

May
2018



President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Enhance Support of First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Studies



Gichi Kendaasiwin receives \$10M from Province

On May 7, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development announced that it intends to invest \$10 million over three years for the development of our Gichi Kendaasiwan Centre.

The Centre is envisioned as a place of spiritual harmony, acting as a repository for documentation/artifacts, a meeting place for community and Indigenous leadership, and a student-centred home-away-from-home gathering place with Indigenous cultural events and supports. It will provide Indigenous students with an environment that is focused on student and community well-being that reflects Indigenous identity and culture. The Centre will also help boost educational outcomes and encourage economic growth in the area.

Through the Centre, we will support and promote traditional land use and occupancy research with cultural integrity at its core as well as research that promotes learning among Indigenous peoples around the world.

I would like to acknowledge and thank everyone whose invaluable work to conceive and develop this Centre, including members of our Indigenous communities, faculty, staff, community partners, Elders, and the the O-AGC.

With their ongoing support, I have spent my first months as Interim President advocating extensively to push this project over the finish line. Thanks to the Province's significant contribution, I look forward to continuing this effort to realize our collective dream.

[Click here to view Province's media release...](#)



Expand our International Reach

Lakehead signs first MOU with a Vietnamese university: Ton Duc Thang University

Following on my February visit to Vietnam's Ton Duc Thang University (TDTU), and the visit in March by James Aldridge, Lakehead's Vice-Provost International, TDTU sent their president, **Dr. Le Vinh Danh**, Dr. Tran Trong Dao, Vice-President for International, and Dr. Le Van Ut, Director of Dept. for Management of Science and Technology, to see our Thunder Bay campus on April 23.

Providing more and better international opportunities for our students and faculty is integral to our internationalization goals. Global partnerships provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and research, transfer of knowledge, and development of skills that will be essential in the increasingly globalized world of tomorrow. Our partnership with TDTU will provide for exciting opportunities in student exchange and faculty mobility, research collaboration, and will broaden the horizons of young students from both of our institutions. Ton Duc Thang University is Lakehead University's first partner in Vietnam and we are TDTU's first in Canada.





Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

Thunder Bay Campus Alumni Commons Unveiled

On April 19, an event was held to celebrate the Alumni Association with the unveiling of the Alumni Commons at Lakehead Thunder Bay.

Since 1965 the Alumni Association of Lakehead University has contributed over \$2 million and counting, mainly toward student financial aid.

The Alumni Commons is a newly refurbished space between the Agora and the Faculty Lounge that overlooks Lake Tamblyn. The Alumni Wall of Honour proudly displays all award recipients, honorary members and past presidents of the Alumni Association of Lakehead University. Along the long hallway, 30 years of student art can now be admired.

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Homecoming 2018

Homecoming at Lakehead Thunder Bay will take place the weekend of September 21st, one week earlier than usual. The Alumni Awards Dinner will be held on Friday evening, honouring recipients of this year's alumni awards. Saturday will feature a special Athletics Director's reception during the day. Varsity basketball and hockey will take place on the Friday and Saturday.



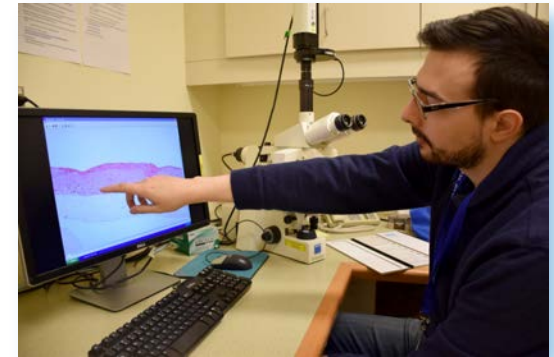
Achieving Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

Lakehead University PhD candidate heading to the provincial Three-Minute Thesis competition

The winner of this year's Lakehead University Three-Minute Thesis competition is **Robert Jackson**.

Jackson, who is working toward a PhD in Biotechnology, is studying human papillomaviruses at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute with supervisor, Dr. Ingeborg Zehbe.

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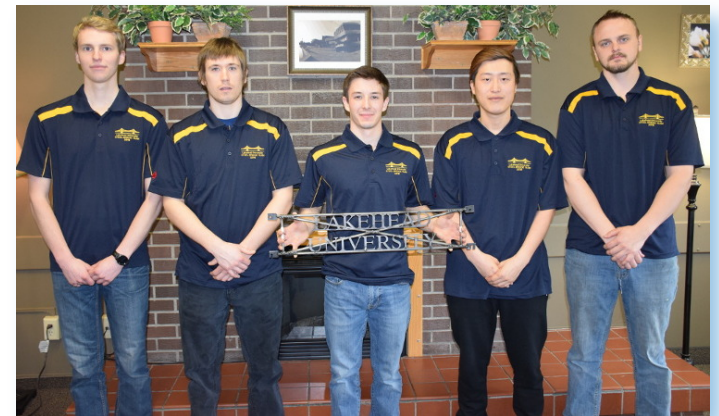
Lakehead University's Steel Bridge Team heading to national competition, again

Lakehead's Steel Bridge Team placed first overall in the 2018 AISC/ASCE Steel Bridge Competition held in Iowa City. Twelve regional universities from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba, including Lakehead University, participated.

Matt Olinski, Yunseul Shin, Ben Degroot, Kevin Langdon, and Mack Barber were on Lakehead University's Steel Bridge team, with faculty advisor Dr. Tony Gillies and support technologist Conrad Hagstrom. Kailash Bhatia acted as machinist advisor to the team.

They can now look forward to the 2018 National Competition where approximately 50 university teams from across North America will be competing in Illinois for the top honours.

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Teaching Commons' Grand Opening

Lakehead University officially opened its new Teaching Commons on Thursday, April 26. Located in its beautiful 5th floor location in the Chancellor Paterson Library, it boasts beautiful views of the City and the Sleeping Giant. Staff, faculty, and invited guests joined us to celebrate.

The Teaching Commons is a dedicated space where faculty, instructors, and staff can come together to cultivate teaching excellence under the “Dream Big About Teaching”. The Centre offers workshops, services, and supports, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Indigenous games and pastimes that connect to STEM concepts (bullroarer, buzzer, hand-string games, dice and stick games, whip and spin tops)
- Information and consultations on copyright issues, experiential learning, and Statistica
- Demonstrations of [Lynda.com](#), Grammarly, Browzine, D2L, and Magna Mentor resources
- Online gamification tools such as StudyStack and Quizlet
- Active-learning strategies, tools, and resources
- Virtual Reality (3D glasses with “Oculus Rift”)
- A 3D printer

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Provost’s Task Force on Innovation and Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Technology who was charged with recommending institutional changes to organizational structure and infrastructure, and policy and resource requirements, to lay the groundwork for the development of an Advanced Teaching, Technology and Learning Centre. The new Teaching Commons is one of a number of outcomes resulting from their dedicated efforts.

A big thank you to all of our Faculty, Librarians, and staff who have also helped us realize this dream. Drop in anytime, try out the coffee while you explore the services, or just sit and chat with a colleague.





2018's Professors Emeriti

Please join me in congratulating the following faculty who will be conferred the title of Professor Emeritus at our 2018 convocation ceremonies:

- Dr. Peter Lee, *Biology*
- Mr. Robert Isotalo, *Business*
- Dr. Anthony W. Bartley, *Education*
- Dr. Walter Epp, *Education*
- Dr. Juanita Epp, *Education*
- Dr. Antony Gillies, *Civil Engineering*
- Dr. Maurice Benson, *Computer Science*
- Dr. Jocelyn Farrell, *Kinesiology*
- Dr. Lorne McDougall, *Nursing*
- Dr. Michael Stones, *Psychology*
- Dr. Pamela Wakewich, *Women's Studies/Sociology*



Professor Sameshima renewed as Canada Research Chair

Lakehead University's **Dr. Pauline Sameshima** has been renewed as a Canada Research Chair in Arts Integrated Studies. She curates [Galleries@Lakeheadu](#) and is the Editor-in-Chief of [the Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies](#). Her research includes the implementation of creativity propulsion theories, community-engaged research, prenatal education access, dementia studies, and designing teaching and learning models.

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Nursing student wins provincial award for program assisting new mothers

On April 25, **Brianna Decontie**, a fourth-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing student, was honoured by the Council of Ontario University Programs in Nursing with the Excellence in Professional Nursing Practice award. She spent from early January to mid-February adapting a five-week mothers' support group for Kitigan Zibi Health and Social Services in Maniwaki, QC. The program, offered to new mothers, focuses on oral health care and embraces Indigenous teachings such as the Medicine Wheel and Sacred Medicines.

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