

**June 2017**



# President's Report to Board of Governors



**Lakehead**  
UNIVERSITY



## Office of the President

### President Stevenson stepping down in December 2017

After seven and a half years as Lakehead University's President & Vice-Chancellor, **Dr. Brian Stevenson** has announced that he will step down on December 31, 2017. Lakehead University Board of Governors Chair David Tamblyn accepted Dr. Stevenson's decision with regret, adding that it is an opportunity to celebrate what the president has achieved over the course of his terms.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*



### 2017-2018 Budget Approved

At its April 27 meeting, Lakehead's Board of Governors approved the University's 2017-2018 Operating Budget.

### 2017's Professors Emeriti

Please join me in congratulating the following faculty who will be conferred the title of Professor Emeritus at our 2017 convocation ceremonies:

- **Dr. Ruby Farrell**, Dept. of Indigenous Learning
- **Dr. Kim Fedderson**, Dept. of English
- **Prof. Rhonda Kirk-Gardner**, School of Nursing
- **Dr. William Parker**, Faculty of Natural Resources Management
- **Prof. Gerald Phillips**, Faculty of Business Administration
- **Dr. M.A. (Peggy) Smith**, Faculty of Natural Resources Management
- **Dr. Connie Nelson**, School of Social Work
- **Dr. Anne Marie Walsh**, School of Social Work, Orillia Campus





## Thunder Bay Convocation Ceremonies' Honorees

Lakehead University will recognize five exceptional people at this year's three Convocation ceremonies on Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3 at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

**Kevin Page, Bob Dhillon, and Rudolf Wahl** will each receive an honorary degree for their remarkable achievements.

Lakehead will also honor the dedication of **Dr. Inderjit Nirdosh** and **Dr. James Franklin**, who will each be named Fellow of the University.



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## Orillia Convocation Ceremony's Honorees

A journalism pioneer and a Lakehead alumnus will be among those recognized during Lakehead Orillia's upcoming convocation ceremony, which will be held Saturday, June 10 at Rotary Place in Orillia.

**Dr. Rita Shelton Deverell** – who has worked as an academic, broadcaster, television producer, journalist and theatre artist – will receive an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters for her contributions to Canadian journalism and media in general.

We will also recognize alum **Rob Jamieson** with the 2017 Civitas Award, presented annually to a community member who has made a significant contribution to the Orillia campus.



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## Employee Service Recognition Reception

On May 2, we hosted our annual event to acknowledge and celebrate faculty and staff who have been at Lakehead University for 20, 30, and 40 years, in addition to thanking those who have retired in the last year. This year was particularly special as it was the first time we recognized an employee who has been with us for 50 years: **Mary Lysenchuk** is an Administrative Assistant in the Department of Psychology.

## Senator Eggleton shares Lakehead's story in Senate Chambers

On May 11, I had the privilege of being introduced in Parliament's Senate Chamber by **Senator Art Eggleton**. I recently accepted his invitation to introduce me to his fellow Senators and take some time to explain to them how Lakehead University is exceptional and unconventional.

A record of the Senator's address about Lakehead will be recorded in the *Debates of Senate* archives, identified as part of the First Session of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament (Volume 150, Number 119).

[Click here to view a PDF of the Debates of Senate of the speech...](#)





## Nurturing Scholarship

### Lakehead University expands Ontario Master Naturalist Program

Lakehead University will be offering its innovative Ontario Master Naturalist Program at the Thunder Bay campus starting this summer.

Aimed at naturalists and those dedicated to environmental stewardship, the program, which launched in 2015 at the Orillia campus, is a partnership with Ontario Nature designed to broaden participants' knowledge and expertise of the natural world through formal training and guidance.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*



### Lakehead involved in report on the sustainability of Canada's food systems

Researchers at Wilfrid Laurier University, Lakehead University and the University of Toronto have taken a first step toward producing a comprehensive report card on the sustainability of Canada's food systems.

Their new report, *Food Counts: A Pan-Canadian Sustainable Food Systems Report Card* brings together 61 existing measures of social, environmental, and economic well-being to examine food systems at the national level.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*





## Learner-Centred Student Experience



*Homo naledi's* surprisingly young age opens up more questions on where we come from

On May 9, scientists announced that South Africa's Rising Star Cave system has revealed yet more important discoveries, only a year and a half after it was announced that the richest fossil hominin site in Africa had been discovered, and that it contained a new hominin species named *Homo naledi* by the scientists who described it.

**Dr. Matt Tocheri**, Canada Research Chair in Human Origins at Lakehead University, was involved with the comparative analysis of the wrist and hand bones from the new *Homo naledi* material from the Lesedi Chamber.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*

## Lakehead alumni honoured with Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence



Two exceptional Lakehead University alumni received the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa on May 3.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*

*Kathy Cepo presents the Prime Minister with her robot team T-shirt.*

*Tom Doherty hugs Prime Minister Trudeau at the ceremony held in Ottawa.*





## Community Engagement

### Forest Ecosystem Co-operative gift establishes Forestry Award

Lakehead University has received a gift that will last forever.

The Forest Ecosystem Science Co-operative Inc. recently dissolved, and it has given a \$100,000 gift from surplus funds to create the Dean's Forestry Award at Lakehead. The Forest Ecosystem Science Co-operative Inc. Dean's Forestry Award will be given to a student with a keen interest in forest sustainability in their first semester in Lakehead's Honours Bachelor of Science in Forestry program.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*



### Lakehead hosts First International Forest Biorefining Conference

From May 9-11, Lakehead University's Biorefining Research Institute held its first International Forest Biorefining Conference at Thunder Bay's Best Western Nor'Wester Conference Centre.

135 scientists, students, and industry and government representatives gathered to discuss national and global topics related to forest biorefining and the forest bioeconomy.





## Lakehead University launching experiential learning placement thanks to RBC

Lakehead University announced today a commitment from RBC that will expand experiential learning opportunities and provide students with sought-after workforce skills.

A grant of \$250,000 from RBC Future Launch will support the development of the RBC Work-Integrated Learning program in 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.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*



## Lakehead's Achievement Program helps students realize their full potential

Lakehead University's ActiveU staff hosted nearly 30 young people on Thursday, June 1 as part of the annual Achievement Program Day on Campus.

Children in grades 4-12 participate in programming yearly in their school, community and at Lakehead University, and earn credits each year to go towards tuition fees at Lakehead.

*[Click here for media release...](#)*





## Lakehead University hosts Indigenous Languages Symposium

Lakehead University was chosen as the venue for *the Gidinwewininaan, No lang: Indigenous Languages Symposium*, from Monday, May 29 to Thursday, June 1. Approximately 400 education stakeholders and Indigenous partners gathered as part of a strategy to support Indigenous culture and revitalize Indigenous languages in Ontario.

## Aboriginal Education Day welcomes 600 students

On June 7, Lakehead University's Office of Aboriginal Initiatives hosted 600 primary and high school students from Thunder Bay, Geraldton, and Marathon for a day of activities at our Thunder Bay campus. The purpose of the day was to introduce the students to university life and remind them that Lakehead University is their university.

