

## Gregory MacKinnon 1925 - ?

---

Gregory MacKinnon was a university professor, a university president, and a pastor. He was born in 1925 in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where he stayed until he earned his bachelor's degree from St. Francis Xavier University in 1946. He moved to Halifax to attend the Holy Heart Theological Institute (formerly known as the Holy Heart Seminary), and later to New Waterford to serve as an assistant pastor at St Leonard Catholic Parish Church. During his last year there, he also served as spiritual director of St. Francis Xavier University. He subsequently attended the University of Ottawa, where he earned his Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1961 and his Doctor of Sacred Theology in 1964. Following graduate studies, he returned to St. Francis Xavier University, where he was professor and Chair of the theology department until 1973, Dean of Arts and Director of summer school until 1978, and President and Vice-Chancellor until 1990.



Outside of academia, MacKinnon was involved in a plethora of organizations. From 1974 to 1976, he was a member of the Executive Council of the Association of Atlantic Universities and of Universities Canada (formerly the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada). Between 1975 and 1978, he was a member of the Academic Council of the Atlantic Institute of Education and President of the Atlantic Ecumenical Council. From 1982 until 1984, he served as Chair of the Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents, and from 1992 until 1996, he served on the board of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. He was an honorary life member of the Atlantic Provinces Association for Continuing University Education and, for several years after 1993, he was Chair of the Atlantic branch of Responsible Gaming.

MacKinnon touched the life of countless people, making the world he left behind a better place.