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# The Times They Are A-Changing

## Word of the wise:

"I remember one of my friends received 103 per cent in Gr. 12 math. Ridiculous! I limped by with a 50, and I'm pretty sure that was boosted up just to give me the credit."

- Cadre reporter and columnist Jarrod Yeo tells us what 'Grinds His Gears' on the funding coming UPEI's way from the move over the the Department of Innovation and Advanced Learning - Page 6



**By Shane Mountain**  
The Cadre

"This is a time of remarkable change," UPEI president Wade MacLauchlan said at a public forum at the student centre.

The forum was held at McMillan Hall on Wednesday Sept. 24 at 3 p.m., was mediated by K-Rock's Zack Bell and offered a chance for open discussion with UPEI president Wade MacLauchlan, Minister of Innovation and Advanced Learning Richard Brown, economics professor Jim Sentance and UPEI Student Union president Justin Douglas.

The focus of the forum was to publicly speak about the government

shifting UPEI from the Department of Education to the Department of Innovation and Advanced Learning. The move will allow for more funding and grants to sectors of the university with which private investors in the employer community have an interest.

"How UPEI has developed with the support of the government has been positive," MacLauchlan said, adding that over the last ten years UPEI has added five new programs and spent over \$100 million on campus renovations.

"We understand the debt loads of students," Brown said.

The Liberal government created the George Coles Bursary, in the amount of \$2,000, which is only available to Island students attend-

ing UPEI.

"We recognize the importance of a university degree," Brown said.

"You guys are the future of P.E.I."

The need for skills workers on P.E.I. in the future will be of the up most importance and there are certain skill sets required for the positions which will need to be filled. It is toward these skill sets and degree programs a lot of the increased funding will be directed.

Brown said the government was receiving requests for skills workers for companies and stressed that education is essential but also that the government is not taking over UPEI.

"In no way is the government trying to tell the university what to do."

The next speaker was economics professor Jim Sentance, who said

the money coming to the university may increase, but the new funding will be targeted to specific areas.

"The money will still be there and may increase," he said.

"It's nice to have more money."

He also said this new shift may put other departments, such as education, on the back burner due to an unequal distribution of funding, leaving the forgotten departments with a poor cousin feeling.

This is the biggest change to the university since its conception," said the final speaker, student council president Justin Douglas.

Douglas pointed out that UPEI has needing funding for years as the province's only university, and a niche is needed to help the Island compete on a global scale.