

June
2018



President's Report to Board of Governors



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President



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 the Province's media release...](#)



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.





Two Mexican MOU's signed and International Panel Presentation

The Canada and Latin America Research & Exchange Opportunities (CALAREO) Consortium signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with The National Council of Science and Technology of Mexico (CONACyT) in Mexico City on May 24, 2018. The MOU will promote scholarly collaboration between Canada and Mexico in basic and applied sciences, including biotechnology, medicine, environmental and agricultural sciences, energy, and nanotechnology.

I represented the consortium, whose members include Memorial University of Newfoundland, Carleton University, École de Technologie Supérieure, University of Lethbridge, and Vancouver Island University.



Lakehead University and the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi have been partners through our joint membership in the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE) and have been discussing direct academic collaboration between our institutions for the past 2 years.

In November 2016, a delegation from Lakehead visited the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi to further discuss collaboration and joint academic activities, as well as student and faculty mobility opportunities. Both institutions recognize the importance of the internationalization of higher education in providing new opportunities and expanding the vision and perspectives of students, staff and faculty.

As a result of these activities and the opportunities provided by Universities Canada and its Mexican counterpart, the National Association of Universities and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES), and IOHE, the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi and Lakehead University decided to formalize their relationship and signed an MoU with a focus on joint research, student and faculty mobility, short-term exchanges and dual degree opportunities.

Finally, I had the honour of presenting at, and participating in, an international panel entitled *Indigenizing higher education: How universities in Canada and Mexico are bringing Indigenous peoples, cultures and knowledge to campus*. Panelists shared their experiences and best practices for integrating Indigenous knowledge in research, education and governance. This provided me the opportunity to share what Lakehead University has done over the years regarding Indigenous relations and initiatives — a presentation that was very well received.



Nurturing Scholarship



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.

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

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.

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





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*

Lakehead University celebrating exceptional people at this year's convocation

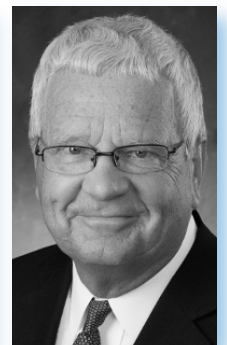
Lakehead University will recognize six exceptional people at this year's convocation ceremonies on Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2 at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

Canadian Sports Broadcaster **Ron MacLean**, Porter Airlines' President & CEO **Robert Deluce**, and former Ryerson University President and Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development **Sheldon Levy** will each receive an honorary degree for their remarkable achievements.

Lakehead also honored the dedication of **Beverly Sabourin**, **Jim Symington**, and **Pentti Paularinne** by naming them Fellows of the University.

More than 1,700 students will graduate during the three Thunder Bay ceremonies and more than 400 will graduate from the Orillia convocation ceremony that will be held on Saturday, June 9.

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



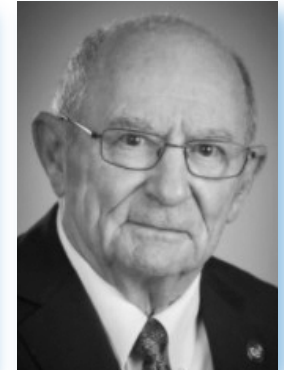


Lakehead University Orillia's honorary degree and Civitas Award recipients

Deborah Martin-Downs, ecologist and conservationist, will be the recipient of an honorary degree, and **Bruce Waite**, lawyer, philanthropist and accomplished community leader, will receive the Civitas Award as Lakehead University Orillia celebrates its convocation in June.

Lakehead University confers honorary degrees in celebration and recognition of individuals who make significant contributions in their areas of experience and support the values of advanced learning and pursuit of knowledge.

The *Civitas Award* recognizes significant contributions to the university and the community by members of the County of Simcoe.



Lakehead Orillia's convocation ceremony will take place in Orillia at Rotary Place on Saturday, June 9.

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

Lakehead's Newest Research Facilitator

The Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation is pleased to welcome our newest Research Facilitator. **Dr. Rebecca Fisher-Heffernan** will be joining Lakehead University in August 2018 as the first Research and Strategic Initiatives Facilitator based in Orillia.

Dr. Fisher-Heffernan will provide leadership on strategies to increase research and innovation capacity at the Orillia campus, as well as connect Orillia researchers to other Lakehead research collaborators, opportunities, and community and private sector partners in Simcoe County and beyond. She will also help to facilitate research and innovation events in Orillia.

Dr. Fisher-Heffernan completed her graduate studies at the University of Guelph. Following the completion of her doctoral program, she was a recipient of a Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Fellowship.

