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## **MacEwan University pilot project aims to assist students with off-campus housing**

**Edmonton** – In collaboration with two downtown developers, MacEwan University will be offering discounted rates to students for housing close to the university campus. An initial pilot phase with Qualico Properties and MacLab Development Group will help ensure students have access to housing that is affordable and suited to their needs – one of the keys to their academic success.

“Improving housing accessibility and affordability takes a creative approach to address the pressures our students are experiencing,” said Dr. Annette Trimbee, president and vice-chancellor. “Eighteen months ago we started talking with developers about how they might plan and build for the growing demand for housing near campus in a way that meets student needs. I’m proud to be collaborating with Qualico Properties and MacLab Development Group to offer our students an option that lowers their rent and keeps them living close to campus.”

Starting in summer 2025, MacEwan’s off-campus housing pilot program will offer student discounts on select downtown rentals allowing them to live near campus, walk to class and explore the heart of Edmonton.

“We are extremely pleased to be collaborating with MacEwan on this pilot project since we all have a vested interest in providing housing support to students,” said Mike Saunders, senior vice-president, Qualico Properties. “All businesses benefit from ensuring that young people are getting a quality post-secondary education before they enter the workforce and contribute to the economic success in this city and this province.”

“We always seek to involve the community in all of our developments,” said Bill Blais, president and CEO, MacLab Development Group. “As an Edmonton-based developer, partnering with MacEwan is a source of pride for us and we want to be part of the solution for students who are looking for housing now and into the future.”

Students who are interested in benefiting from this pilot project can do so by contacting the select property owners to learn what units and lease terms are available. A lease on an eligible unit must be signed before September 1, 2025, to qualify for the discount.

The participating properties with units that are available for discounts are The Switch at 10465 101 Street and The Parks at 10135 108 Street.

**For more information, please contact [archerj24@macewan.ca](mailto:archerj24@macewan.ca)**

*Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 90 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.*