

A photograph of three young women standing outdoors, smiling at the camera. The woman on the left has red hair and is wearing a red top. The woman in the middle has dark curly hair and is wearing a red and white striped shirt. The woman on the right has blonde hair and is wearing a red top and holding a grey jacket. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting with trees and a building.

MountAllison
UNIVERSITY

YOUR IMPACT

Stories of giving, partnership, and community
GIVING REPORT 2025–2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

I am honoured to present Mount Allison University’s 2025-2026 Giving Report, where we celebrate the many ways donors like you are making a difference.

It is a great privilege to work alongside donors as they discover and create opportunities that reflect their values and fuel their passion for giving back. Mount Allison’s donors are an enthusiastic group who often choose to support more than one project, combine current giving with plans for their estate, and routinely join with like-minded individuals so that together they can realize an even greater impact. My colleagues and I are consistently inspired by your thoughtful and heartfelt generosity.

Together, Mount Allison University alumni and friends raised \$18,451,445 in 2025–2026. This has been one of the institution’s most successful fundraising years.

It’s been a milestone year with much to celebrate. The University continues to experience strong enrolment, with growth anticipated once again in the 2026-27 academic year. Our student population now exceeds 2,400, and we are working to ensure current and future generations of students have access to the facilities and resources that support Mount Allison’s extraordinary education and student experience.

Construction is underway on the Scott McCain and Leslie McLean Centre for Health and Wellness, which will provide three new hardcourts, space for winter training for football, soccer, and other field sport student-athletes, and Sackville’s only indoor walking track. We are also beginning extensive renovations of the R.P. Bell Library, creating modern study and gathering spaces, while preserving the library’s much-loved character and history. Donors are supporting these and other projects on campus,



including upgrades to the University’s pool and new training tools for aviation students — you will find stories about both projects, and the donors behind them, in this report.

Financial aid — scholarships, bursaries, and other student awards — continues to be the most popular way donors support our students. Thanks in large part to our donors and their commitments to creating new awards and strengthening existing ones, financial aid will increase 7.3 per cent in the coming year. Each student award donors support is a joyful affirmation that one of the best ways to build the future we hope for is to help someone else pursue their dreams.

Thank you for another wonderful year of generosity and impact. Every hour you volunteer, every act of friendship you extend, and every gift, regardless of size, contributes to the excellence that is Mount Allison University.

Thank you for supporting Mount Allison University and its students.

Sincerely,

Courtney Pringle-Carver
Chief Strategy Officer and Vice-President,
University Advancement

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH FUND



Andrew Brenton ('80) and Kerry Wood

The University is thrilled to establish the Brenton Wood Environmental Sustainability Research & Initiatives Fund, made possible through an extraordinary gift from philanthropists Andrew Brenton ('80) and Kerry Wood.

“This generous new gift will strengthen environmental research at Mount Allison for years to come,” says Provost and VP, Academic and Research Dr. Richard Isnor. “At a time when environmental questions are among the most urgent facing our world, the fund will create new opportunities for students and faculty to pursue meaningful research, ask important questions, and contribute to solutions.”

The couple previously established the Brenton Wood Scholarship, a renewable award for students with financial need from the Maritime provinces. The award is one of the most valuable scholarships available at Mount Allison.

BLOIS AND BEVERLEY HENNIGAR AWARD

Blois Hennigar (1941-2025) earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1963 while being an active member of the campus community. After graduation, he moved to Montreal, where he earned his CA designation and met his wife, Beverley. The couple built a family and life that took them to cities throughout Canada — however, Mount Allison was never far from Hennigar’s thoughts. He created the Blois and Beverley Hennigar Award, which supports entering or returning students and is based on financial need and academic achievement. Hennigar made regular gifts, including monthly pledges, to fund the award during his lifetime and grew its impact through a legacy gift in his will.

“The award was his way of giving back,” says daughter Susan DuHamel ('93). “Dad wouldn’t have got to Mount A without financial assistance, and he credited the University with being such a big piece

of his success in life, for opening his eyes to everything that was possible, for giving him lifelong friends, and he really wanted to help others.”



Blois Hennigar visits daughters at Mount Allison in 1992.

HELPING STUDENTS SOAR TO SUCCESS

Dr. Michael PK Wu Aviation Space

Michael Wu ('61, LLD '05) came to Mount Allison from Hong Kong to study engineering and went on to careers in mechanical engineering, banking, and finance. He has also spent decades praising his Mount Allison experience and cherishing the lifelong friendships he made while at the University.

"He has always spoken very highly of how much he enjoyed the experience, of how supported and welcomed he felt — when he talks about Mount Allison its from the heart," says daughter Michelle Wu. "He never forgot that Mount Allison opened the door for him to study engineering and to build the career success that followed."

Michael Wu has stayed connected to the University through the years, including creating an endowment fund that supports the resources and activities of the University's International Centre and, in 1996, making a gift to create the Wu Teaching Centre, named in honour of his father, Dr. Y. S. Wu. In 2005, the University conferred Michael Wu with an honorary degree, recognizing his advocacy of education and commitment to the success of future generations of Mount Allison students.

"Dad has been a dedicated, supportive, and modest alumnus, never looking for or expecting recognition," says Michelle. "His past gifts to the University are examples of his wish to recognize other people and the causes that are important to him."

Michelle and her two siblings, inspired by the values of gratitude and giving back to the community that their father taught them and by his love for his *alma mater*, recently made a new gift to Mount Allison — supporting the Dr. Michael PK Wu Aviation Space.

"This is our opportunity to recognize dad," says Michelle. "We think the Aviation Space is a wonderful



Dr. Michael Wu ('61, LLD '05)

way to celebrate his connection to Mount Allison." The Dr. Michael PK Wu Aviation Space is located just around the corner from the Wu Teaching Centre in the University's Dunn Building. The space provides aviation students a much-needed place to study, collaborate, and access aviation training tools. Students use flight simulators and other technology to build their skills and strengthen their training when they are not logging practice time in the air.

"As an aviation student, the space has been really important to me and my classmates, especially as I work toward my goal of flying fixed wing medevac, an air ambulance service," says Ava Halperin. "I am a double major in physics and aviation, so spend a lot of time in the Dunn Building's Wu Centre and Aviation Space, and I am really thankful for the Wu family support."

Michelle says her family was attracted to the project because it was a need identified by the students themselves as something that would remove barriers to their success, and she remembers the smile on her dad's face when they told him about the gift.

"My dad has always said attending Mount Allison was one of the best decisions he ever made," says Michelle. "Back then there were not a lot of international students in the country, and it took a lot of courage and initiative on his part to come to Canada. As a young man, Mount Allison became his first community. Dad believes that a strong,

connected community is essential to building a better tomorrow. Mount Allison gave him that feeling and it's why he has remained such a devoted and loyal supporter of the University."

Mount Allison Aviation

Aviation is a popular degree option at Mount Allison. Students earn their bachelor's degree (BA, BComm, or BSc) and pilot license at the same time, and the program is delivered in partnership with MFC Training (Moncton Flight College). Dedicated students put in long hours, studying and attending lectures and labs on campus, travelling back and forth to the airport and college for flight instruction, and logging flight time in the air. The University is deeply appreciative of the donors supporting the success of our aviation students.



Michael Wu travelling across the Pacific Ocean on his way to attend Mount Allison. After arriving by ship in San Francisco, he would travel by train and bus to Sackville.



Michael Wu on campus and during a summer job while a Mount Allison student.

JOANNE HACKETT'S LIFE-ALTERING DECISION

Alumna shares why Mount Allison is part of her estate planning

Mount Allison introduced Dr. Joanne Hackett ('00) to an entire new world and forever changed her life.

Hackett grew up in a single-parent household in rural Prince Edward Island and says that many in her family had not completed high school and that well into her teenage years she had very little idea of what a university was. Hackett, however, had always been a good student and, with encouragement from those around her and at the suggestion of a family friend, decided to apply to Mount Allison.

"I had extremely good counsellors at school, and they said Mount Allison was the best university and I might as well aim big," says Hackett, who would earn a BSc with a major in biology. "The education was fantastic, and it was the first time in my life that I had seen such a community — that's the only way I can describe it. I hadn't really seen people taking care of each other, looking out for each other, and being collaborative like that, working together and wanting other people to do well. It was almost overwhelming to be honest with you."

Hackett went on to earn graduate scholarships and advanced degrees from universities in Canada and England and is today an accomplished geneticist and health-care executive leading global organizations.

She says her success is in large part thanks to her time at Canada's best university.

"I have spent my life working very hard, but I wouldn't have got to where I am without my foundation of education," says Hackett. "I see how much Mount Allison has changed my life, and I want other people to have that opportunity as well — I want the future little Joanne from PEI to have a choice."

I see how much Mount Allison has changed my life, and I want other people to have that opportunity as well — I want the future little Joanne from PEI to have a choice."

To help make that possible, Hackett and her partner have made Mount Allison part of their estate plans, arranging a gift by will to create the Hackett and MacDonald Award. The award will someday cover the full cost of tuition and fees for students.

"It's a small amount to pay back for what I have received," she says.

Hackett, who lives in London, U.K., wants others to know that whether you live internationally or not, leaving a gift in your will to Mount Allison is not complicated and that she would encourage anyone thinking about it not to wait.

"It was very easy to do, and the whole experience was almost all over email with just a couple of calls with the University," she says. "I'm hoping that I don't die for a while, but strange things can happen in life, and if I become ill, I don't want to be trying to get something sorted because at that time there are going to be more pressing matters. It is quite a nice thing to have the peace of mind knowing I have secured something for the next generation."

Hackett appreciates that the process of setting up the legacy gift has allowed her to grow her connection with the University and share her story. She says another benefit is that having the framework of

how she wants to give documented makes it that much easier if she decides she can start funding the scholarship during her lifetime.

"I would love to be able to see the scholarship supporting someone earlier," says Hackett. "Maybe even being able to live long enough to see them graduate and do something with their lives. It would be really profound to be able to be a part of that."



SYNCHRONIZED PHILANTHROPY

Coming together in support of student-athletes and pool upgrades

Individuals and groups have been aligning their efforts and philanthropic donations for key renovations to Mount Allison’s pool. A little more than a year ago, new diving blocks were installed, which are essential in helping the Mounties’ swim team train for competitions.

“It was a big update for recruitment and the calibre of our sport,” says Mounties Swimming Head Coach Brenna Maddalena (’17). “In the past, our student-athletes had to practice this skill of working with modern, professional diving blocks at the same time they were competing at other facilities. Now, our blocks are the best in the business. It shows that at Mount Allison there is real investment in the swim program.”

Maddalena says there was wonderful excitement when the team walked in and saw they had this new equipment, and that excitement carried through the season and was evident in the results. The team broke nine school records, and at the 2026 Atlantic

University Sport (AUS) Swimming Championships, the women finished second and the men third — a result that reflects the steady growth and momentum of the program.

“We have an incredible group of student-athletes that show up ready to work, support one another, and bring great energy to the pool every day,” says Maddalena. “We are so grateful to the donors for helping our students train at a high level and for making Mount Allison a place students want to be for both its great academics and athletics.”

Camren MacLeod, a third-year biopsychology major and one of the swim team’s captains, says even the smallest donation goes a long way in supporting student-athletes and reminds the team they are part of something bigger.

“That we have all these alumni and supporters investing in us really means a lot,” he says. “It shows that our teammates are more than the people we see every day on the pool deck. We are part of such a big family — a family of Mount Allison athletes of the past and non-athletes who want to see us succeed. I think that is one of the biggest sources of our excitement as we take these steps to modernize the pool.”



Mounties Swimming 2025-2026 with new diving blocks.

Thanks to donor support, next year Mount Allison will add a bulkhead to the pool, making the facility regulation size for many major competitions. At the same time, a new electronic scoreboard and touchpads will be installed, allowing swimmers’ times to be automatically recorded and displayed on the board when they touch the pad at the end of their race.

Maddalena hopes to now work with University Advancement and supporters to raise funds for upgraded bleachers, inviting more spectators to witness the accomplishments of student-athletes.

The pool is used by more than Mount Allison students — it is a resource much appreciated by the

wider community, including individuals who take advantage of lane swim times and members of the Sackville Swim Club, which delivers programming to area children and youth. Maddalena, born and raised in Sackville, just finished her eighth season as the club’s head coach and is deeply appreciative of this campus-town collaboration.

“I grew up practicing and competing in this same facility and know it is special for so many reasons and has the powerful support of the local community and Mount Allison alumni behind it,” she says. “Our donors know that we are the little school that can — they see the growth in our program, all that is possible, and we are forever grateful for their support.”



Mounties Swimming hosting the first competition of the 2025-2026 AUS season.

Big Plays in Sports and Recreation

Renovations and growth of sports and recreation facilities demonstrate Mount Allison’s strong commitment to athletic excellence, student experience, health and wellness, and community engagement. Other recent facility projects have included the modernization of the McCormack Gymnasium and improvements to Athletic Centre building accessibility.

Construction is underway on the Scott McCain and Leslie McLean Centre for Health and Wellness, which will include 26,000 square feet of new year-round playing space and Sackville’s only indoor walking track. Supported by donors, including a leadership gift from alumni Scott McCain (’78, LLD ’20) and Leslie McLean (’81), the centre will encourage students and everyone in our community to lead active lifestyles. The project recently received funding from the Government of New Brunswick.



Shannon ('88) and Mike ('90) Baxter and family at one of Robbie's football games, 2016.

ALWAYS HOME AT MOUNT A

Shannon ('88) and Mike ('90) Baxter: alumni, parents, volunteers, Mounties superfans

A conversation with Shannon and Mike Baxter effortlessly jumps from Mount Allison stories and memories from decades ago to those from just last week. It's impossible not to be swept up in their enthusiasm, and one thing becomes clear: Mount Allison has always been — and always will be — an important part of their lives.

Mike's mother graduated from Mount Allison, and his grandmother graduated from Mount Allison Ladies' College. Shannon says that, in her family, it was just understood they would go to Mount Allison. She and all her siblings are graduates, as are her mother and all her siblings, nearly all her cousins, and the University's Avard-Dixon Building is named, in part, in honour of distant relatives. Shannon and Mike met as Mount Allison students, and their son, Robbie, graduated in 2017.

Although the couple's careers kept them busy moving to various cities, they tried to stay connected to their *alma mater* and were thrilled to become more involved in recent years, especially while Robbie was a student and member of the Mounties Football team. The couple proudly wore their



Shannon ('88) and Mike ('90) Baxter, 2026.

Mount A gear at home and away games, helped with game-day preparations, and volunteered at the team's fundraising golf tournaments. They continue to volunteer with the team, and they are often the first to volunteer for the University's annual Homecoming and Reunion events. Shannon also serves on the Mount Allison Alumni Board and hosts local women in business luncheons for Commerce students.

"When asked, we help," says Mike. "Volunteering with Mount A is about giving back and paying it forward. And it's not a chore — it's an experience. You get to see people you haven't in a while and share stories."

"It's fun to be involved," adds Shannon. "It's fun to feel a part of something bigger than you."

Both exclaim, "You get to re-live your youth!"

The couple remember their own student days with much affection. Shannon lived on the fourth floor of Windsor Hall and later the fourth floor of Harper Hall, and she chaired Winter Carnival for two years. Mike lived in the basement of Thornton House, served as house treasurer, and was an almost daily participant in pickup hockey games at Allison Gardens.

You came to Mount Allison for the great academics and left with that and so much more, says the couple, citing the connections, lifelong friendships, and unbeatable student and life experience. They know this remains true today and it's why they volunteer and donate to various initiatives.

Shannon and Mike encourage others to get involved when they can, emphasizing that it is never too early — or too late — to reconnect with Mount Allison.

"We lived in the states for years, where there were not as many alumni events, so lost touch for a while," says Shannon. "But that's the thing about Mount A. It's always your home and it's always here for you. Even if you haven't been in touch and involved in a while you can begin to be, at any time in your life."

A. Jane Avard Eaton Student Leadership Awards

Several years ago, Shannon joined her father, Robert Eaton, and siblings in creating the A. Jane Avard Eaton Student Leadership Awards, which are named in honour of Shannon's late mother. Presented annually, the awards recognize graduating students who have made extraordinary contributions to student life and the community.

"I'm happy we have this award that honours my mother because she loved Mount Allison so much," says Shannon. "I love that her name will live on here forever."

Amelia Jane (Avard) Eaton ('61) served on the University's governing Board of Regents. Shannon says she always reminded her children that the generosity of others had made their Mount Allison experience so great and that someday, when they were able, it was important for them to give back to the University through their time and philanthropy.

Shannon says one of the best things about creating the award has been meeting and hearing from student recipients. She is continually inspired by what they have accomplished and by the impact they hope to make in the future.



Amelia Jane (Avard) Eaton ('61)



THANK YOU
LEGACY GIVING
DONORS

The University’s Legacy Giving Society recognizes and celebrates the visionary philanthropy of friends and alumni who have confirmed that Mount Allison is part of their estate plans. Members receive special communications and invitations to select donor gatherings.

Additional information on legacy giving at Mount Allison can be found on our website: mta.ca/legacygiving

Giving to Mount Allison through your estate is an extraordinary opportunity to support future generations and ensure your passion for education and the Mount Allison community lives on.

Dorothy J. Armstrong	Jane Ellis	Cydney Kane	Margaret Pullin
Bruce Blandford & Ron Atkinson	Gary Foshay	Shaun Keyes	Jill (Hemeon) Rafuse
Braydon Scully & Dawn Ayer	Lorne M. Fox	Judith Lave	Ivan & Sheila (MacKinnon) Richardson
Janet Veniot Ayer	Catherine & Doug Fraser	Jane Lemon	Carol Jane Robertson
A. Victor Badian	John French	Kathryn Levandier	Robert Ross
Janet C. Bain	Richard Fulford	Aileen Lewis	Roger & Geraldine Roy
Gabrielle R. Becker	Harvey & Judy Gilmour	Diana Locke	Romer & Susan Shewchuk
Laurel Boone	George Goodwin	Earle & Heidi Lockerby	Donald MacLeod & Mary Alice Ryan
M. Lynn Boothroyd	Robert Greenwood	Frank Lovely	Alberta Smith
Donald Boudreau	John M. Grew	Kenneth & Mary Lund	Vincent Stephen Smyth
Peter White & Ross Borden	Marion Groundwater	Douglas & June MacEachern	Bob & Marilyn Stallworthy
Randall & Diane Brooks	Robert & Suzanne Gunn	Margaret Machum	Marc Truitt & Laura Snyder
Rebecca C. Brown	Paul Hachey	Catherine MacKenzie	Kathryn & Gordon Stanfield
Ian F. Cameron	George Hale	Shauna MacKenzie	Kevin Sterns
Garland P. Brooks & Angus Campbell	Joanne M. Hackett	Albert & Brenda Medynski	E. Nancy Stevens
Keltie Campbell	Rosemary Harrington	Marcie Meekins	Judith Symes
Joan Carlisle-Irving	Marilyn & Reid Harrison	John R. & Vida C. Mercer	Anne M. Thibodeau
Carol Anne Carlyle	Sharon Hart	Sadie Miller	John Thorburn
Sandra Carrigan	Brent L. Hawkes	Michael I. Mohammed	Brian & Barbara Trenholm
Daniel B. Chadwick	David Hawkins	Kathleen Morrell	Nancy Vogan
Steve Clark	Frank Hazel	Alastair A. Morrison	Christina Vroom
Marion E. Clarke	Jennie Henderson	Kelvin & Cathy Nelson	Pauline S. Watkins
Ann Clipstone	Cheryl Hodder	Michael & Suzanne Nolan	Judith Weiss
Sheila Cole-MacDonald	Jol & Maura Hunter	Terry North	Elizabeth A. Wells
Louise Cooke	Jeanne E. Inch	Bryan K. Parker	Helen Pottle Wesanko
David Cuthbertson	George Inman	Donald W. Patterson	Anonymous (8)
Judi Denison	Richard & Pamela Joho	Joan Peggs	
Stan Dunfield	Glenn Josephson	Judy Profit	



Rieger was born and raised in Quebec and entered Mount Allison after serving two years in the Canadian Navy.

“He was a couple of years older than most the students, but he really jumped into everything Mount Allison offered,” says Barbara. “Ed was bound and determined to do his best, and he loved Mount A, he loved every bit of it.”

Deeply involved in campus life, Rieger played both varsity and intramural sports, contributed to student leadership through his service on the Students’ Union and in Bigelow House residence, and, in recognition of his exceptional commitment and achievements, was awarded several prestigious University prizes. Rieger was also a young entrepreneur — in his final year, he partnered with his friend John Bragg (’62 , ’63, LLD ’93) to build an apartment building in Sackville.

After graduation, Rieger spent some time working and studying in other parts of Canada and then returned to Sackville where he held various positions with Mount Allison and with other organizations in town. Eventually, Rieger would spend most of his career living in Ontario and working in the field of medical devices. His love for Mount Allison and Sackville never faded, and he travelled back often to visit.

Ed Rieger passed away in January. A gift in his will creates the Edward Lindsay Rieger Memorial Bursary.

“Ed was a very proud Mountie, and I am sure this bursary will help students as he was helped many years ago,” says Barbara. “He was very kind to other people and basically lived his life by the thought that you treat people how you want to be treated. I’m so glad there is this bursary in his memory and that it will help others.”

This is the second Mount Allison student award named in honour of Ed Rieger. In 2021, John and Judy (LLD ’25) Bragg created the Ed Rieger Scholarship for students in the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) program.

AN EXTRAORDINARY ALUMNUS

Student awards honour the life and legacy of Ed Rieger (’62)

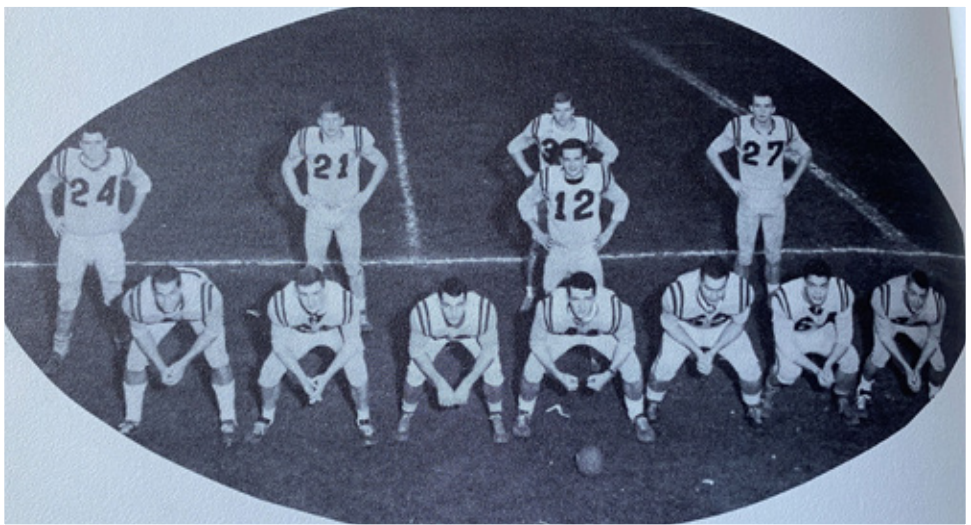
Ed Rieger always wanted to leave Mount Allison a gift in his will, says wife Barbara Rieger. It was his way of giving back to the University and town that had given him so much.

Bronwyn Larsen received the scholarship in 2024–25.

“This scholarship allowed me to fulfill my dream of travelling from my hometown of Calgary and going to Mount Allison to study politics and play soccer,” says Larsen. “Student awards are cherished and appreciated and motivate students to work even harder. I feel incredibly privileged to carry on Ed Rieger’s legacy via my pursuits in both sports and academia.”



Ed Rieger while a student at Mount Allison.



Ed, front row, third from left, and his 1962 Mounties Football teammates.

MORE MOUNT ALLISON NEWS

- Alumni and friends donate more than \$200,000 to the Mountie2Mountie Fund in 2025–26, providing more than 50 students with scholarships and bursaries and supporting other areas of greatest need.
- The Windsor Foundation supports Mount Allison’s Meighen Centre, which supports students with disabilities and medical conditions by providing academic and campus accommodations and offering an orientation for new students.
- George L. Cooper (’89), highly respected legal and community leader, is Mount Allison’s 10th Chancellor.
- *Leaders in the Field: The History and Legacy of Art at Mount Allison* is published. The book includes reproductions of work by artists who studied or taught at the University, including the work of Alex Colville, Mary Pratt, Christopher Pratt, and Tom Forrestall.
- RBC Barrier Buster Grants Program presented by the Rick Hansen Foundation supports accessibility on campus with a grant for improvements to door-opening mechanisms.

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a historic brick building. The building features a large, ornate wooden door with a gothic-style stone archway. Above the door is a multi-paned window. The walls are covered in thick, vibrant red ivy. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Mount Allison University is built
on the generosity of community.

Thank You.

MountAllison
UNIVERSITY

University Advancement
65 York St., Sackville NB, E4L 1E4

donate@mta.ca | mta.ca/giving | 1-866-890-6318