

March 1, 2019

## **MacEwan University president resigns**

Edmonton - MacEwan University board chair Ione Challborn announced today that university president Deborah Saucier has resigned from her position. Saucier has accepted the position of president and vice-chancellor at Vancouver Island University (VIU) in Nanaimo BC. Saucier will remain as president at MacEwan University until July 3.

“Dr. Saucier has been an exceptional president,” said Challborn. “We are sad to lose her leadership. Under her guidance, the university has made great strides toward student success and inclusivity, and we have set ourselves on the path to meeting the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s calls to action. She has also led the organization toward defining its role as a city builder through social innovation and community engagement.”

“This is a bittersweet moment for me,” said Saucier. “My experience at MacEwan has been extraordinary. I am so proud of the accomplishments we have made during my time here. But the decision to move to Vancouver Island is a very personal one for me and my family. I’ll miss MacEwan and the people here terribly, but at the same time I’m very excited to be returning to the place I call home. ”

Saucier spent her teenage years on Vancouver Island and has family throughout the island. She completed an International Baccalaureate at Pearson College in Victoria and attended the University of Victoria for her undergraduate and master’s degrees.

The MacEwan Board of Governors will immediately begin to plan for an executive search to find a new president, and is considering the appointment of an acting president.

In the interim, the university’s executive team, including President Saucier, will continue to manage the hands on day-to-day operations of the university, and to guide strategic initiatives that are underway, including implementation of the changes related to the Post-secondary Learning Act, the Campus Development Plan, budget planning, and the development of the university’s Integrated Strategic Plan.

*Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 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.*

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