

### **304. Balancing Academic Values against Social Goals**

Mark Mercer

To the editor,

Re: "Alberta demands free speech 'report cards' from universities," by Josh Aldrich, 3 February 2023, *National Post*

University of Calgary political science professor Lisa Young says Alberta universities must balance academic values such as freedom of inquiry and discussion with provincial requirements on attracting and retaining indigenous students. To perform this balancing, universities would need to know what indigenous students are looking for. Do indigenous students want a university education? Or are they looking for something else? If it is a university education they want, there's nothing to balance. They would demand that universities be committed to academic values.