



ASSOCIATION OF  
ATLANTIC  
UNIVERSITIES

ASSOCIATION DES  
UNIVERSITÉS DE  
L'ATLANTIQUE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sackville, NB - University officials and student leaders will gather at Mount Allison University today for [\*Making the Connection: Developing a University Team Approach to Student Mental Health Care.\*](#)

The day-long event is presented by the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) and the Medavie Health Foundation. The conference is designed to create greater awareness and focus on student mental health across the region's universities. It features moderated panel discussions and sessions on the effective management of student mental health issues both as individual institutions and collaboratively.

“The purpose of today's conference is not just about creating awareness for student mental health issues on our campuses but also to encourage open, ongoing dialogue among our universities, hopefully leading to both institutional and regional policy frameworks,” said Dr. Robert Campbell, President, Mount Allison University; Chair, AAU and Chair, National University Presidents Working Group on Campus Mental Health.

Dr. Campbell added, “we are pleased to partner with Medavie Health Foundation on this important and timely initiative.”

Wade MacLauchlan, President Emeritus, University of Prince Edward Island and a member of the Medavie Health Foundation board, spoke about that organization's commitment to partnerships and programs relating to child and youth mental health.

“The Medavie Health Foundation aims to bring organizations and communities together in promoting long-term lasting impacts to support mental health and resiliency in children and youth,” said Dr. MacLauchlan. “We recognize that university life and studies can be challenging for students. This conference brings the region's universities together for meaningful discussion and a collaborative, team approach to enhancing student mental health care.”

A notable outcome of today's conference is Memorial University's commitment to continuing the conference dialogue among its fellow universities. Memorial will utilize its Distance Education and Learning Resources to engage university faculty, staff and students in a dialogue on student mental health care. Continuing the conversation is a top priority for the AAU, its member universities and Medavie Health Foundation.

Conference proceedings will be posted at [www.atlanticuniversities.ca](http://www.atlanticuniversities.ca) and [medaviehealthfoundation.ca](http://medaviehealthfoundation.ca)

*The AAU represents the interests of universities across the region, ensuring public visibility for the important role they play in preparing future leaders of our communities, in path-breaking research and innovation and in contributing to the economic prosperity of life in Atlantic Canada.*

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