

IMMIGRATION and SKILLED LABOUR FORCE IN ATLANTIC CANADA;

The role of Employers and International Students

March 8, 2024, 1-4 PM **Panel Discussion** (Peter Halpin, AAU, Speaking Notes)

OVERALL IMPRESSIONS OF SURVEY

- Comprehensive
- Insightful
- Actionable

Surprising or Unexpected Results

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <i>Source of awareness</i> | <i>Family or friend</i> | <i>48%</i> |
| <i>Choice of institution in AC</i> | <i>Cost of living</i> | <i>42%</i> |
| | <i>Cost of tuition</i> | <i>42%</i> |
| <i>Satisfaction with choice</i> | <i>Favourable</i> | <i>54%</i> |
| | <i>Unfavourable</i> | <i>30%</i> |
| <i>Working while studying</i> | <i>Part-time</i> | <i>74%</i> |

Responses pleased to see

| | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| <i>Cultural acceptance/local community</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | <i>78%</i> |
| <i>Interaction with faculty & staff</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | <i>84%</i> |
| <i>Academic success</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>96%</i> |
| <i>Teaching quality</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | <i>75%</i> |

Results that disturbed

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| <i>Housing</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | <i>54%</i> |
| <i>Finding accommodation</i> | <i>Difficult</i> | <i>67%</i> |

Conclusion

- *Overall student experience (academic, community, cost of living, housing) critically important factors influencing the most important source of awareness: family & friends*
- *Accessible & affordable housing critical issue!*

Future Survey

- Importance of social & cultural experience vs. economic factors
- Prevalence of food insecurity; precarious housing; immediate access to provincial health coverage