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# NEWS RELEASE

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Ref. No. 204

Date: June 11, 2012  
Subject: **Multimillion dollar investment by Hibernia to support Memorial University's Faculty of Education**

Memorial University of Newfoundland today announced the largest donation ever to the Faculty of Education from a single source. Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd. (HMDC) is donating more than \$5 million to support two programs to enhance teacher education in the province.

HMDC's investment will be used to introduce two new programs at Memorial. This gift will support the establishment of a new bachelor of education program for students already holding undergraduate degrees and who would like to pursue careers in teaching. This program will focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. The second program is a professional development program for current kindergarten to Grade 6 teachers in the province.

"Helping students develop an early interest in science, technology, engineering and math will open up a whole new world of possibilities as they progress through their academic careers," said Jamie Long, HMDC president. "We expect this investment in teachers will create excitement in the classroom about fields essential to the continued development of the province's resources."

The two new programs are designed to expand teaching capacity in science, technology, engineering and math in the province, to enhance the

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interest and knowledge of students from kindergarten to Grade 6 in STEM areas, and to increase the participation of young people in STEM disciplines and careers. The two programs will be called the Memorial University/Hibernia Project STEM Teacher Preparation Program and the Memorial University/Hibernia Project STEM Teacher Inquiry Program.

“I thank Hibernia for this progressive investment in programming for teachers in order to improve education and student interest in the STEM areas,” said Dr. David Wardlaw, provost and vice-president (academic) of Memorial University. “Our Faculty of Education will lead the way nationally, and provide a model for how to build STEM capacity in future primary and elementary teachers in Canada.”

#### **Key Facts:**

- More than \$5 million to enhance teacher development; largest donation to Memorial’s Faculty of Education from a single source
- Two new programs will be created to improve science, technology, engineering, and math capacity in the province
- Programs will benefit kindergarten through Grade 6 students

#### **About Memorial University of Newfoundland**

Founded in 1925 as a memorial to Newfoundland’s war dead, Memorial University College was elevated to degree-granting status in 1949 as Memorial University of Newfoundland. Today, the university is the largest in Atlantic Canada, with about 19,000 students. Memorial provides excellent undergraduate, graduate and professional programs in virtually all disciplines. With locations in St. John’s and Corner Brook in Newfoundland, Happy Valley-Goose Bay in Labrador, the French-owned island of Saint-Pierre and Harlow in England, Memorial is committed to experiential learning. The university’s many interdisciplinary programs abound with opportunities for experiential learning, ranging from on-campus employment to work terms around the world.

Outstanding research and scholarship, extraordinary teaching and a focus on community service are the university’s hallmarks. Many teaching and research activities reflect our mid-North Atlantic locations; these unique settings and our cultural heritage have led to the creation of highly-regarded academic programs and specialized facilities in areas such as music, linguistics, folklore

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and human genetics, as well as earth sciences, cold-ocean engineering, rural health care and archaeology. For more information about Memorial University of Newfoundland, please go to [www.mun.ca](http://www.mun.ca).

Memorial University of Newfoundland is undertaking a \$50-million private sector campaign as part of an overall redevelopment program totalling more than \$250 million. Dare To: The Campaign for Memorial University focuses on student financial support, academic excellence and physical infrastructure. Investment in these three key areas will position Memorial as a destination of choice for academics, students, and staff from around the world. For more information on the campaign, please visit [www.dareto.ca](http://www.dareto.ca).

**About Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd.**

Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd. (HMDC) is the operator of the Hibernia field which began petroleum production on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland and Labrador in November 1997. HMDC is owned jointly by ExxonMobil Canada (33.125 per cent), Chevron Canada Resources (26.875 per cent), Suncor Energy (20 per cent), Canada Hibernia Holding Corporation (8.5 per cent), Murphy Oil (6.5 per cent) and Statoil Canada Ltd. (5 per cent).

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