



President's Report to the Board of Governors

November
2022





Office of the President

Indigenous Veterans Day and Remembrance Day Ceremonies

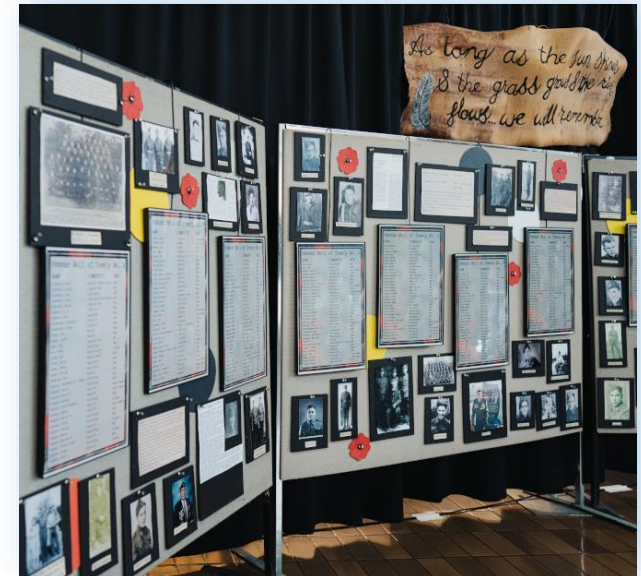
Lakehead hosted an Indigenous Veterans Day ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 8 in the Agora with speakers from the University and invited guests.

There was also an exhibit featuring photos and artifacts from the World Wars which was on display from Nov. 8-11.

The **Indigenous Veterans of Treaty #3 project** was developed back in 2018 by the Fort Frances Museum and Cultural Centre, Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre, and Glenn Jourdain of Couchiching, whose research and photos laid the foundation of the exhibit. Curated in the spirit of collaboration and reconciliation, and in honour of those who came home and those who did not, the exhibit shares the triumphs and realities faced by Indigenous veterans across Canada and specifically those from Treaty #3.

Special thanks to the Fort Frances Museum and Cultural Centre, Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre, Thunder Bay Museum, Métis Nation of Ontario, and the City of Thunder Bay's Indigenous Relations Office for loaning Lakehead these displays.

On Nov. 11, Remembrance Day ceremonies were hosted at both our campuses from 10:45-11:10am, and featured speakers that included students, current employees who are also members of our armed forces, and live musicians from Lakehead's Music Department.





Times Higher Education ranks Lakehead University among world's top universities

For the fourth year in a row, Lakehead University has been included in the top half of the *Times Higher Education's* list of the best universities from around the world.

This year more than 2,100 universities participated in the rankings, with approximately 1,799 universities meeting the requirements to be included in the final rankings.

The 2023 *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* has Lakehead University in the 801-1,000 category.

This is the fourth year that Lakehead University participated in the World University Rankings. This year, Lakehead ranked second among Canada's primarily undergraduate universities.

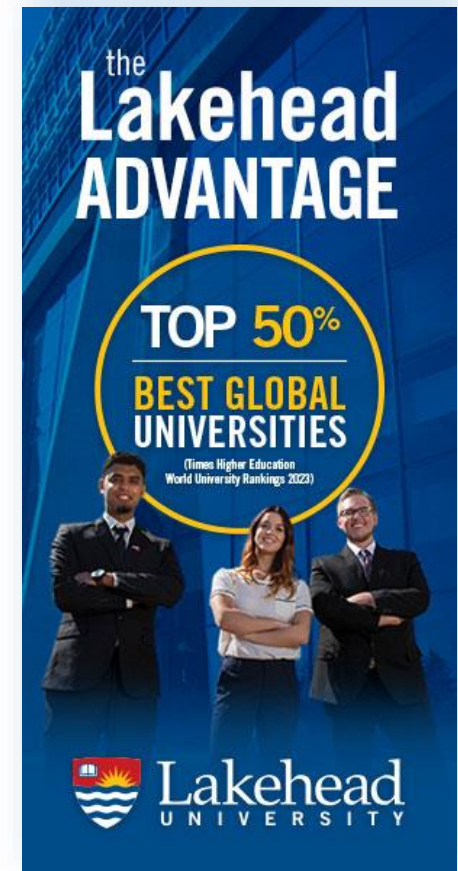
The University was included in the same bracket as a number of Canadian universities and ranked above the worldwide median in the Research and International Outlook categories.

"In 2021/2022, Lakehead was the university of choice for 1,479 international undergraduate and graduate students from more than 70 countries."

In addition to the THE World University Rankings, Lakehead University ranks 64th globally in the THE Impact Rankings, the only global ranking that reflects the societal impact of universities by measuring the institutions' success in delivering the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Earlier this year, the THE World University Rankings found that [Lakehead was the top ranked university in the world with under 10,000 students.](#)

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





Board of Governors names Maria Vasanelli as New Chair

Maria Vasanelli has officially begun her new role as the Chair of Lakehead University's Board of Governors. The appointment, which was ratified at a meeting in June, became effective at the end of the Board's Annual General Meeting on September 29 and has a term of two years.

Vasanelli joined Lakehead's Board of Governors in 2015 and has served on several of its standing committees. Her experience in senior administration in education includes Superintendent of Education at the Durham Catholic District School Board, Superintendent at the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, as well as serving as Director of Strategic Initiatives and Professional Learning at Lakehead University.

She is currently the Director of Education at the Superior North Catholic District School Board and a member of the Ontario College of Teachers Council.

After earning her B.A. in Philosophy and a Bachelor of Education from Lakehead University, Vasanelli received a Master of Education from the University of Ottawa and a Master of Business Administration from Cape Breton University.

Among other accreditations, she holds a certificate in Canadian Aboriginal Relations from Confederation College, and recently completed a certificate in Executive Leadership at the Rotman School of Business.

Her professional interests include leadership development, board governance, and education equity.

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Wolf Den Grand Opening and 2022 Wall of Fame

As part of Homecoming weekend October 21-22, Lakehead Athletics hosted our Wolf Den Grand Opening and 2022 Wall of Fame Ceremony.

This celebration welcomed over 300 guests to officially open the new Wolf Den addition, while also inducting Tasia McKenna, Female Athlete; Jeff Richards, Male Athlete; Scott Morrison, Builder; and the 2009-2013 Men's Basketball Era to the Thunderwolves Wall of Fame.



Kathy Pozihun (Vice-President, Administration and Finance), Moira McPherson (President & Vice-Chancellor), Lahama Naeem (LUSU President), August Ricketts (varsity athlete - Women's Basketball).



Jeff Richards, Wall of Fame - Athlete Inductee - Men's Hockey



Homecoming Weekend

Lakehead Thunder Bay's Homecoming Weekend took place from October 20th to 23rd. There were several highlights of the weekend, including the Lakehead Celebrates dinner, hosted by the Alumni Association in the Faculty Lounge. Honoured as part of the evening were alumni: Laird van Damme, Liz Murray and Daniel Blekkenhorst and Honorary Degree recipients (2022) Dr. Karl Subban and Dr. Lyn McLeod. Dr. McLeod was also recognized for her contributions as Chancellor.

In addition, the Alumni Association held a re-dedication of the Betty C. Coates Alumni Boardroom located in Alumni House at 1294 Balmoral St. Betty Coates, a past-president of the Alumni Association, was instrumental in the fundraising campaign which helped contribute to the University's purchase of the Avila Centre from the Sisters of St. Joseph. Avila was the previous location of Alumni House before the move to 1294 Balmoral.



From Left to Right: Yolanda Wanakamik, President of the Alumni Association Dr. JR Coates, Carisa Coates and Dr. David Coates



*Back Row, Left to Right: Liz Murray, Alumni Award Recipient Karl Subban, Honorary Degree, Daniel Blekkenhorst, Alumni Award Recipient and Laird van Damme, Alumni Award Recipient
Front Row, Left to Right: Dr. Moira McPherson, President & Vice-Chancellor Chancellor Rita Deverell, and Lyn McLeod, Honorary Degree*



Prospective students and supporters welcomed to campus for Fall Open House 2022

Lakehead invited prospective students to explore its campuses and learn more about the University's academic programs at the Fall Open House on Saturday, Nov. 5. Lakehead University welcomed 371 people to the Orillia campus for the Open House.

"The Fall Open House will allow prospective students and their families to gain insight into our academic programs in a welcoming environment," said Lynn Hurrell, Director, Undergraduate Recruitment.

Prospective students and applicants had the opportunity to chat directly with award-winning faculty and current students while visiting the Academics Fair.

Learn more about Lakehead's extensive student supports, including everything from student success, career planning, co-op opportunities, health and wellness and accessibility.

Participate in a campus tour or join Lakehead University for information sessions. Hear more about financial aid and bursaries, student supports and the admissions process, and learn what it takes to transition to Lakehead from current students.

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

Student Bursary

Lakehead Orillia hosted a Service & Scholarship fundraising event on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

Forty community members attended the event in recognition of the many years of public service that Bruce Stanton gave to the community as the MP of Simcoe North for the past 15 years and as the 42nd Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. Warren Kinsella, lawyer, author, political consultant and commentator reflected on the effects of social media on politics and the ever-growing importance of public service. Funds were raised for the establishment of the Bruce Stanton Public Service Bursary, raising more than \$12,000.



International Education Week 2022

Lakehead International welcomed all our students, staff and faculty to join in this year's International Education Week from November 14 to November 18. International Education Week is an annual event that is celebrated by over 100 nations around the globe and this year's theme is Exploring Global Perspectives.

For more information about International Education Week 2022 or to register for the upcoming events, please visit [the International Education Week website](#) or follow Lakehead International Student Services' social media:

Facebook and Instagram: @lakeheadinternationallife

Tiktok: @lakeheadintlif





Academic Excellence

Teaching Award Recipients

Lakehead University has some truly exceptional instructors. Each year, a series of four distinct Teaching Awards — Contribution to Teaching Award, Distinguished Instructor Award, Teaching Innovation Award, and the Teaching Support Award — are conferred on faculty members at our Oct. 24 Senate meeting and celebrated during Teaching and Learning Week (Oct 24-28, 2022).

Please join me in congratulating our 2022 Teaching Award recipients.

[Click here to view the 2022 award recipients and the media release...](#)

Lakehead University Professor to speak at the 4th Urban Economy Forum

Dr. Rosario Adapon Turvey, Associate Professor with the Department of Sustainability Sciences and Geography at Lakehead University spoke on the topic: Climate Financing and the Public Sector for the 4th Urban Economy Forum (UEF4) within the theme: Cities and Climate Financing on October 4 in Toronto.

The UEF4 is held on United Nations World Habitat Day and organized as an international gathering for key decision makers and stakeholders including ministers, mayors, city leaders and financial organizations to deal with various topics relating to sustainable urban development.

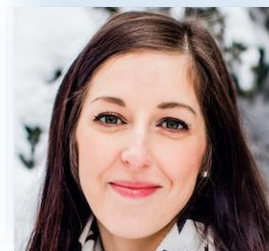
The event is hosted by the Urban Economy Forum and this year's themes will be based on "Sustainable Urban Finance" and economic sustainability in terms of social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects along with the impact of the pandemic on the above-mentioned areas. It is envisaged that UEF4 will add great value and create a synergy toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 11 to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Dr. Turvey recently co-edited the IGI-Global book entitled: "Intellectual, Scientific and Educational Influences on Sustainability Research" with **Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery**, Professor and Acting Dean, Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies at Lakehead.



Joypop Mobile Mental Health App

Dr. Aislin Mushquash, Associate Professor in Psychology at Lakehead University, and her team are receiving \$100,000 through one of Brain Canada's flagship programs Future Leaders in Canadian Brain Research to evaluate an e-mental health solution that supports transitional-aged youth in Northwestern Ontario.

Dr. Mushquash's team will evaluate the impact of a mobile mental health app (JoyPop) for transitional-aged youth waiting for mental health treatment – thereby providing youth with more timely support and helping them to improve their coping skills and mental health-related symptoms. The JoyPop app is one mobile mental health app which has a growing evidence base that demonstrate important benefits for youth. Partners and donors include the Azrieli Foundation, Children's Centre Thunder Bay, and Dilico Anishinabek Family Care.



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

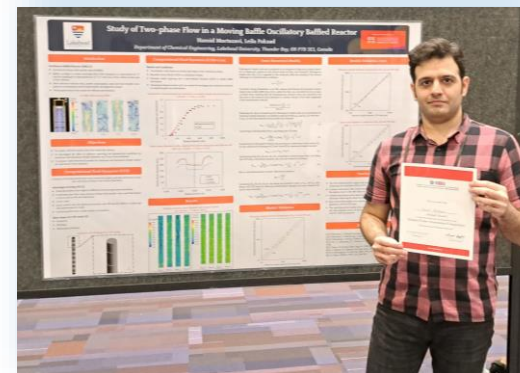
Lakehead graduate student earns best poster at Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference

A Lakehead University student was awarded best poster presentation at the Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference held in Vancouver in October.

Hamid Mortazavi is doing his PhD in Biotechnology at Lakehead University under the supervision of Dr. Leila Pakzad. He also has a bachelor's and master's in Chemical Engineering from Sharif University in Iran.

His research project is the Study of Multi-phase Flow in Oscillatory Baffled Reactors. On this subject under Dr. Pakzad's supervision, he has published two journal papers; one article is under journal review, and two more manuscripts are in progress.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada (NSERC) provided the funding for this research. In addition, Dr. Pakzad is very grateful for the supercomputer and technical assistance provided by Lakehead University.





Ontario Arts Education Association

On Tuesday, November 7, **Dr. Pauline Sameshima** was awarded the Post-Secondary Art Educator of the Year by the Ontario Arts Education Association. This award is presented to an educator who possesses “excellence in visual arts education in a post-secondary setting and leadership in and/or contributions to art education in the candidate’s institution, organization, or community.”

Since joining Lakehead University in 2012 Dr. Sameshima has continued to promote the arts and alternative representations of research knowledge as ways to engage and stimulate thought, conversation, and learning across wide audiences, disciplines, and communities. Dr. Sameshima opened the LAIR (Lakehead Arts Integrated Research) Galleries in 2014 with three locations at the Lakehead Thunder Bay campus and a partnership with the Baggage Arts Building, a community gallery on our waterfront. There are now 7 Galleries spaces with 6 on-site campus locations plus a virtual gallery. Aside from curating the gallery spaces, Dr. Sameshima is an artist herself and promotes creativity models and propulsion methodologies that welcome and include various literacies for making meaning and understanding the self and the world.

She uniquely defines excellence in visual arts education in the post-secondary education and museum settings, bridging communities through the arts. Her leadership and contributions to art education here at Lakehead, in our community, and internationally through her research and curation are truly outstanding.

Lakehead Biology Graduate wins prestigious Rob Peters Award

Graydon McKee, a recent Graduate from the Biology MSc Program at Lakehead University has won the **Rob Peters Award** for best student paper in Canadian Aquatic Science in 2022. Graydon’s paper titled, **Alternative migratory strategies related to life history differences in the walleye (*Sander vitreus*)**, was published in Movement Ecology (McKee et al. 2022).

The Robert H. Peters Award is awarded by the Society of Canadian Aquatic Sciences. This prestigious award recognizes the best aquatic sciences paper published in the preceding year by a Canadian student or a student working in Canada.

[Read more about Graydon and the award here.](#)





Local and Global Partnerships

Treaty Recognition Week — Library Displays

All Lakehead University Libraries on the Thunder Bay campus (Chancellor Paterson, Education, and Law) and the Orillia campus (Harvie Legacy and Education Library), set up displays in honour of Treaties Recognition Week which was held on November 6-12, 2022.

It was introduced in Ontario in 2016 as the Treaties Recognition Week Act. The purpose of this week is to honour the importance of treaties and to build an awareness and understanding of their significance. Lakehead's libraries permanent collections contain a rich and diverse selection of primary and secondary resources pertaining to Treaties.

The unique resources held by each library will be featured in their displays. The library displays will include resources pertaining to Indigenous history, treaties in Canada, elementary and secondary teaching resources and provide information about online resources that are available. Additional opportunities for involvement in related events and activities are listed on the provincial [Treaties Recognition Week website](#).

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship is a competitive initiative for international undergraduates to participate in a 12-week research internship under the supervision of Canadian university faculty members in a variety of academic disciplines, from science, engineering, and mathematics to the humanities and social sciences. Thirty-five undergraduates were approved for Mitacs GRI internships this year at Lakehead, seven for the Orillia campus and the remainder for Thunder Bay. Twenty-two were from India, five from Colombia, two from Tunisia, and one each from Brazil, France, Mexico, Ukraine, UK, and USA. There were 13 projects in Computer Science, 9 in Civil Engineering, 4 in Business, 4 in Biology, 3 in Media Studies, 1 in Mechanical Engineering and 1 in Chemistry. Of these, three had to withdraw, and six had to convert to virtual internships because of visa issues. This was by far the largest number of GRI's to be hosted at Lakehead University since the program started.



Lakehead University and TBDSSAB release report on migration and homelessness

Prof. Ravi Gokani spoke about the research during a community gathering held on Monday, Nov. 14.

Dr. Ravi Gokani from Lakehead University and representatives from the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board released the results of their research into migration and homelessness. According to TBDSSAB, approximately 60 per cent of people experiencing homelessness in the city of Thunder Bay migrated from somewhere else.

The research suggests, among other things, that a large number of people migrate to the city of Thunder Bay for assistance with housing, health care, and social services.

The research team used machine-learning models to try to understand what factors predict if a person stays or leaves a shelter.

The partnership with TBDSSAB also involves Lakehead researchers **Dr. Rebecca Schiff**, **Dr. Vijay Mago**, and Dr. Travis Hay, as well as students from Social Work, Computer Science, and Health Sciences.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Connections program provided \$22,000 for the study.

You can read the full report [here](#).

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

Indigenous Initiatives

Throughout September, many events and activities were offered to our community by the Office of Indigenous Initiatives for those seeking to participate in reconciliation.

On September 29, **Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux**, Lakehead's Chair on Truth and Reconciliation, hosted a workshop to deconstruct the reconciliation process. And, on Sept. 16, we welcomed Elder Trish Monague to lead a discussion on reconciliation and what it should mean to those of us working hard as leaders and allies in our communities. This event was well-attended with approximately 60 people attending in-person and 280 connecting virtually.

On October 4, the Orillia campus hosted the Sisters in Spirit Vigil on Sisters in Spirit Day. Sisters in Spirit Day is a day to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ+ peoples.



Ingenuity's Pitch It Competition

Ingenuity has kicked off Fall with a strong line up of programming including the return of the Annual Pitch it Competition done in partnership with The Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre. This year the cash prize has been increased to \$2500 and it is open to all students and recent grads of both Confederation College and Lakehead University. Applications are open online and the final event took place in person in the Ingenuity Atrium on November 17.

Lakehead Orillia hosts Orillia and Lake Country Economic Summit

On September 29, Lakehead Orillia facilitated the Orillia and Lake Country Economic Summit, in partnership with the Orillia District Chamber of Commerce and Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital. This was a chance for business leaders to weigh in on issues impacting the Orillia, Ramara, Oro-Medonte, Severn, and Rama area. Local municipal candidates heard directly from the business community and learned about their perspective on municipal issues. The event also included an opportunity for networking with business representatives and municipal candidates.



Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning

On Wednesday, September 21, CELL launched the latest TALL series, "Fault Lines & Fractures," with a lecture by Dr. Alexander Lanoszka, an assistant professor at the University of Waterloo. Ninety-five people attend in-person at the St. Paul's Centre in Orillia and 81 households connected virtually.

CELL also launched the Fall 2022 Ontario Master Naturalist Certificate Program on September 22 with a full class of 32 students. Similarly, CELL ran a mushroom identification course for beginner and advanced mycologists on September 17th that saw 16 participants learn how to identify and forage for edible mushrooms.

On September 27, using a microgrant from the Invasive Species Centre, CELL piloted an onsite trip for 20 high school students to Georgian Bay Islands National Park, in collaboration with Parks Canada. This pilot project was an extension of the Special High Skills major - Ontario Youth Naturalist programming.

On October 6, the Office of Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning brought together three people who were speakers at the Couchiching Conference in 2012, to discuss how far we've come - if at all - when it comes to involving Indigenous peoples in civic dialogue.

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) - Ontario Youth Naturalist Program (OYNP) began programming for this school year in October. Approximately 20 students from a secondary school in Sault Ste. Marie will learn about Wetlands, Invasive Species, & Amphibians & Reptiles over the coming weeks from presentations and hands-on activities delivered by CELL's Youth Naturalist facilitator and Parks Canada staff.

CELL received confirmation in October of the success in a grant application to the TD Friends of the Environment to further develop our OYNP. This funding will also enable CELL to 'pivot' virtual modules to include more in-field experiences, as well as develop two new modules (Mushroom Identification & Indigenous Worldviews & Medicines).

CELL delivered the first session of "CQ," or Cultural Intelligence training, for secondary schools in Thunder Bay. This training aligns with the principles of anti-racism and multicultural education and teaches students how to work effectively with diverse groups of people. The training consists of 3 workshops per class of students and will continue throughout November and December. This programming was made possible through a grant received from the Thunder Bay Community Foundation.

In collaboration with professors and Masters students in the Social Justice program and others, CELL facilitated Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training for over 300 staff members of the City of Orillia.



Research Matters, Episode 4: Enhancing the Prevention of Injury & Disability

The September edition of Research Matters featured **Dr. Vicki L Kristman**, Ontario Research Chair in Injury & Disability Prevention, Professor, Department of Health Sciences at Lakehead University, Director & Senior Scientist, Enhancing the Prevention of Injury & Disability @ Work Research Institute. Dr. Kristman discussed her extensive work as an academician, a researcher, and a senior administrator. She shared her research work in the areas of community-based primary health care, workplace mental health, and work disability prevention that demonstrates specific impact for our region-Northwestern Ontario.

Indigenous Community partner Audrey Gilbeau, Executive Director of Nokiiwin Tribal Council and Kara Polson, PhD student shared their experiences and stressed on the community engagement process and protocol, and the importance of relation building when undertaking a community-based research.



[Click here to view the video...](#)

Diversity Thunder Bay Collaboration

Lakehead University's Office of Research Services (LU-ORS) and the Office of Human Rights and Equity (LU-OHRE) are collaborating with Diversity Thunder Bay, the City of Thunder Bay's Anti-Racism and Equity Committee, Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce's Anti-Racism committee, and the Chronicle Journal for a community event to showcase collective visions and mandates as active champions in social justice actions. The interactive event titled, Community Voices and Dialogues for Social Justice is being held on November 30 in Lakehead Thunder Bay's Faculty Lounge.

Through facilitated dialogues, the event will inform 150 attendees from the LU research community, community-based organizations, representatives of First Nations organizations, non-profit and public organizations about current actions, projects, research, data, and activities on pressing social justice issues affecting Thunder Bay. The event will also serve to enhance partnerships between researchers and community organizations with the overall goal to provide new and broader perspectives, insights, inspiration, motivation, and hopefulness for socially innovative collaborative research and social justice.



Lakehead University hosted CCSBE Conference

Lakehead University's Faculty of Business Administration is pleased to host the Canadian Council of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (CCSBE) Conference this year. The conference was held virtually October 28-30.

This year's conference theme, Entrepreneurship, SMEs, and Sustainable Development, echoes the shared imperative of innovation in public, private, and social sectors upon the prominent and inter-related challenges in environmental, societal, and economic domains around the globe.

This conference focuses on diverse and inclusive approaches to advancing entrepreneurship and driving economic and social recovery across sectors and countries and adopts a comparative and international perspective in addressing topics related to entrepreneurship and innovation.

This year's conference theme focuses on the importance of inclusion in engaging organizations and individuals of diverse nature for their input and participation. Researchers, educators, entrepreneurs, administrators, students, policy makers and all interested in advancing entrepreneurship and small business will participate.

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

Lakehead University to host C²U Expo 2023

Lakehead University hosted the in-person International 2023 C2UExpo (Community-Campus-Exposition) in Thunder Bay from June 5 to 8, 2023, bringing people from across Turtle Island and beyond.



Lakehead University is ideally suited to host the C2UExpo in Thunder Bay, Ontario as evidenced by numerous examples of rich and authentic community-campus research initiatives.

Along with its community partners, Lakehead University researchers have demonstrated their leadership and commitment to collaboratively working to address societal challenges and achieve positive impacts for the benefit of people residing in our region and beyond.

The Expo was a response to the need for a platform to share experiences, strategies, and ideas about how communities and post-secondary institutions can champion social innovation and societal change.

[Click here to read more...](#)



Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Research and Innovation Week 2023

Our next R&I Week's theme will be *Improving Our Lives Through Research*, and will take place at Lakehead Thunder Bay (Feb. 27-Mar. 2) and Lakehead Orillia (Mar. 6-8).

Curiosity propels us to discover life's mysteries, and research enables us to improve every aspect of our lives. We strive to make our world an exceptional place, and work to make our present lives and futures brighter as we learn from our past.

Research – whether in scientific discoveries, in health and wellbeing, in understanding society and culture, or in partnering with community and industry – is the cornerstone to understanding problems, finding solutions, and improving our lives.

EDI in Research Speaker Series

As a new initiative to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in research, the Office of Research Services is launching a lunchtime *EDI in Research Speaker Series*. The purpose of the EDI in Research Speaker Series is to engage with academic researchers in order to promote and facilitate discussions around embracing EDI in the research setting. As part of this initiative, there will be a series of monthly sessions where EDI research champions, both from within Lakehead University and from other institutions, will discuss what EDI means in research and best practices for inclusive excellence.

We are excited to announce that Dr. Imogen Coe, the inaugural NSERC Scholar in Residence, launched the series on October 21. All sessions of the speaker series will be held virtually over Zoom, with participation open to both of our campuses (in Thunder Bay and Orillia), as well as to all EDI professionals and equity officers working at Canadian Universities.