STRATEGIC PRIORITY
3.0 Service

SUB-PRIORITY

3.2 Promote a culture of service and engagement by maximizing the opportunities for students, faculty and staff to contribute to community both inside and outside of the university

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RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
4.2,4.5

DESCRIPTION

Service is the third key element of the university’s mission. For the purposes of understanding this part of the mission it is useful to conceive of it as falling into two broad areas: service to the academic community and service to the public. This priority deals primarily with the latter.

There are many examples of public service at Dalhousie, ranging from the education of professionals to serve the province; research contributions to address significant local, national or global problems; service to rural and other communities and the volunteer and other public service efforts of our individual faculty, staff and students.

Beyond the public service that arises out of the missions of teaching and research, the Dalhousie community also makes important contributions as citizens. Dalhousie’s students are also actively engaged in public service, from raising money and awareness for charity to working hands-on with not-for-profit organizations.

Increasingly students are seeking opportunities to complement their academic programs and goals with community based initiatives whether on campus or off campus.

Nova Scotia, and Atlantic Canada more broadly, faces multiple tough challenges, ranging from a shrinking, aging population, to weak economic growth to poor health outcomes compared to many parts of Canada. Dalhousie could potentially play a greater role in addressing these challenges through the talents and capacities of the people who make up its communities.
SPECIFIC GOALS

1. Increase by 10% the proportion of faculty, staff and students who contribute to community through public service activities by 2018.
2. Develop a focused public service strategy by December 2016 that identifies opportunities to align its unique talents and capacities with public needs.