



**Meeting of the Budget Development Group #11
February 22, 2022
Minutes**

The following members participated: Anne Comfort, Philip Cormier, Nauman Farooqi, Jeff Hennessy, Robert Inglis, Margaret-Ellen Messinger, Chris Milner, Michael Nolan and Courtney Pringle Carver

1. Minutes

The February 15 and 17, 2022, minutes were approved as circulated.

2. Update from the Chair

Robert advised the Vice-Presidents completed a further exercise on the prioritized list and focused it down further. The VP's then met with the President for an update on the process to date and there were questions and discussions regarding the submissions and prioritized list.

Community town halls are planned to be scheduled in March.

3. Student numbers, tuition, government grant

Robert advised the budget is being drafted based on the following:

Government Grant of 1% and MOU formula will not be applied
Tuition increase of 3%
Entering class of 750 students

It was suggested that the final report of the BDG contain commentary from the membership on these three items.

- Incoming class of 750 will put a lot of pressure on the academic and student support areas of the University.
- We need to ensure resources are in place to receive these students and do a good job with retaining them
- The broad student position is that they do not like tuition increases. We will need to strike a balance of what is necessary based on the services being provided
- Tuition increase needed in order to keep up with inflation and still be able to run the same services
- The University had a multiyear plan to bring us in line with Nova Scotia universities and maintain parity
- Students benefit immensely from financial aid and experiential learning
- It will be important to communicate new initiatives offered in this budget

4. Next Steps