

St. Francis Xavier University

St. Francis Xavier University is a private residential co-educational Roman Catholic institution at Antigonish, Nova Scotia. A university charter was granted it by the Legislature of Nova Scotia in 1856, thirteen years after its founding as a diocesan college at Arichat, Nova Scotia. This University is widely known for its work in adult education and its activity in this field provides an interesting example of how regional needs may determine university services. St. Francis Xavier's extension programme differs from other forms of university adult education in its emphasis on group study and community organization in contrast with the traditional type of learning for individual improvement. From group study, the people soon developed group organization for economic improvement. Co-operative associations of various kinds were set up, including marketing groups for fishery and agricultural products, credit unions, consumer co-operatives, processing plants, and other forms of community enterprises. The work of the Extension Department spread from nearby rural areas to the mining communities of Nova Scotia and then to other Maritime Provinces. So distinctive and effective has this university-sponsored activity become that it is described generally as the Antigonish Movement.

Acadia University

Acadia University at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, is Baptist but without creedal restrictions. The University has taken its name from its location in the heart of the land immortalized by Longfellow in his poem Evangeline. Acadia is primarily a residential university; throughout its history it has attempted first to meet the needs of its constituency and second to provide a strong liberal arts core for all its courses whether in engineering, science, or economics. Its faculty believes that classes should be small according to ancient classical tradition; there are rarely more than 35 students in any class. In a fine arts programme given each year, admission to which is covered by the regular student fee, outstanding international concert artists are brought to Acadia to contribute to the cultural life of the campus.

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN QUEBEC

L'Université Laval

L'Université Laval, Quebec, stems directly from the Jesuit school founded in 1635 and it received its royal charter on December 8, 1852. Until comparatively recently the University limited itself to teaching in the four faculties named in its charter: theology, civil law, medicine, and arts. The arts faculty, however, has expanded to include a wide variety of schools and its teaching is carried on in many affiliated institutions outside the city and even outside the province, such as the Sacred Heart College at Sudbury, Ontario. Seven new faculties were created during the decade 1936-1947. The language used for instruction is French and, while the University is a private one, in the sense it is supervised by the Roman Catholic Church, it receives financial assistance from the Government of Quebec. Some 8,500 students were registered at the University during the 1949-50 session. Nearly a thousand of these were attending summer courses which attract teachers from all Canada and many parts of the United States. French courses are especially popular but credits leading to a degree may be obtained during the summer in many other subjects including philosophy, Latin, Gregorian Chant, and geography. The beginnings