



November 2018

# President's Report to Senate



Lakehead  
UNIVERSITY





## Office of the President

### Minister Hajdu, MP Rusnak announce \$1M for CASES



Northwestern Ontario's top researchers and innovative, job-creating businesses and entrepreneurs will benefit from state-of-the-art equipment and technology at Lakehead University's new Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering and Sciences (CASES) thanks to a Government of Canada investment of \$1 million.

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour and Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay–Superior North, and Don Rusnak, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay—Rainy River, made the announcement today on behalf of the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, and Minister responsible for FedNor.

[Click here to view FedNor media release...](#)

### MTCU Minister & Deputy Minister visit Lakehead TBay

On November 5, it was our pleasure to host **The Honourable Merrilee Fullerton**, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, as well as **Deputy Minister George Zegarac**, as they visited Lakehead University Thunder Bay.

During their time with us, I toured the campus with them before the Minister and the Deputy Minister hosted a roundtable discussion session with students on a variety of topics.





## Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

### Lakehead University offering opportunity to talk about suicide

Lakehead University Orillia is offering an opportunity for the campus and community to talk about suicide through safeTALK.

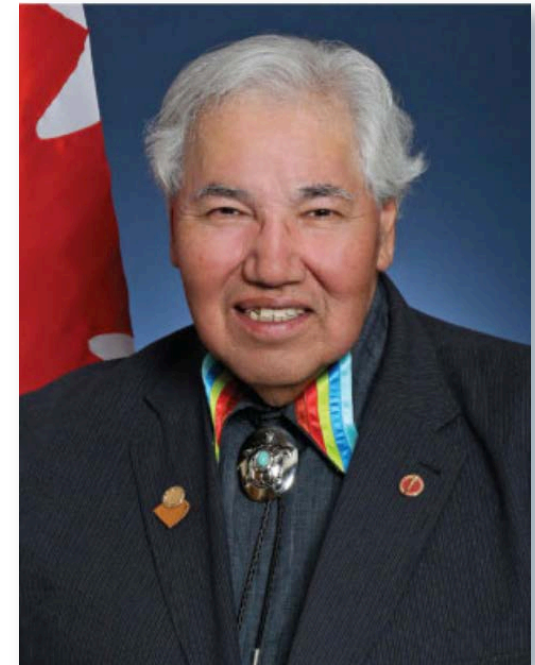
The safeTALK workshop aims to reduce the stigma that prevents society from talking about suicide. safeTALK teaches participants to identify people at risk of suicide, start a conversation without fear, and direct them to the appropriate resources. Learning how to TALK – tell, ask, listen, and keep safe – is one of the key takeaways of the workshop.

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

### Senator Murray Sinclair: Harold G. Fox Distinguished Lecture Series Speaker

On November 5, as part of our Harold G. Fox Distinguished Lecture Series, Senator Murray Sinclair, former Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the first Indigenous judge appointed to the Provincial Court of Manitoba, gave a powerful talk to our largest crowd of guests, to date, at our Bora Laskin Faculty of Law about *Knowing Right from Law: What You Need to Know about Law School*.

Following his talk, the Senator answered questions from the community attendees before taking time for one-on-one discussions with members of the audience.





## Achieving Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

### Dr. Tarlok Singh Sahota receives Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy Award

Dr. Tarlok Singh Sahota (left in photo), Director of the Lakehead University Agricultural Research Station, received the 2018 Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy Award. This award recognizes Dr. Sahota's outstanding contributions to the Canadian and international scientific community in Agronomy in addition to his dedication to northwestern Ontario's farming community and contributions to the mentorship of students and highly qualified personnel. After receiving unanimous endorsement, the Canadian Society of Agronomy presented the award to Dr. Sahota at their Annual General Meeting held in Baltimore, MD on November 7. Dr. Sahota joined Lakehead University in May 2018 after Lakehead took over the operations and research programming of the Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station.



## Enhance Support of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students



### Treaty Week Recognition Week

In 2016, the province of Ontario proclaimed the first week of November Treaties Recognition Week. Its annual purpose is to honour the importance of Treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships.

This year, Lakehead University offered numerous educational and experiential learning opportunities and activities across both our campuses. Our opening ceremonies were honoured to have **Fort William First Nation Chief Peter Collins** deliver the keynote address to kick off the week.

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

[Click here to view Lakehead's Communications Bulletin outlining activities...](#)





## County of Simcoe recognizes Lakehead Orillia international student

The County of Simcoe honoured residents, businesses, and organizations during the sixth annual Newcomer Recognition Awards on October 25, 2018.

The awards ceremony recognized community leaders and champions who purposefully take action to enhance the lives of newcomers in Simcoe County. Award recipients were nominated by their peers in 12 categories through an open nomination process. Nomination forms were reviewed by the Simcoe County Newcomer Recognition Awards Steering Committee.

We congratulate the following award recipients from Lakehead University:

**Jessica Dinner & Emily Wolst** - Youth Community Champion.

The Newcomer Recognition Awards were developed as a priority of the Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership sponsors.

**Leanne Wang, 2nd year International student at the Orillia campus**, was accepted into the RBC Work-Integrated Learning Program within the Faculty of Business Administration. The program will offer students opportunities for learning and on-the-job training where they gain the skills and practical knowledge that ensure a successful transition to a career. Leanne has been hired by the Orillia CDC to complete 144 hours of paid work, ending March 2019.





## Expand our International Reach

### WUSC students at Lakehead University

Since 2001, Lakehead University's Student Union has helped bring students to our campuses through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), a Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to improving education, employment, and empowerment opportunities for youth around the world.

This year, I had the pleasure of hosting a meeting with members of our Senior Executive Team and the first two female WUSC students to come to Lakehead: Marteena Aal-hano (an Iraqi who came to us from a refugee camp in Jordan), and Sophia Fatuma Selenge (originally from the Congo, she came to us from a refugee camp in Kenya). During the gathering, the students told us of their extraordinary stories and journey to Lakehead.



### Delegation visit from Furtwangen, Germany

On October 30-31, we hosted Hochschule Furtwangen University's **Dr. Michael Lederer** (Professor, and Vice-President, International Affairs and Executive Education) and Dr. Rüdiger Kukral (Professor / Director Furtwangen Internship Placement Service (FiPS)).

The institution, located in Furtwangen, Germany, spent the two days discussing with our Lakehead International Office ways to further its relationship with Lakehead University in specific fields of study, as well as exchange opportunities.



## 7<sup>th</sup> Mexico-Canada Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education



Several members of our Aboriginal Initiatives office, Lakehead University International, and I had the pleasure of participating in the *7<sup>th</sup> Mexico-Canada Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education* took place at the William O. Jenkins Convention Centre in the city of Puebla on Monday, November 12, 2018.

The overarching theme of the Roundtable was Indigenous Rights. The Roundtable was preceded by a cultural day on Sunday, November 11, and followed by an academic congress on Indigenous Rights at the Intercultural University of the State of Puebla (UIEP) in the village of Huehuetla on Tuesday, November 13. The latter has been the standard format for all of the previous Roundtables, including the event hosted at Lakehead University Thunder Bay in 2017.

Five Lakehead students from the Indigenous Learning program, led by Dr. Rob Robson and Anna Chief, participated in the academic congress and researched development in the remote Totonaku mountain community of San Juan Ozelonacaxtla. This was generously funded by the Mexican Foreign Affairs office.

During the event, I participated in a panel discussion entitled, *Partner in Fostering Opportunities for Indigenous Learners in Northwestern Ontario and Simcoe County*.

