the prairie and I am proud to be a graduate."

- Susan Barber

Susan has also distinguished herself as a community leader, serving on a broad spectrum of boards and advisory bodies both professionally and as a volunteer. Her volunteer work earned her the University's Dr. Robert and Norma Ferguson Alumni Award for Outstanding Service in 2013.

"Of course I have to give credit to my parents who always supported and encouraged community involvement," she says. "I think that sense of community associated with a smaller and more closely knit university breeds involvement."

Not surprisingly, Susan sees wins for both the University and the city in their relationship.

"Producing graduates from the community leads to many of them setting up businesses and joining the professional community close to home," Susan says. "It produces bright, capable men and women to succeed within the province and give back to Saskatchewan. It strengthens our community in so many ways, some measurable and some immeasurable. There is no doubt in my mind that having a university in a community gives it a competitive advantage."

Ken Ottenbreit Profile

Every October some 3,000 people show up for a charity event in New York's Central Park. It's the Terry Fox Run, and not surprisingly it's organized by Ken Ottenbreit, Regina native and University of Regina graduate. Ottenbreit, a corporate lawyer managing the New York office of a Canadian law firm, started the run in 1994 and to date it has raised more than \$2.5 million for cancer research.



"I was born in Regina and grew up there. Going to university was just a tremendous building block for me," says Ken. "I went on to a law career but it is in international corporate law, so having my business administration degree from the University of Regina was really fundamental to getting me started. Being from Saskatchewan and the University of Regina is a big part of who I am."

Looking back at his home town from his Park Avenue office, Ken sees that the presence of the university really shapes the character of the city.

"To be honest I think it's critical. If you look at many, many cities and you look at which cities have a university and which don't, there's a very distinct difference," Ken says. "It just brings the cultural side, the academic side, the intellectual side – I think it can be a real driving force for the community. If the community doesn't have that, it ends up being limited."

He sees having a university close to home as a major advantage.

"When you've got talented kids coming out of high schools in southern Saskatchewan they have a very real option. Not everybody wants to go two thousand miles away to go to university," Ken says. "This is a way of upgrading everyone in the sense of having a higher level of educational attainment in the community generally, and when you have that then the people become leaders in the community and it's a very good self-serving cycle."

Ken recognizes the University of Regina as an important launching pad for a career that has taken him to a leading role as legal counsel for numerous companies doing significant cross-border business in Canada and the U.S.

"One of my professors actually wrote a very significant recommendation letter for me. I took a really hard look at this firm because a University of Regina professor that I was close with recommended that I do that," Ken says. "Staying at the University of Regina allowed me to go to law school very prepared and to be successful there."

"Everybody who knows me in New York knows where I'm from, and it's more than just cheering for the Roughriders. Being from Regina has been a huge part of my identity."

- Ken Ottenbreit

Randy Beattie Profile

Randy Beattie knows business. As the President & CEO of PFM Capital, he leads a number of investment companies and joint venture funds that make an enormous impact on the growth and development of Saskatchewan companies. But when Randy thinks about how attending the University of Regina prepared him for this role, he believes that it is much more than an academic institution; it is a community.

“I came from out of town and stayed in residence, and that is much more than just a room and a bed,” Randy says. “To this day I still visit with and consider some of my best friends the people I got to know at that residence. It’s important to have that kind of combined community there. It is similar to the small towns we come from.”

When it comes to business, he sees an everyday impact of the University of Regina in his working life.

“It has been important to my career. I stay in contact with profs and we’re invited back on a regular basis to come in and speak and bring case stories from our practical business experience,” Randy says. “That interchange and constant contact back to the University has been an important part as my career has developed.”

A big part of Randy’s business is about helping business owners start, grow, and develop their companies and design succession strategies. As his company matures, he sees the U of R playing a very direct role in that process.

“We started our firm with three people. We’re not a big firm – we only have fourteen – but the majority of all of our hires are from the University of Regina,” Randy says. We’re doing employee buyouts, and these people we hired four or five years ago from the U of R are now becoming owners.”

When it comes to attracting investors and highly skilled employees to Regina, Randy Beattie believes that the presence of the University in the community is critical.

“They are looking at the market but they are also looking at the lifestyle, and if they’re moving families here certainly the University plays a role on the quality education side,” he says. “Anybody either employing people here or thinking of coming here, the University is considered in their overall decision.”

To Randy, the University is an important business anchor for Regina. “The most important aspect for someone like me who’s running a business is the talent pool that continues to be created by the University of Regina,” says Randy. “It brings people to Regina, they like the city, they look for careers while they are at school and we get to keep them here.”



“It’s there to train employees who will become employers. Your leaders may start out as employees of a firm, but eventually they’re going to move into ownership roles or senior management roles, and those folks are coming out of the University.”

- Randy Beattie

College Avenue Campus Renewal

An Essential Institution

From the outset, Regina College was much more than a liberal arts college. It has always offered business classes, and its historic buildings now house a Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) that includes the Conservatory of Performing Arts.

Consistent with the new fabric of Saskatchewan, as part of its work CCE oversees the delivery of English as a Second Language classes to more than 1,100 students. In addition, throughout 2014-15 CCE also delivered programming to more than 650 seniors via its Lifelong Learning Centre. The Centre also has unique partnerships with University of Regina faculties, Federated Colleges and Regional Colleges to deliver flexible learning courses throughout the province. More than 18,000 individuals participated in these courses organized by the Flexible Learning Division and delivered by face-to-face, online and televised instruction. Clearly, CCE is fully intertwined with the ongoing social and economic development of Regina and beyond.

It is important to note that the Centre for Continuing Education functions on a cost-recovery basis and is fully self-financing. In 2014-15, the Centre generated program revenues of more than \$23 million and contributed \$6 million to University operations as well as another \$724,000 for the College Avenue Campus Renewal Project. CCE has 50 staff and 15 faculty members and contracts with more than 400 independent instructors.

Renewal Is Paramount

In the early part of the century, a boom in the Western Canadian economy caused the population of Regina to explode from 2,000 to 30,000. Community leaders at the time understood that education would be a major driver of the future social, cultural and economic well-being of the city and area. In response, the Methodist Church founded Regina College in 1911 and started operations in the vacant Victoria Hospital. Meanwhile, Francis Darke donated \$85,000 and helped raise another \$40,000 from the community to construct a permanent building on the northern side of Wascana Lake. The new Regina College building opened its doors in the fall of 1912. With its opening in 1929, the adjacent 550-seat Darke Hall emerged as the cultural centre of Regina and surrounding area.

Now more than 100 years later, it is time to restore and revitalize the outdated and crumbling facilities of the College Avenue Campus. Again, with community support, the historic College Avenue Campus will continue to be a vibrant place for learning, personal development and culture.

Renewal must and will maintain the historic integrity of the campus, while addressing the pressing need for enhanced public accessibility, increased operational efficiencies, and the upgrading of its teaching and learning facilities. As historic buildings, the current facilities lack elevators, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and air conditioning. Moreover, major structural faults necessitate that CAC be either restored or padlocked. Closure would severely hamper the ability of the University to provide the current continuing education programming in the larger community, and would negatively affect the character of Wascana Centre. On the other hand, renewal will rescue a picturesque heritage building and performance centre while strengthening the cultural and educational fabric of the broader community and province.



Conclusion

The evolution of the University of Regina has mirrored the economic and social transformation of the Regina region. Rooted in prairie culture, the University's principled, humble and industrious history is the foundation for its globally connected, locally committed and innovative present.

From research into the potential impacts of changing climate, extreme climate events, and mountain snowfall and glaciation on irrigation water supplies for the agricultural sector, to research and development into enhanced oil recovery and carbon storage, the University's faculty and student body are closely aligning their work with the competitive engines of the Regina region economy.

The University is more than an economic enabler; it is itself an economic engine with an impact equivalent to the size of a 10,000-person Saskatchewan city. The University's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) impact is estimated at \$408 million for Regina and \$542 million for the province. The overall University enterprise supports more than 6,400 jobs across the province, including more than 4,500 jobs in the Regina region (2,995 of which are directly on campus), and a further 1,900 elsewhere in the province. In 2014-15, the University, directly and indirectly, contributed approximately \$82 million to federal government revenues and \$69 million to provincial government revenues through personal and corporate income taxes, taxes on unincorporated business profits, and sales and excise taxes.

Research at the University is comparable to the operations of a business with revenues of \$15 to \$20 million annually and a growth target of \$25 million. Like any good business, the University is forward-looking and collaborative. At 13%, the University of Regina was the top University in Canada in terms of the corporate share of research funding. The University's specific research clusters, strategically chosen to maximize community impact, are: Water, Environment and Clean Energy; Anxiety, Stress and Pain; Integrated Human Health; Social Justice and Community Safety; and, Digital Futures.

The University's 400 faculty and staff researchers and 18 research centres and institutes advance the research mission's pursuit of "influential research and creative endeavours" as a means of making local and global contributions to knowledge. U of R research expertise closely aligns with Saskatchewan's key industry sectors, and addresses the province's most pressing social, ecological and economic opportunities and challenges.

University of Regina students provide both immediate and lasting economic and social benefit to the Regina region. In 2014-15, 14,000 students (70% of which are non-local) spent \$200 million in Regina, supporting a further 900 jobs in the city and 400 jobs elsewhere in the province. The University's 1,900 international students spend almost \$40 million in the city. The total GDP impact of student spending was \$119 million in Regina and \$151 million provincially.

Convocation is both a celebration of academic excellence and achievement, and an economic asset to the Regina region. In 2014-15, Convocation events attracted 6,172 guests, with almost 75 per cent from outside of the city. Total Convocation guest spending in Regina is estimated at \$1.5 million. The economic impact of University students does not end at graduation. University of Regina graduates will earn more, pay more taxes, help increase productivity in the economy, and on average lead healthier lives than those with high school education only.

The University's commitment to leverage its history for future community benefit is reflected in the College Avenue Campus Renewal Project. It is expected to generate more than 200 jobs in the city and almost 400 in the province over the course of the construction phase. The Regina and provincial GDP impacts are expected to be \$23 million and \$41 million, respectively. Longer term, the renewal will provide accessible, flexible, and continuing education options for students across Saskatchewan.

In summary, the University of Regina's contribution to the Regina region is both economic and social. The University's research advances the economic interests of the region. Its graduates are an important part of the productive and innovative backbone of society, and its long-term commitment to service is manifested in local, national, and international collaborative partnerships. Modern, prosperous and sustainable economies celebrate and leverage their universities for social and economic benefit, and the Regina region is enhanced by the presence of the University. Globally connected and locally committed, the University of Regina is a vital pillar of the Regina region's economy.

Endnotes

- i Source Statistics Canada: Age 25 to 29 Born in Canada
- ii Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey 2008 to 2013
- iii Statistics Canada 2011 National Household Survey, degree earned in Canada
- iv Statistics Canada, Frenette - Income \$'000s between age 35 and 54
- v Bridging the Aboriginal Education Gap in Saskatchewan, Gabriel Dumont Institute
- vi Employment of First Nations People: Saskatchewan Lags Behind, Eric Howe, University of Saskatchewan, October 2012
- vii <http://fnuniv.ca/overview>
- viii This chart compares a 2011 Conference Board of Canada (CBOC) Report findings (Fueling The Surge) with those of this report.
*CBOC excludes spending from Sask students outside of Regina
**CBOC uses Regina GDP of 10,623 for 2011.
*** differences due to inflation, higher enrollment, and CBOC using 51% of students non-local. Data provided for Praxis study had 70% non-local
- ix <http://www.economy.gov.sk.ca/exporting>
- x <https://www.ic.gc.ca/app/scr/tdst/tdo/crtr.html>
- xii <http://www.uregina.ca/international/partners/visiting-scholars/index.html>



About the University of Regina

The University of Regina is home to 10 faculties and approximately two dozen departments which have established reputations for excellence and innovative programs leading to Bachelor's, Master's, and doctoral degrees.

In fall 2015, 14,360 full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at the University and our three Federated Colleges: Champion College, First Nations University of Canada, and Luther College. Our Colleges bring excellence and diversity to the educational experience we offer.

www.uregina.ca

About Economic Development Regina Inc.

Economic Development Regina Inc. is the lead economic development agency for the City of Regina and region. EDR provides leadership to the community and we work with key stakeholders to identify, develop and promote opportunities that advance economic prosperity for those who live, work, learn, visit and invest in the Regina region.

www.economicdevelopmentregina.com