



Undergraduate degrees offered at Alberta's smaller colleges

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Alberta's smaller colleges have a lot to offer

A recent editorial discusses the financial pressures on Alberta's post-secondary institutions (Degrees for Fees, Opinion, June 9).

As you pointed out, many institutions, including the University of Alberta, will be forced to limit enrolment. But, as you have noted, there are alternatives to the U of A.

You mentioned the four private colleges in the provinces as the places people might turn to when looking for a place to take university courses. Because I think these alternatives are important, I'd like to add a little bit to what you've already said.

The four private colleges in Alberta are: King's College, Canadian Union College, Concordia College and Camrose Lutheran College. All of these colleges are affiliated with the U of A. "Affiliated" means that a student who takes courses at these colleges may transfer the courses to the U of A for credit, provided that the courses apply to the student's program.

Two of the colleges, King's College and Camrose Lutheran College, are able to grant their own university degrees under a 1985 amendment to the Private Colleges Act. King's College received its degree-granting powers in '86 and Camrose in '85.

Camrose Lutheran College is a small undergraduate university. It offers three-year and four-year B.A. and B.Sc. degrees in a broad range of disciplines.

A unique feature of the degree programs is a required inter-disciplinary course in western civilization, and another required course in religious studies ... these give our graduates an often rare grasp of traditions that have moulded western views of the world.

We are a small place, with only about 750 students. We try to turn this to our advantage by using the personal touch: most students live in residence on campus, and our third- and fourth-year classes are very small and seminar-like. While we are owned by the Lutheran Church, and we do have a liberal arts curriculum, we are not a "Religious Studies" institution.

We have a lot to offer students who are considering post-secondary education. We're a lot more than "overflow seating" for the larger universities.

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