

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Record 17% Increase in Enrolments for St. Mary's University College in Calgary

Calgary, AB (September 26, 2013) While many post-secondary institutions in Alberta are feeling the effects of the cuts announced in the March budget and have entered a time of uncertainty, St. Mary's continues to grow in both program and student numbers.

This September, St. Mary's University College experienced a 17% increase in enrolment compared to the same time last year. Dr. Mark Charlton, Vice-President Academic and Dean at St. Mary's, is pleased that more students are choosing St. Mary's for their post-secondary education. "I think that this year's growth indicates that an increasing number of students see St. Mary's as their first choice for post-secondary education," said Dr. Charlton. "The fact that we could guarantee that there was space for them at a time of uncertainty across the post-secondary system reassured many students that they had made the right decision."

In a survey of incoming students asking why they selected St. Mary's as their first choice for post-secondary education, first year student Celine Hanton wrote, "I chose St. Mary's because I love that you're a person, not a number. The staff genuinely cares about you and your academic career."

While many universities are examining the number of programs they are able to offer, St. Mary's has recently introduced two new degrees. A Bachelor of Arts with major in Psychology and a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Liberal Studies, the first of its kind in Alberta. "The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Liberal Studies is the first program of its kind in Alberta and we predict that it will quickly become one of our most sought-after degrees," said Dr. Gerry Turcotte, President of St. Mary's University College.

Introducing unique programs such as this will help St. Mary's University College continue to grow while still providing high quality education in small classes with personalized attention where professors know their students by name.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic Post-Secondary, student-focused liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution in Calgary. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree, and courses in 34 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca

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