Budget Townhall 2026

October 15, 2026

University of Manitoba

Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses and research spaces are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate, Dene and Inuit, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

UM recognizes that the Treaties signed on these lands are a lifelong, enduring relationship, and we are dedicated to upholding their spirit and intent. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and the present.

With this understanding, we commit to supporting Indigenous excellence through active Reconciliation, meaningful change, and the creation of an environment where everyone can thrive.

Our collaboration with Indigenous communities is grounded in respect and reciprocity and this guides how we move forward as an institution.

President’s remarks

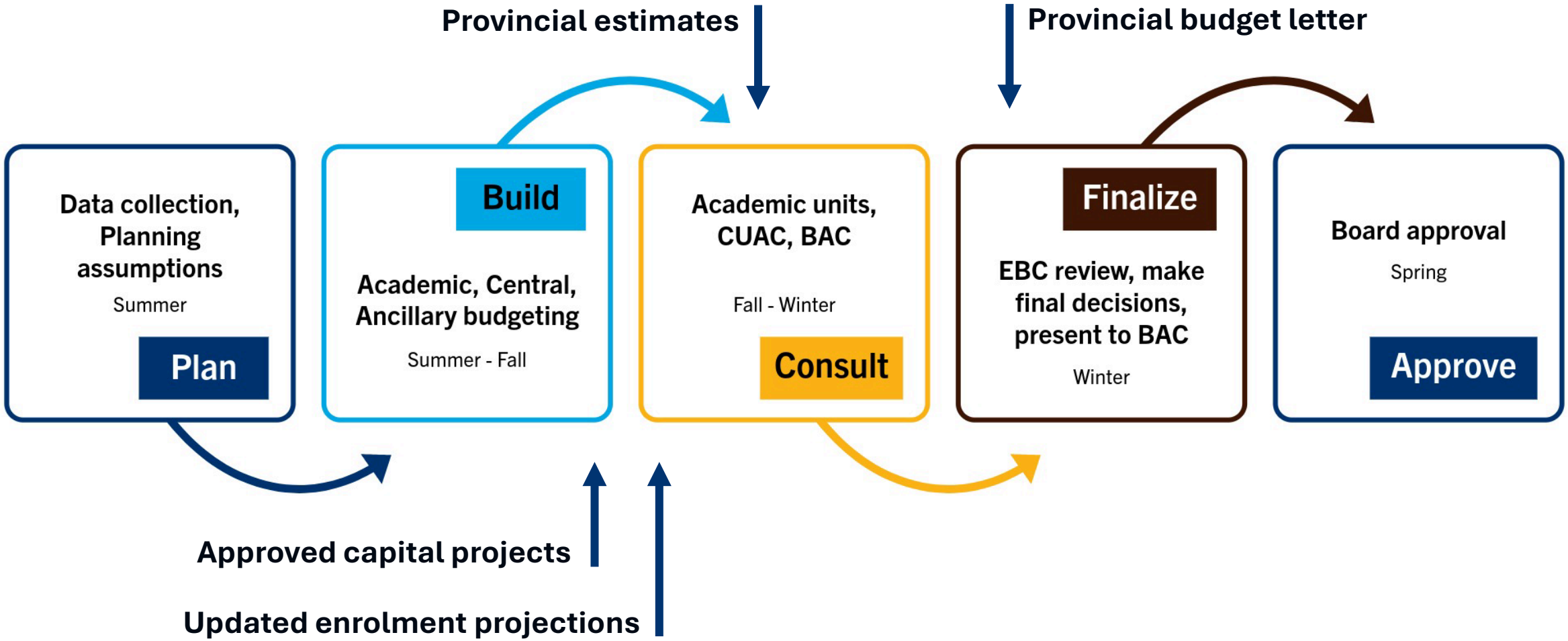


Provost's remarks



Understanding Budget Planning at UM

Budget planning cycle



Considerations and variables

UM is facing changing cost pressures with limited opportunities for new revenue.

- Provincial funding and priorities
- Tuition rates
- Enrolment changes
- Investment returns

Revenue Changes



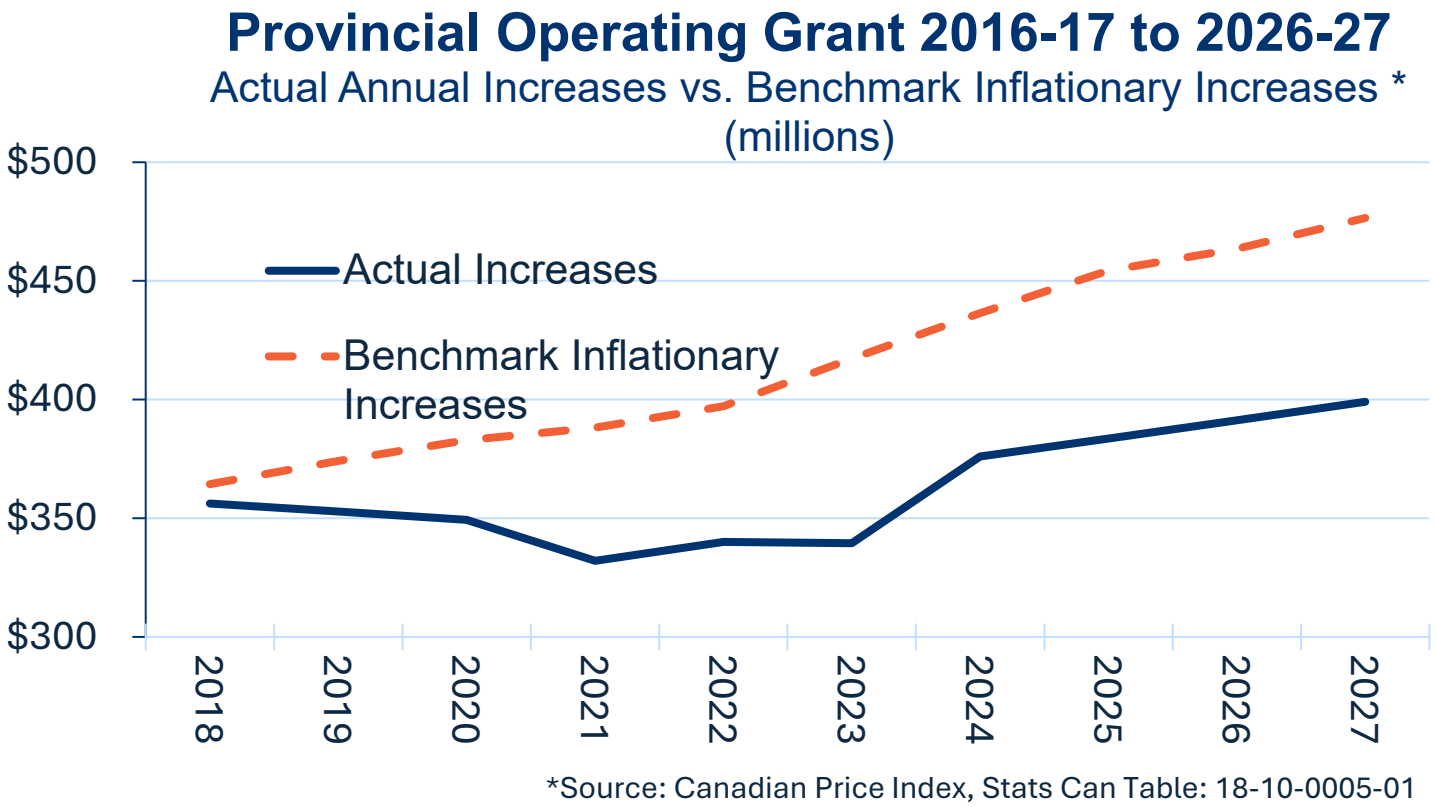
- Capital / infrastructure
- Compensation
- Student support
- Utilities
- IST and library contracts
- System upgrades
- Inflation

Cost Changes



Provincial grant funding

Annual operating grant funding has not kept pace with inflation.



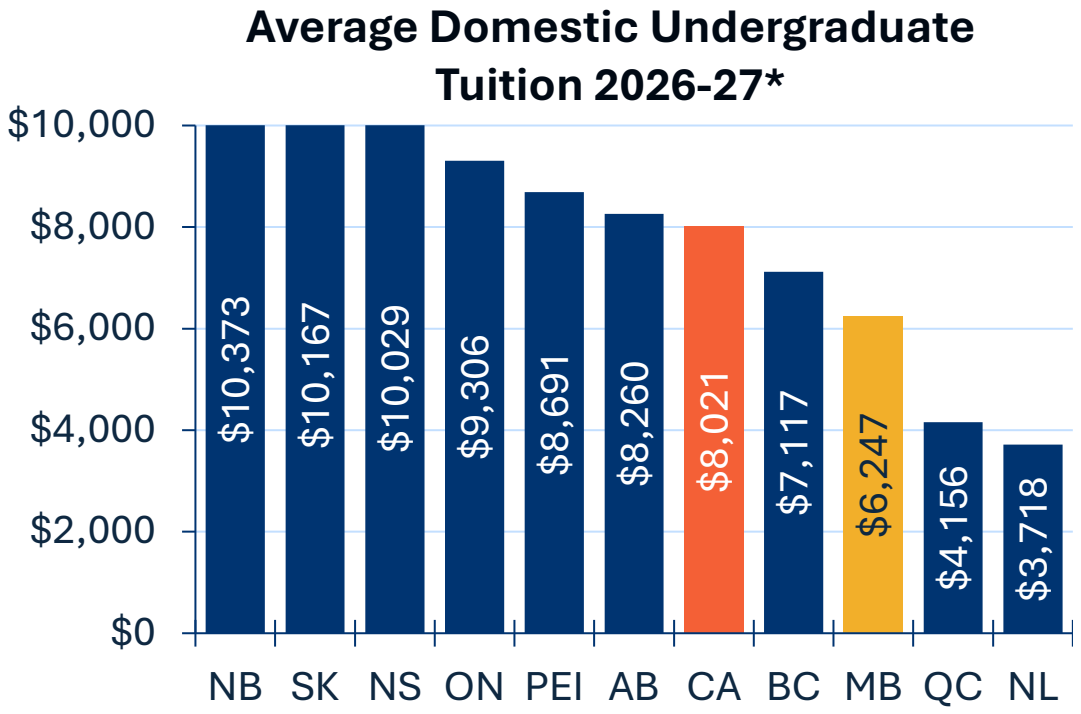
*Source: Canadian Price Index, Stats Can Table: 18-10-0005-01

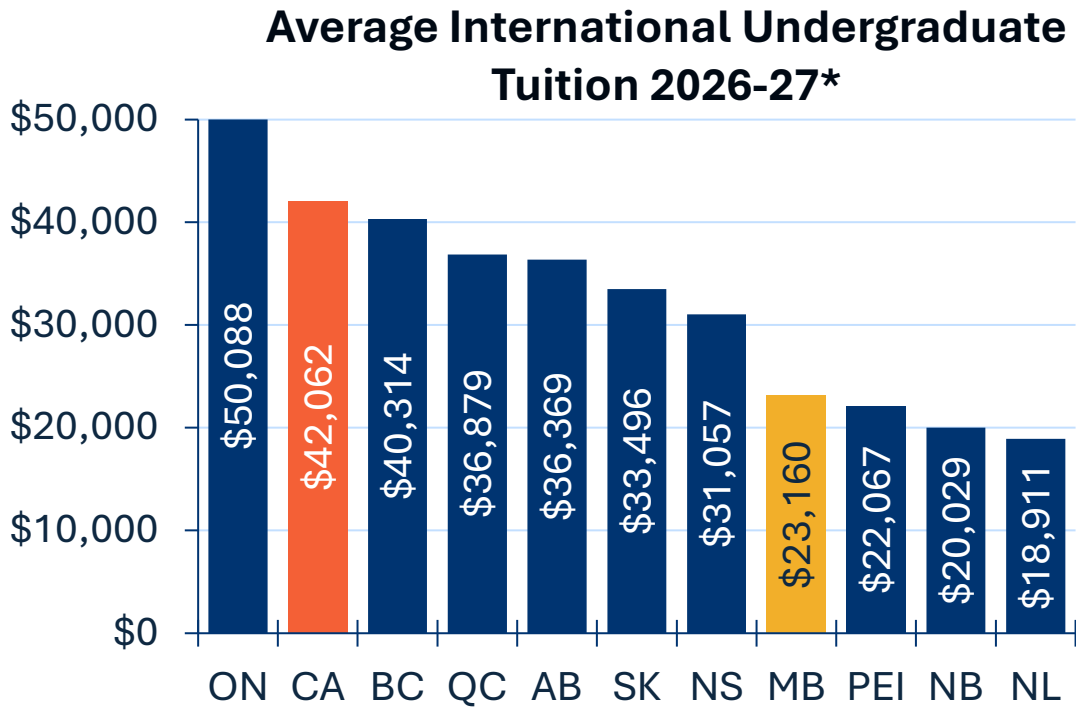
Increased Reliance on Tuition Revenue

	Grant	Tuition	Other
2016-17	59%	25%	16%
2026-27	55%	31%	14%
Change	**-4%**	**+6%**	**-2%**

Tuition rates in Manitoba

Average tuition rates in MB are low in comparison.





*Source: TLAC, Stats Can Table 37-10-0045-01
Data for 2026-2027 are preliminary.

Current fiscal state

UM's current financial health remains strong across key higher-education financial indicators.

	Minimum threshold	UM (2026)
Primary reserve ratio: Whether a university has sufficient financial resources in the event of a financial downturn.	140 days	195 days
Composite financial index: Overall financial health of a university.	3.0	3.2

2026-27 Operating Budget



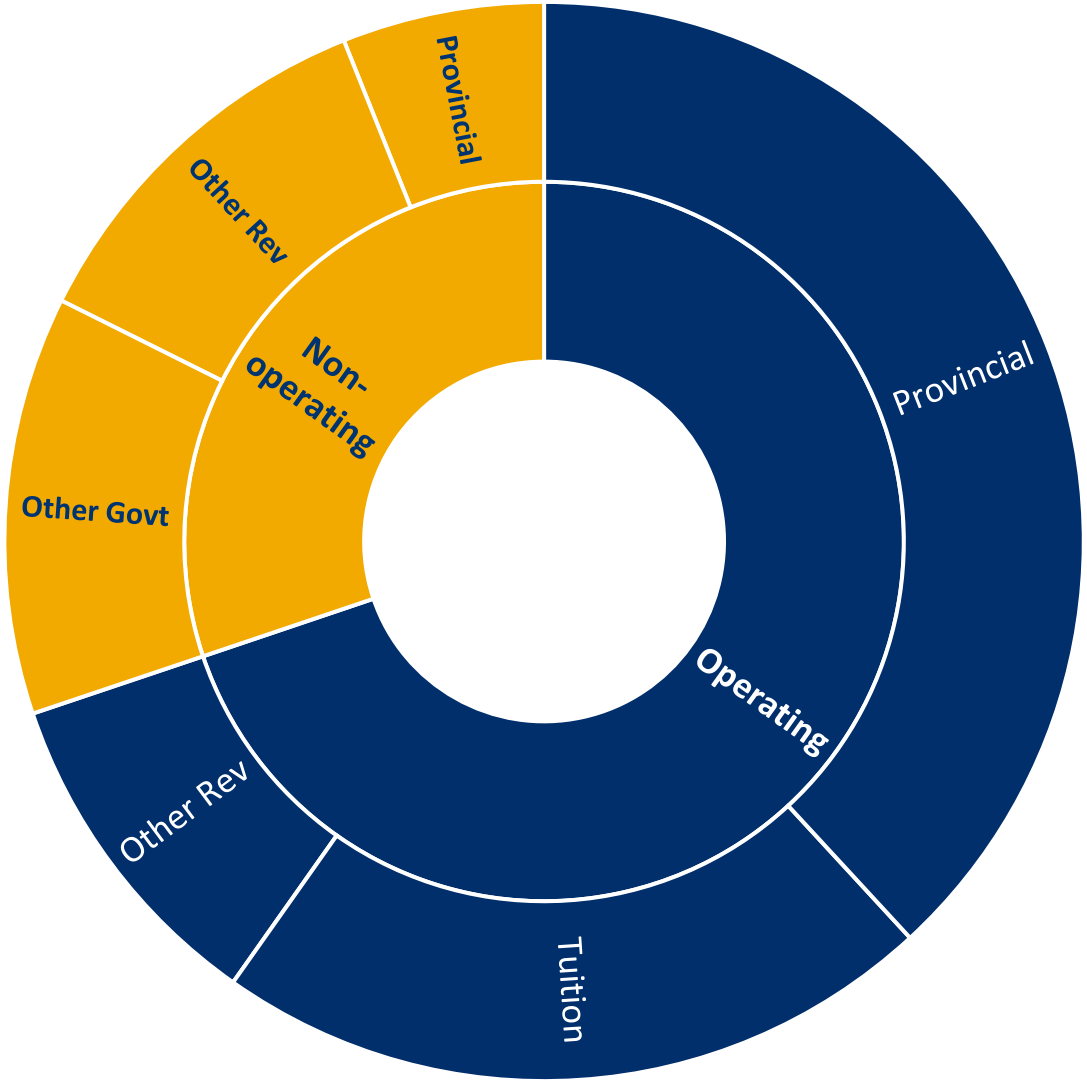
Consolidated revenue ($1.23B)

Operating activities ($858.5M)

- Instructional activity
- Administrative support
- Operational costs
- Ancillary services
- Income funded activities

Non-operating activities ($371M)

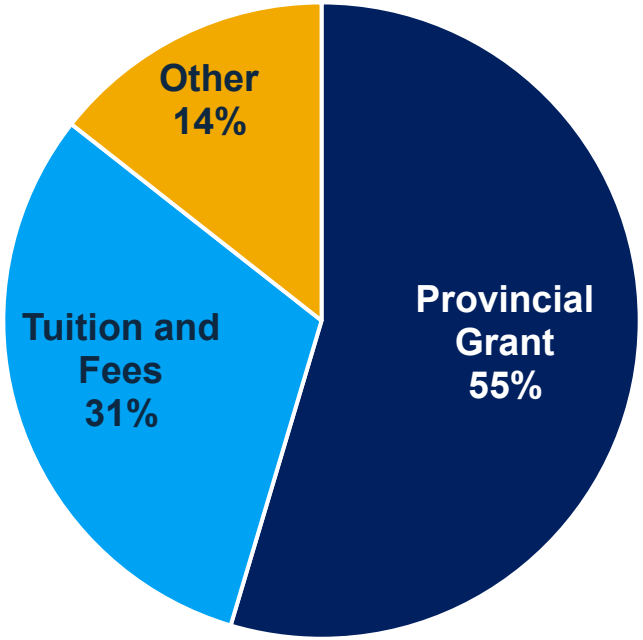
- Sponsored research projects
- Special purpose and trust
- Endowments
- Capital



Operating revenue and expenses

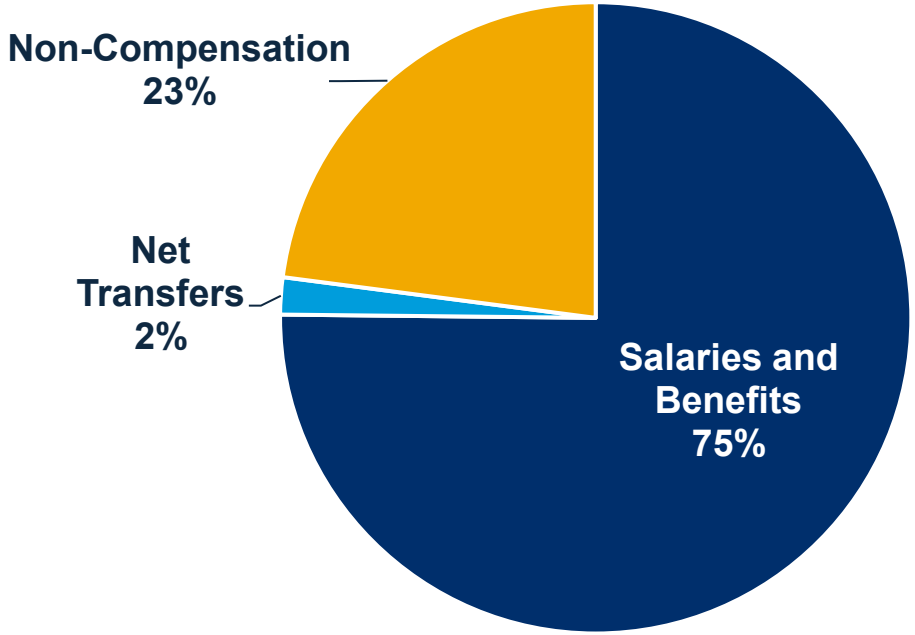
$858M, BOG approved, April 2026

Operating Revenues ($858M)



86% of revenue provincially directed

Expenditures and Transfers ($858M)



75% of budget invested in people

2026-27 operating budget assumptions

Tuition revenue:

Enrolment	↑ **3.0%** Undergrad dom.	↓ **9.4%** Undergrad int'l.	– **Flat** Graduate, all
Tuition Rates	↑ **4.0%** Undergrad dom.	↑ **8.0%** Undergrad int'l.	↑ **4.0%** Graduate, all

Grant revenue:

↑ **2.0%** Base grant

\+ Targeted healthcare expansions

Expenditures:

Wages
Includes current and estimated expired collective agreements

Non-Compensation
Inflation/volume/ contract costs

Deferred maintenance
$4.5M
Provincial funding

Balancing the 2026-27 operating budget

Expenditure increases exceed revenue increase.

Revenue changes:

+ $8.5M
Provincial grant

+ $10.5M
Tuition

+ $1.1M
Investment

+ $3.8M
Other

+ $23.9M (2.9%)

Expenditures changes:

+ $27.3M
Estimated wage increases

+ $7.6M
Non-compensation increases

+ $34.9M (4.3%)

Allocation of revenue to units

Core revenue

Tuition and Provincial Grant

Allocations

Academic Units

Overhead to central support services

Budget

Direct Revenue and expenditures budgeted by academic and administrative units

University fund

Investment and other income

Strategic allocations

2026-27 budget challenges

UM is legislated to submit a balanced operating budget.

- Compensation and inflationary pressures continue to outpace revenue growth.
- Emerging cost pressures continue to impact the budget.
- Overall student enrolment is up, while international student enrolment is down.
- Declining international tuition revenue disproportionately affects units with historically higher levels of international student enrolment.
- UM capital needs exceed budget capacity.

Impacts of revenue allocation and cost increases vary across units.

2026-27 budget strategies

UM has taken a multi-pronged approach to balancing the budget.

Institutional:

- Increased Faculty budget allocations through budget model levers.
- Provided interim support to Faculties as they work towards balancing budgets.
- Targeted investments for non-compensation cost pressures in Central Service Units.

Unit-level:

- Implemented vacancy management targets and monitor position turnover.
- Reduced allocations from operating budget to capital expenditures.
- Used alternative funding sources to support operating activities, where applicable.
- Used carryover funds as a short-term strategy.

2026-27 budget investments

Increased on-going (+$19M)



- Compensation increases



- Approved program expansions
- Open educational resources



- Software cost increases
- Network upgrades



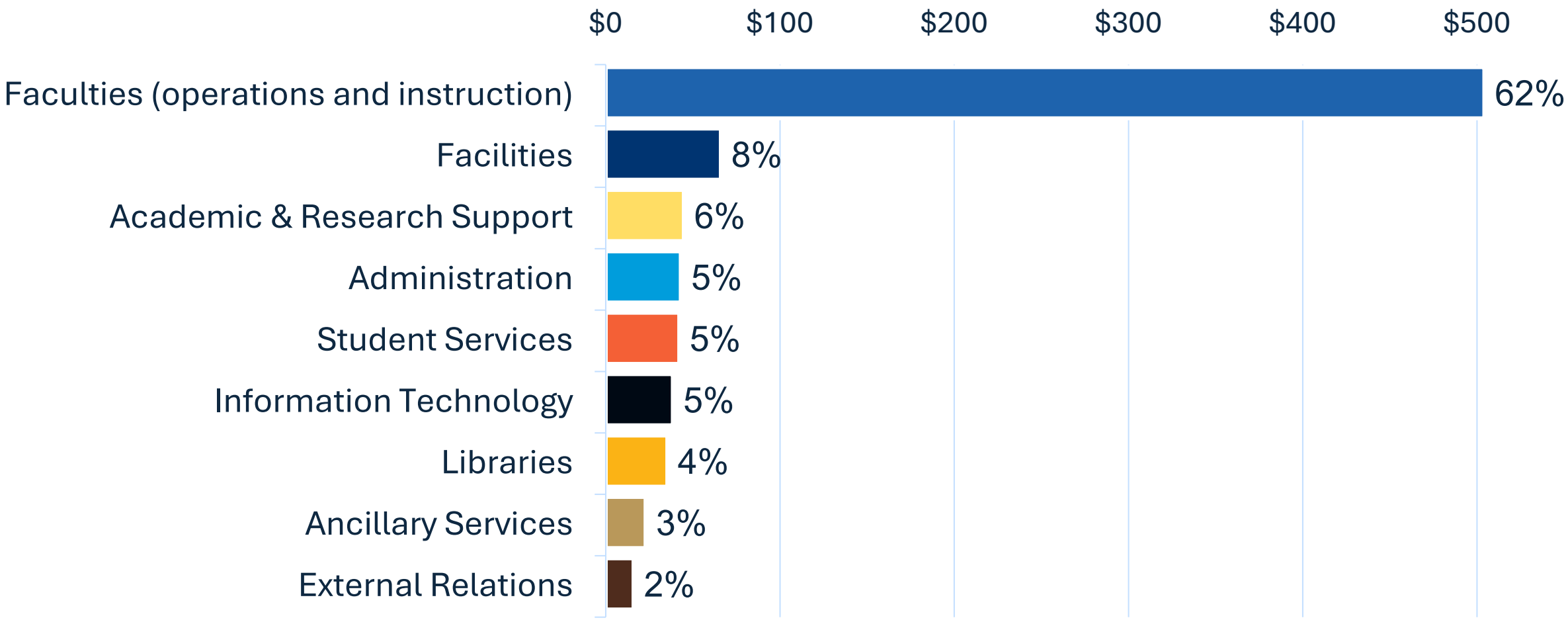
- Materials and supplies
- Enhanced cleaning
- Menstrual supplies

Strategic one-time ($24.5M)

- Increased internal and team research grants
- New quantum and aerospace positions
- Initiatives advancing Truth and Reconciliation
- Additional student financial support
- SEM initiatives
- Learning space upgrades
- AI and digital strategies
- Sustainability initiatives
- Desautels Concert Hall
- Deferred maintenance

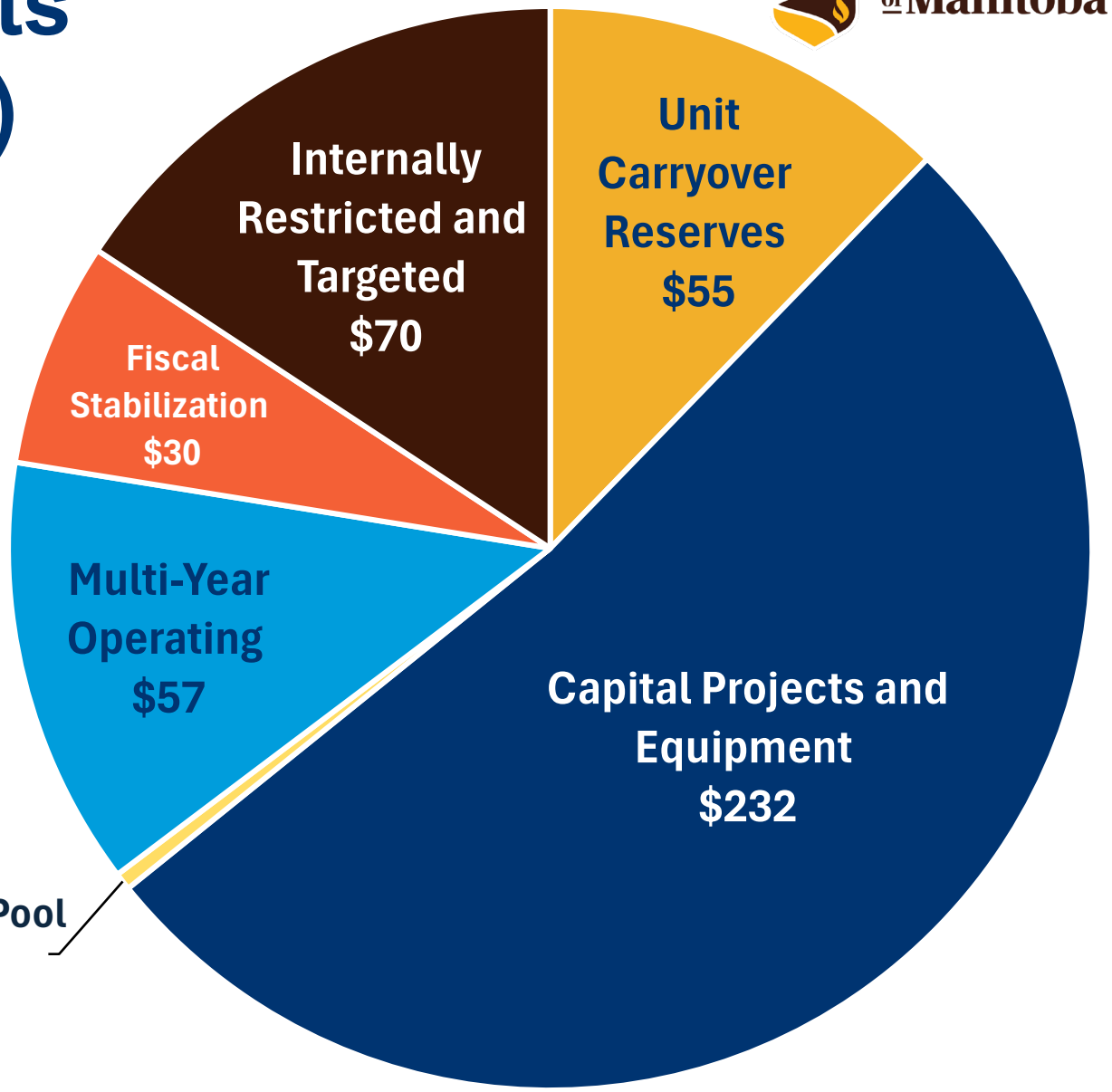


2026-27 operating budget (millions)



Multi-year commitments and reserves (millions)

$446M is committed to reserves and multi-year capital projects and operating initiatives.



*Figures represent unspent accumulated operating funds committed to specific projects as at March 31, 2026, not total project costs or remaining project expenditures.

Advancing capital priorities

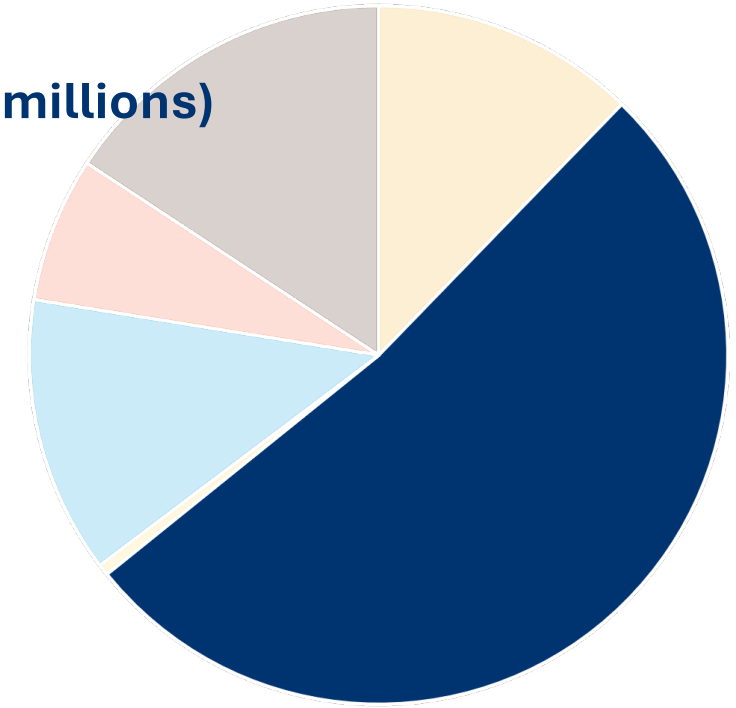
$232M has been committed through multi-year planning to advance capital and infrastructure priorities.

Major capital commitments (millions)

- New Bannatyne Bldg, $30
- Grant matching funds, $20
- Prairie Biologics, $32
- Machray Renovations, $17
- Library, $14
- Churchill Marine Observatory, $7
- Pool, $6
- Prairie Crops, $3

Minor capital commitments (millions)

- Minor unit-level, projects including equipment, $45
- Deferred maintenance and learning spaces, $36
- Ancillary projects, $22



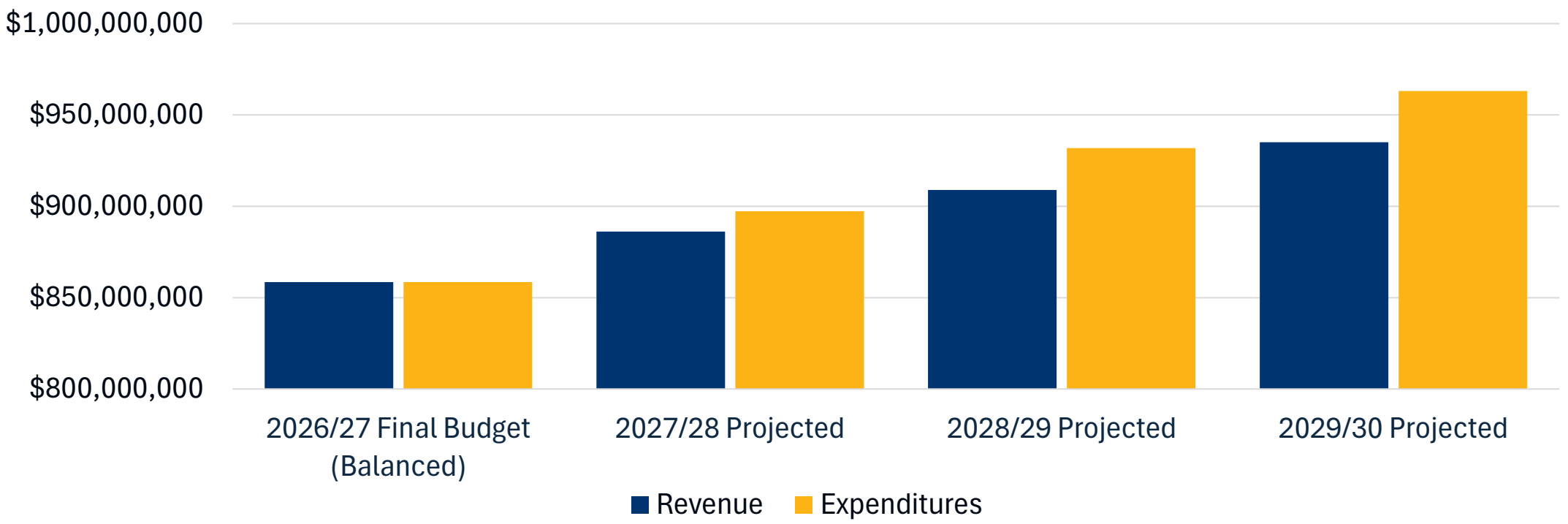
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Multi-Year Planning



Multi-year budget projections

Expenditures projected to outpace revenue before balancing strategies.



Multi-year budget planning

UM is taking a proactive, multi-year approach to support long-term financial sustainability.

- Strengthen data informed decision-making.
- Implement the new SEM plan.
- Improve operational and administrative efficiencies.
- Modernize services and service delivery.
- Strategically manage vacancies.
- Focus capital investments on priorities.



Investing in student success

Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM)



SEM Priorities

Recruit • Retain • Progress



Budget Decisions

People • Programs • Services



Student Excellence

Engage • Support • Succeed

Investing in research excellence

Operating resources support researchers, scholars, and creators to compete, collaborate, and create impact.



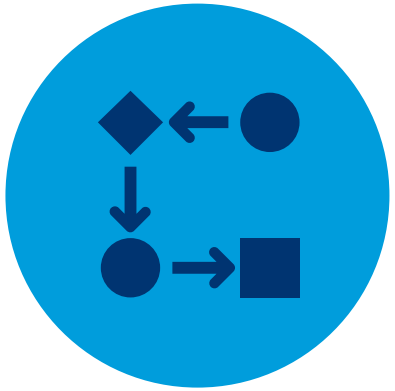
Attract and retain talented people



Foster partnerships and collaborations



Update physical and digital infrastructure



Support research related administration and processes

Investing in spaces

UM has relied on operational funds to support capital priorities.

This includes:

- Learning and lab space upgrades
- IT upgrades, maintenance, and enhancements
- Deferred maintenance
- New buildings or building replacements



6.41 M sq. ft.



676 acres of land



155 buildings



3.8 km riverbank



7.85 km of roadway



11 libraries



279,440 sq. ft. classroom space



669,824 sq. ft. research space



328,157 sq. ft. instructional research space

A strategic path forward

UM’s current financial stability supports a measured, multi-year, strategic response to emerging challenges.

UM’s current financial stability provides the time and opportunity to plan strategically.

UM faces enrolment shifts, rising costs, capital needs, and limited revenue flexibility.

UM is implementing multi-year strategies and focused investments to support long-term financial sustainability.

Supporting a balanced budget while investing in strategic priorities.

Thank-you

Feedback or questions:

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University of Manitoba

More details at:

umanitoba.ca/finance



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