



**President's Report to
Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council**

**April
2023**





Office of the President

Formal partnership between Lakehead, OSMH, supporting future of health care in Orillia and surrounding region

On Tuesday, March 21, Lakehead signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Orillia Soldier's Memorial Hospital, formalizing a partnership which will support the future of health care in Orillia and the surrounding region. Dr. Moira McPherson was joined by Carmine Stumpo, President and CEO of OSMH, Dr. Linda Rodenburg, Interim Principal of the Orillia campus, as well as members of the board of directors and senior leadership teams at both institutions for the historical event.

The announcement also comes at a critical time for both institutions. The University is looking toward the future with the addition of 10 new programs of study at the Orillia campus in the next 10 years – programs that align with the socio-economic needs of the region. And, OSMH is moving forward with transformation of health in Orillia through integration of services, including a new hospital build.



From left: Peter Caldwell, second vice-chair Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Board of Directors and board member of Lakehead's Board of Governors, Ligaya Byrch, chair of OSMH Board of Directors, Carmine Stumpo, OSMH President and CEO, Dr. Moira McPherson, Lakehead President and Vice-Chancellor, Kathy Tuckwell, vice-chair Lakehead Board of Governors, and Brandon Rhéal Amyot, member Lakehead Board of Governors.



Areas of possible collaboration between the University and Hospital are outlined in the MOU – from academic and non-academic program development, to scholarly and health-related projects and research, to collaborative long-term planning, such as opportunities for sharing of human and capital resources.

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Lakehead University held a grand opening of electric vehicle charging stations on Friday, March 10

On Friday, March 10, at 12 pm, as part of Lakehead University's participation in the first-ever SDG Week Canada, Lakehead held a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony at the Lot 9 charging stations, near the ATAC building.

Local EV owners were in attendance from noon until 2 pm for campus and community members took part in an informal electric vehicle car show.

In collaboration with the Thunder Bay CEDC and Plug-In Thunder Bay, Lakehead University announced the procurement and installation of eight Level 2 ChargePoint chargers with 16 electric vehicle connectors as part of YOCA - the Year of Climate Action in 2021/2022.

With the continuous commitment through Lakehead's Sustainable Building Policy that requires all new construction and major renovations to be built to LEED gold standards or higher, and the multi-dimensional Sustainability Plan, the university is a leader in climate action and sustainability.

On November 26, 2020, Lakehead became only the sixth Canadian university to commit to divestment from the Carbon Underground 200.

Lakehead is among the top employers in Thunder Bay and the university provides some of the largest on-site public parking facilities in the city.

The University has thousands of employees, students and visitors who use 3,200 parking spaces at close to 100 per cent capacity. By installing EV charging stations on campus, Lakehead University is providing a central and much-needed public EV charging hub in Thunder Bay.

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Dr. Moira McPherson, Lakehead's President and Vice-Chancellor, third from right, cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of electric vehicle charging stations now available at the Thunder Bay campus. Also participating from left to right, are Devon Lee, Lakehead's Sustainability Coordinator; Kirsten Kabernick, Project Coordinator with the CEDC; Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Lakehead's Vice-President, Research and Innovation; Dr. David Barnett, Lakehead's Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Hugh Briggs, Director of Physical Plant at Lakehead; and Ken Shields, organizer with the Electric Vehicle Association of Northern Ontario.



Lakehead University unveils newest nursing lab

Lakehead University unveiled its newest nursing lab – in the Braun building – with a grand opening on Tuesday, March 14.

This brings the total number of nursing labs to three, with a fourth lab coming soon.

Along with highly trained faculty, nursing labs help Lakehead University students go further, said Dr. Kristen Jones-Bonofiglio, Director of the School of Nursing.

One of many benefits from completing a nursing degree at Lakehead University is that you can then go to graduate school if you wish.

Lakehead University nursing students focus on Northern, rural, remote, and Indigenous health and illness. The curriculum features foundations in relational practice, with hands-on clinical labs and simulations starting in year one.

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing has fully accredited Lakehead's BScN curriculum based on a foundation of relational practice.

The Nursing Skills Lab is a 10-bed, hands-on learning space that provides students with opportunities to use mannequins and other equipment to practice nursing on as they learn assessment and skills theory and put it into practice. The Ontario Learn and Stay Grant is a new student financial aid program that starts in the 2023-2024 academic year and will support postsecondary students enrolled in targeted priority programs in underserved communities.

The grant will provide you upfront non-repayable funding for tuition, books, and other direct educational costs, in exchange for committing to serve for a specific term in the region where you studied.

For more about Lakehead University's School of Nursing, visit lakeheadu.ca/nursing.

Click here to view media release...



Dr. Kristen Jones-Bonofiglio, Director of the School of Nursing, third from right, cut the ribbon at the grand opening of Lakehead University's new Nursing Skills Lab. Also participating are, from left, Caroline Sabotig, Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator; Dr. Mirella Stroink, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences; Dr. David Barnett, Lakehead's Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Jessica Melanson, Clinical and Lab Technologist; and third-year nursing student Erin Hamilton.



SDG Week Canada

SDG Week Canada was a national collaboration from March 6-10, 2023, featuring workshops, panels, and other interactive programming to increase awareness of and engagement with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on university and college campuses. Through UBC's Sustainability Hub, SDSN Canada, Colleges and Institutes Canada, and locally through Lakehead's Office of Sustainability, SDG Week Canada aimed to:

- Raise awareness of the SDGs through interdisciplinary teaching and learning opportunities on post-secondary campuses.
- Build long-term momentum around the SDGs in Canada's post-secondary sector by embedding and institutionalizing the SDGs in campus operations, strategic planning, teaching, learning, and research.
- Create a cross-disciplinary collaborative environment for post-secondary institutions to work together and across sectors to advance the SDGs in Canada.
- Integrate the guiding values of the SDGs to create inclusive and respectful conversations to inform universal, transformative, and interconnected solutions.

Visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/about/sustainability/events> for more information.

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Orillia March Break Open House

Orillia Student Affairs held a very successful two-day open house on March 14-15; welcoming potential students and families to the campus. Faculty provided informative sessions and prospective students were able to interact with current students and faculty regarding life on campus, programs, student activities and more. Tours of the campus and residence were also given. Students lined up to confirm their offers, and received give certificates to the bookstore and were featured on social media. There were proud parents and excited future Thunderwolves all over campus!



Prospective students can learn more at Lakehead's Future Forward March Break open house

Lakehead University is inviting prospective students to be 'Future Forward' this March Break by attending its two-day open house where they will have the opportunity to explore, first-hand, everything about the University experience. From March 14 to 15, Lakehead will feature its exceptional faculties and two beautiful campuses in Thunder Bay and Orillia. Prospective students will also hear from Lakehead University staff about financial supports and bursaries, academic support services, residence, co-op experiences, and more.

Future Forward to Lakehead will offer a personal, on-campus experience for applicants and prospective students. Students can experience a university lecture and get a feel for what to expect by seeing how learning happens in classrooms and labs. Drop-in lecture times and dates to each campus event are on the [website registration page](#). Each day will feature immersive and interactive experiences that can be personalized upon registration.

Future Thunderwolves have an additional opportunity to accept their offer on the spot. Applicants will need to present their OUAC login information to participate and will receive a congratulatory package from Lakehead University.

Research and Innovation Week Events in Orillia

Research and Innovation Week Events in Orillia launched on Tuesday, March 7 to Thursday March 9. Among a number of faculty, student and community research presentations guests also participated in the first ever SDG Week Canada, with a Climate Action Summit that brought together climate action leaders from both campuses to share climate-forward initiatives and research at Lakehead.

On Thursday, March 9, Lakehead University hosted an industry breakfast for over 60 people, featuring a discussion on how it takes a community of partners and businesses to be cyber-secure. Regional experts, **Dr. Amir Ameli**, Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Engineering at Lakehead University, Detective Sergeant Vern Crowley, OPP Cyber Crimes Investigation Team, and Laura Payne, Chief Enablement Officer and VP Security Consulting at White Tuque, will discuss how to keep yourself, business and community safe.

The event also featured opportunities to work with Lakehead through research projects and student co-ops.



**YEAR OF
CLIMATE
ACTION**

Research and Innovation Week 2023

The **18th Annual Research and Innovation Week** kicked off in Thunder Bay on Monday, February 27, 2023. The day's events began with the Grand Opening Ceremonies with greetings from Lakehead University senior members, dignitaries and a proclamation from the office of the Mayor of Thunder Bay. This was followed by the Keynote Speaker, Julie Angus, CEO and co-founder of Open Ocean Robotics. Research excellence is promoted throughout the year, but especially during our annual Research & Innovation Week.

The week concluded with the Research and Innovation Awards of Excellence presenting the Distinguished Researcher Award, Research Excellence Awards, Research Support Award, Building Research Capacity Award, Post-Doctoral Fellowship Award, Innovation Award, Three-Minute Thesis Awards, Three-Minute Research Awards, Graduate Studies Research Excellence Awards, Graduate Student Conference Poster Winners.

Among the numerous research talks and presentations noted previously, guests were also invited to attend the following events.

[Click here to view the CBC Interview...](#)

[Click here to view the media coverage...](#)

Visit lakeheadu.ca/ri for more information.

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From left, Brian Hamilton, Acting Mayor, City of Thunder Bay, Kevin Holland, Member of Provincial Parliament for Thunder Bay – Atikokan, Crystal Caputo, Constituency Assistant, on behalf of Lise Vaugeois, Member of Provincial Parliament for Thunder Bay-Superior North, Dr. Andrew P. Dean, VP Research and Innovation, Jacqueline Dyck, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, on behalf of Minister Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services, Minister responsible for FedNor, and Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay – Superior North, Elder Sheila DeCorte, Dr. Rita Shelton Deverell, Lakehead University Chancellor, Julie Angus, CEO, Open Ocean Robotics, Keynote Speaker, Marcus Powlowski, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay – Rainy River, Dr. David Barnett, Provost and Vice President Academic, Maria Vasanelli, Chair of Lakehead University's Board of Governors.



R&I Week Luncheon with Student Researchers and President



The **Rita Nicholas Undergraduate Research Conference** celebrates the contributions of emerging researchers at Lakehead University. This conference provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to present a poster or an oral presentation on a research project they are working on or have completed while engaging in scholarly debate with their peers.

Winners of the peer-judged competition wrapped up R&I Week with a luncheon on Friday, March 3, hosted by President McPherson, and joined by the Undergraduate Committee, student coordinators, and Faculty supervisors.



2023 Career Fairs at Lakehead Thunder Bay and Orillia

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and Shared Services Canada (SSC) were among the almost 60 employers on our Thunder Bay campus to participate in a Career Fair on March 8. It was the last major career fair event scheduled for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Lakehead Career Services & Co-Op organized several events and workshops, in addition to hosting even more employers at a Virtual Job Fair on March 9, the same day Lakehead Orillia held its own in-person job fair. Throughout the in-person and virtual job fairs on both campuses, students were invited to present their resumes and engage in networking opportunities with potential employers — some of whom were ready to hire our students on the spot.



Senior Leaders from the CRA and SSC were present at the Career Fair. Lakehead alumni, Santo Scarfo (Assistant Commissioner and CIO of the CRA's Information Technology Branch) continues to foster the long history CRA has with hiring Lakehead graduates. Additionally, staff from the CRA hosted networking sessions with students in the Indigenous Student Resource Centre and connected with faculty as part of their large recruitment initiatives with Lakehead.



Kristin Brunner (Assistant Deputy Minister, Digital Services for SSC) led a “post-secondary champions” initiative that addressed the workforce development challenges being faced by SSC. This included working closely with universities to diversify SSC’s workforce and increase student and new graduate hires. Brunner has invited Lakehead to become a champion institution in this hiring initiative, and is especially keen to hire students with technical skills from our Computer Science and Computer Engineering programs.

OpenText, a Waterloo, Ontario-based enterprise information management software developer who, in 2021, began offering internship opportunities at their company for Indigenous students enrolled at our University, hosted a Virtual Employer Information Session in collaboration with Lakehead’s Indigenous Student Resource Centre and the Career Services and Co-op Team.

Lakehead's Bora Laskin Faculty of Law unveils new name + logo for Indigenous Law and Justice Institute

Lakehead University's Bora Laskin Faculty of Law unveiled the new Anishnaabemowin name of the Indigenous Law and Justice Institute and a new logo at a ceremony in the John N. Paterson Auditorium.

The new name, Mino-Waabandan Inaakonigewinan, means "seeing the law in a good way."

Elder Ron Linklater bestowed the new name on the Institute during a naming ceremony at Bora Laskin's inaugural summer land-based learning camp in August 2022.

Designed by local Anishinaabe artist Ryan Pooman, the new logo is a Thunderbird. The logo represents power, protection, and strength – qualities associated with vision and leadership that will guide the Institute.

Originally led by former Professor Nancy Sandy as Director and supported by Sherry Abotossaway as Outreach and Research Coordinator, the Institute currently consists of Co-Directors **Larissa Speak**, Assistant Professor at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, and **Robin Sutherland**, the Director of Indigenous Relations at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law.

Both the name and logo reflect the important work the Institute is doing with communities to revitalize Indigenous laws and legal orders.

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



Co-Directors Robin Sutherland, left, and Larissa Speak unveiled the Institute's new logo, a Thunderbird, on Thursday, Jan. 26.



Lakehead University will soon launch its new Mechatronics Engineering program

Starting in Fall 2023, Lakehead University's Faculty of Engineering will offer a new Bachelor of Mechatronics Engineering (BEng) program for undergraduate students.

Recently approved by the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance, the new program is pending final approval from Lakehead's Senate this winter.

Lakehead is now one of six universities in the province and the first in Northern Ontario to offer a degree in Mechatronics Engineering.

Mechatronics Engineering is a new and rapidly growing multi-disciplinary branch of engineering that is at the intersection of Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Software Engineering, and Computer Science. This includes the design of robotics, control systems, and electromechanical systems.



The Mechatronics Engineering BEng program will initially be available at the Thunder Bay campus.

The program has been designed to prepare students to create technologies that support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

With sustainability and co-op at its core, this program will integrate business, law, and public safety into the learning experience – giving students a deeper and broader insight to accompany their engineering expertise.

Students can apply from high school or via Lakehead's unique college transfer program that enables engineering technology diploma graduates to complete a Bachelor of Engineering degree in only two years.

Lakehead offers six undergraduate engineering programs: Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Software Engineering, and now Mechatronics Engineering.

For more information, visit lakehead.engineering/mechatronics or contact program coordinator Dr. Wilson Wang at wilson.wang@lakeheadu.ca.



Academic Excellence

Reflections on UN CSW: Lakehead student attends United Nations Panel

For International Women's Day, the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), brought the world together - from world leaders, NGOs, academics and civil society.

The theme of this year's UN CSW67 was: Innovation and Technological Change, and Education in the Digital Age. The UNCSW is the world's main policy-making body dedicated to working towards gender equality and the advancement of women.

Meagan Malcolm, a Masters of Social Justice Studies student at Lakehead University, was invited to speak on a panel and roundtable discussion at the UNCSW in New York.

The panel "Young Voices: Technology," hosted by National Alliance of Women's Organizations (NAWO) a London-based umbrella organization dedicated to promoting women's human rights with a special focus on gender and Europe.

Panelists discussed the importance of imagining a feminist internet, which is critical to bringing about transformation in gendered structures of power that exist on and offline. Disparities in access to technology, online violence, and surveillance disproportionately affect marginalized communities. Meagan pointed out that internet access should be the number one priority, but rather the ongoing genocide against Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people, a lack of access to clean drinking water and housing are the central crises impacting Indigenous communities.

Meagan, who is Anishinaabe from Roseau River Anishinaabe First Nation, feels attending the CSW67 has been invigorating.

It was an inspiring week at the UN hearing from those who are advocating for the rights of women and girls globally. But she hopes more Indigenous and racialized young women can attend these meetings in the future.

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





Lakehead University celebrated exceptional researchers at R and I Awards of Excellence

Lakehead University held its Research and Innovation Awards of Excellence reception on Thursday, March 2 to celebrate the exceptional achievements of professors, partners, and students.

Lakehead named **Dr. Vicki Kristman** and **Dr. Scott Hamilton** as the 2023 Distinguished Researchers for their work in health sciences and social sciences and humanities.

Dr. Kristman is a professor in the Department of Health Sciences who is the Director and Senior Scientist with the Enhancing the Prevention of Injury and Disability at Work Research Institute.

Dr. Kristman thanked the funding agencies for supporting this research, including CIHR, SSHRC, Mitacs, the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba, and WorkSafeBC, among others.

Dr. Hamilton joined Lakehead's Department of Anthropology in 1988 with a two-pronged research program – one was conventional academic research and the other emphasized applied research that gradually shifted to community-engaged research service.

His primary field of study is the archaeology of the Canadian northern plains and subarctic, along with fur trade archaeology and ethnohistory.

Dr. Andrew P. Dean said the awards ceremony is a highlight of the year for Research and Innovation and he is exceptionally proud of all Lakehead award recipients.

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



Lakehead University researchers received more than \$1.3 million from CIHR in 2022

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research is providing more than \$1.3 million in grants to researchers at Lakehead University.

Dr. Alla Reznik is a Physics Professor at Lakehead University and a scientist at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute who is receiving \$738,226 to explore a new way to diagnose prostate cancer in men.

Dr. Anna Kone, Associate Professor in the Department of Health Sciences, is receiving more than \$293,000 to assess and understand the impacts of the pandemic on people from Black and Indigenous communities who have chronic diseases.

Dr. Lana Ray, from Lakehead's Department of Indigenous Learning, and Dr. Elaine Wiersma from Lakehead's Department of Health Sciences, are assisting in this study along with researchers from the University of Toronto.

Multiple Indigenous and Black community-based organizations are also involved and partners in the study, including Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig Health Access Centre (WNHAC), the Women's Health in Women's Hands Community Health Centre, Entité 3, and Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority.

Dr. Christopher Mushquash, a Psychology Professor at Lakehead University, and his team are receiving a \$250,000 grant to develop content-specific and culturally relevant practices that will transform youth mental health services in Indigenous contexts.

[Click here to view media release and the full list of grant recipient...](#)





LUARS Director will be inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame

Dr. Tarlok Sahota is one of 11 individuals who will be inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame in June. Dr. Sahota, the Director of the Lakehead University Agricultural Research Station, is the first person from Thunder Bay to receive this honour.



He has made great contributions in his work managing and sustaining the privately-run Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station and its successful transition to the Lakehead University Agricultural Research Station.

Under the leadership of Dr. Sahota, the research station has always focussed on development-oriented agricultural research that found an easy application on farms, due to vigorous extension efforts of Dr. Sahota and receptive farmers.

Until 2004, Thunder Bay producers grew only a few crops that were needed for cattle. Dr. Sahota's research and extension helped area growers to diversify their cropping systems by adding numerous crops to their mix.

He has authored hundreds of publications, extension articles and participated in media reports.

Thunder Bay farmers rely on research conducted by Dr. Sahota to make their businesses more profitable and environmentally sustainable.

The Thunder Bay Federation of Agriculture nominated Dr. Sahota, for which he is very grateful.

All individuals have been selected by the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame Association as worthy candidates based on their life-long commitments to Ontario agriculture.

The inductees will be recognized in a ceremony on June 11, bringing the total number of inductees recognized since 1980 to 256. To qualify for this prestigious recognition, inductees must have shown visionary leadership, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

For more about the inductees, visit this [page](#).

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Local and Global Partnerships

Ontario Government makes historic investment enabling Lakehead University and the University of Guelph to expand veterinary training, addressing critical workforce shortages

On March 23, as part of the Province of Ontario's annual Budget announcements, the Government unveiled that it would invest \$14.7M into our Collaborative Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program in Rural and Northern Community Practice — a new collaborative program in partnership with the University of Guelph to increase the number of veterinarian graduates in Ontario by 20% per year, as well as support a new incentive program to expand number of large animal veterinarians practicing in underserved communities.

This investment includes critical support for a new, collaborative veterinary medicine program – increasing the number of veterinary spaces for the first time since 1988 and adding incentives to address critical shortages in veterinary care.

The Collaborative Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program in Rural and Northern Community Practice will support the economic growth of Ontario's agri-food sector by expanding the number of veterinarians trained in Ontario who are practicing within Northern, rural and Indigenous communities, ensuring livestock producers have the necessary veterinary services needed to expand operations.

The Veterinary Incentive Program will provide loan assistance to recently graduated veterinarians to practice in underserved areas and support large animal care.



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LUNSA's 33rd Annual Powwow

The Lakehead University Native Student Association (LUNSA) hosted its 33rd annual Powwow at the CJ Sanders Fieldhouse from March 10-12. The event, which featured external community performers and guests from around the region, is in celebration of Indigenous culture and dance.

I had the pleasure of offering welcoming remarks along with Denise Baxter (Lakehead's Vice Provost, Indigenous Initiatives), Tannis Kastern (Councillor, Fort William First Nation), Kasey Etreni (Acting Mayor, City of Thunder Bay), and Lahama Naeem (President, Lakehead University Student Union).

LUNSA is a volunteer Lakehead University Student Union club. Its goals are to promote the spirit of unity among Indigenous students at Lakehead University through social, cultural, and recreational events in addition to promoting cultural awareness between club members and the greater Lakehead University student population.

The annual powwow is LUNSA's signature event that showcases tremendous talent and entertainment, free of charge, while reinforcing traditional aspects of Indigenous culture such as drumming, dancing, singing, and giving thanks.

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PDAC Alumni & Friends Breakfast

On March 6, Lakehead University hosted its annual Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) Alumni & Friends Breakfast at the InterContinental Toronto Centre.

Keynote speaker, Luke Cox (CEO, GreenTech Metals), and John Mullally (Senior Director Sustainability and External Relations, Newmont Corporation) spoke at the information and networking event.

I offered welcoming remarks at the breakfast attended by several industry and government delegates.

The inimitable **Dr. Pete Hollings** (Lakehead Geology professor and NOHFC IRC Chair in Mineral Exploration) served as emcee and provided updates from Lakehead's [Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining & Exploration](#) and Geology Department.

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community, an industry that supports 719,000 people in direct and indirect employment and contributes \$106 billion to Canada's GDP every year. Representing over 6,500 members around the world, PDAC's work centers on supporting a competitive, responsible, and sustainable mineral sector.



Dr. Moira McPherson and Minister Jill Dunlop



Indigenous Cultural Celebration Night presented by the Lakehead Achievement Program

The Lakehead University Thunderwolves are pleased to announce the Indigenous Cultural Celebration Night presented by the Lakehead Achievement Program, which was held on Friday, February 17th, 2023.

Indigenous Cultural Celebration Night, which was first proposed by Thunderwolves men's basketball head coach Ryan Thomson, will honour and celebrate local Indigenous culture and heritage, and will also serve as a fundraiser for scholarships and athletics initiatives that support Indigenous youth.

As part of the celebration, the Thunderwolves men's and women's basketball teams will wear special uniforms designed by Jacenia Desmoulin, an Anishinaabe artist whose work has served as the visual basis for the Chicago Blackhawks' Native American Initiatives.

The jerseys will be sold by auction with proceeds going to existing initiatives in athletics for Indigenous youth and the Athletics scholarship BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) Initiative. Auction details to follow.

The jersey design is a representation of the seven sacred teachings: Truth is represented by the Turtle; Love is represented by the Eagle; Bravery is represented by the Bear; Respect is represented by the Buffalo; Honesty is represented by Sabe; Wisdom is represented by the Beaver; and Humility is represented by the Wolf.

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FedNor Funding Announcement

On Friday, February 17 Fednor announced a financial contribution towards the establishment of Center for Healthy Ecosystems and Environmentally Conscious Economic Development (CHEECED) at Lakehead University.

This research laboratory will be led by Dr. Amanda Diochon from the department of geology. However, CHEECED is a strategic cluster or partnership of multiple stakeholders from different departments in Lakehead University and industrial partners in key sectors in our regional economy including: Forestry, Agriculture and Mining, Indigenous communities, regional municipalities and both Provincial and Federal government agencies.

The funding from Fednor which in combination from NOHFC totaled almost 5m\$ and allows the university to acquire numerous pieces of analytical equipment to quantify the environmental impacts of natural resource development and processing. This will also help to improve the development and evaluation of innovative technologies to improve the environmental quality and economic benefits to this region.

[Click here to view the press release...](#)



THE CHRONICLE JOURNAL/SANDI KRASOWSKI

From left, David Paul Achneepineskum, Matawa chief executive officer; Elder Luke Sagutch; Rosemary Moonias, president of Matawa First Nations Management; Kathleen Lynch, president of Confederation College; Andrew Dean, vice-president research and innovation with Lakehead University; Patty Hajdu, minister of Indigenous Services, minister responsible for FedNor and member of Parliament for Thunder Bay-Superior North; and Marcus Powlowski member of Parliament for Thunder Bay-Rainy River, attend the Matawa Training Centre for a \$1.2-million FedNor funding announcement.



MOU signed with Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services

On February 9, Lakehead University and Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services (KKETS) signed a memorandum of understanding at KKETS' offices in Thunder Bay. The MOU articulates how our respective institutions' will develop stronger relations between each other by collaborating on initiatives that aim to increase the socio-economic prosperity of our community.

To this end, Lakehead and KKETS will work together to explore academic and non-academic programming opportunities, opportunities for collaborative research in areas of mutual interest, as well as philanthropic and other funding opportunities which align with our respective missions and goals.

Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning (CELL)

CELL was awarded the Leadership Award from the Invasive Species Centre on Wednesday, February 8th, for the Ontario Youth Naturalist Program (OYNP). The OYNP is a collaborative effort between Lakehead University, secondary schools, and Parks Canada to educate youth on environmental sustainability, including invasive species. The program received the Leadership Award for its work on transforming invasive species prevention and management in Canada through educating youth, as the young leaders of tomorrow, and providing them with hands-on, experiential learning opportunities. The aspect of programming that was recognized with this award included a trip to Georgian Bay Islands National Park. Delivered as an extension of the OYNP, this initiative saw a class of secondary school students visit the island for a day to learn more about the Park's 4-year project to stop the spread of invasive species - their "Impede the Reed" program.

On February 22, **CELL wrapped up the Winter 2023 Third Age Learning Lakehead (TALL) speaker series Stories & Society**. This series featured Anishinaabe-Ojibwe writer and poet Armand Ruffo and bestselling science fiction and fantasy author Julie Czerneda, alongside award-winning podcaster Liz Beatty, former Lakehead Principal Dr. Kim Feddersen, and Lakehead faculty member **Dr. Gary Pluim**.



ONCAT awards Lakehead University \$33,934 for pathway opportunities with Fanshawe College

Lakehead University has been awarded \$33,934 from the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) to work with Fanshawe College on two projects exploring the development of new pathways into Arts, Applied Science, and Technology programs.

Both projects are being led by **Kaylin Kainulainen**, a doctoral student in Educational Studies in the field of Cognition and Learning at Lakehead University, where her research focuses on student mobility and transfer.



This project will determine the potential for establishing new and enhancing existing pathways from the General Arts and Science certificate (GAP) and diploma (GAS) into a variety of degreed programs in the faculties of Health and Behavioural Sciences, Science and Environmental Studies, and Social Sciences and Humanities.

Building upon a previous ONCAT funded project, Lakehead University has also received \$22,166 to work with Fanshawe College to create a series of “Bi-directional Pathway Opportunities for Students in Applied Science and Technology programs.”

The two institutions will explore how to decrease the time-to-completion from Honours Bachelor of Science (Chemistry Major) to the Chemical Laboratory Technology (CLT), explore the feasibility of an alternate pathway from Honours Bachelor of Science (Biology and Chemistry Major) to the CLT, and to add further complementary bi-directional pathways between other programs at both institutions.

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City of Orillia approves \$500,000 for new Innovation Hub

Interim Principal, Orillia Campus, **Dr. Linda Rodenburg**, alongside **Mike den Haan** (Vice-President, External Relations) and members of the External Relations team, is visiting the 16 municipalities in Simcoe County in the coming weeks, sharing Lakehead’s story in relation to student access to Education, partnerships, research and innovation, and community engagement.

The City of Orillia approved \$500,000 in funding for a three-year pilot project, “The Innovation Collective”. This collective, formed in partnership with Lakehead University, the Orillia Area Community Development Corporation, and the City of Orillia, will support entrepreneurs and build bridges between potential partners, enabling collaboration and innovation. [Click here to article...](#)



RHF announces National Advisory Committee on Indigenous Teacher Education

The Rideau Hall Foundation (RHF) is proud to announce the National Advisory Committee on Indigenous Teacher Education (NACITE), Co-chaired by Roberta Jamieson and Dr. Mark Dockstator, this group is focused on significantly growing the numbers of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis teachers in Canada.

The group is beginning its groundbreaking work to help support the excellence, self-determination, and representation of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in education. The RHF's goal is to meaningfully contribute to transforming education across Canada by supporting Indigenous-led teacher education pathways and strategies. This work is based on the RHF's foundational commitment to the value of and potential for Indigenous teachers to transform the lives of children and youth.



Members include:

- Aluki Kotierk, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Andrea Brazeau, Elementary school teacher and Inuit cultural educator
- Dr. Annette Trimbee, President and vice-chancellor, MacEwan University
- David Perley, President, Wolastoq Language and Culture Center, Lecturer, University of New Brunswick
- **Denise Baxter, Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives at Lakehead University**
- Dr. Evelyn Steinhauer, Professor and Director, Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP), University of Alberta
- Dr. Nigaan Sinclair, Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg Free Press journalist
- Steven Point, LLB, LL.D (Hon), Chancellor, University of British Columbia, 28th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia
- Tanya Talaga, President and CEO Makwa Creative, Globe and Mail journalist, author
- Yvette Arcand, Director, Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP), University of Saskatchewan

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Thunder Bay and Area Community Food System Report Card ~ Launched January 2023

The Thunder Bay + Area Food Strategy is very pleased to have just launched the updated Community Food System Report Card.

A Community Food System Report Card assesses the food system as a whole, compiling local food data on the economic, environmental, and social factors included in food production, processing, retail, consumption, and waste or repurposing. The Report Card helps to measure progress towards regional food sovereignty.

The role of the Thunder Bay + Area Community Food System Report Card is to assess our regional food system as a whole by tracking changes to 119 indicators across seven different food system pillars: food access, forest & freshwater foods, food infrastructure, food procurement, food production, school food environments and urban agriculture. Having the updated 2023 data allows us to see what's changed across our food systems compared to 2015 when the first Report Card was released.

The Report Card doesn't provide a grade nor a pass/fail – rather, it presents a snapshot of our current food system with a call to action to get involved in building a more equitable and sustainable food system for all.

There's SO MUCH information to share from this updated Community Food System Report Card that we've created a new dedicated website to showcase the results: www.foodsystemreportcard.ca.

The Community Food System Report Card is presented in chapters representing the seven different food strategy pillars. Each chapter includes background context for that pillar; the indicators that were measured; observations; and highlights.

[You can also download the entire 76 Page PDF Report.](#)

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





Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Innovation Collective

At a special meeting on Feb. 28, 2023, Orillia City Council approved the launch of an Orillia & Lake Country Innovation Collective three-year pilot project to provide economic development support services to the community that are aimed to foster collaboration, ideation and to develop and implement innovative thinking.

The Innovation Collective will be supported by an operating committee consisting of members from Lakehead University, Orillia Area CDC, Georgian College, Simcoe County, the City of Orillia and two innovation experts from the local community. Orillia Council will provide its support through a liaison team of Mayor Don McIsaac and Coun. Whitney Smith. The liaison team will also include an additional business leader within the community who will be responsible to report back to Council semi-annually with progress updates on the objectives and outcomes of the Innovation Collective.”

[Click here to read the press release...](#)

Research Matters - Episode 7 & 8 - Drs. Jones-Bonofiglio and Rawana

Through the Lakehead University Research Matters show, we inform viewers about Lakehead University’s research focus areas from a broad spectrum of disciplines. We invite exceptional and brilliant researchers who are making meaningful contributions toward our sustainable futures.

The [December edition of Research Matters featured Dr. Jones-Bonofiglio](#). Dr. Kristen Jones-Bonofiglio is the Director and Associate Professor at Lakehead University’s School of Nursing. She is also the Director of the Centre for Health Care Ethics. This year she celebrates 20 years as a Registered Nurse and a proud Lakehead University alumna. She is a strengths-based researcher with interests in health care ethics, moral distress, resilience, compassion, leadership, and mental health and well-being.

The [January edition of Research Matters featured Dr. Rawana](#). Spanning over four decades, Dr. Edward Rawana’s career in Psychology has been a continuous and colourful journey toward the subject he is most passionate about: strengths. He is a professor in the Department of Psychology at Lakehead University and NOSMU as well as Director of Education and Research on a Positive Youth Development. Dr. Rawana is highly active in exploring and promoting the assessment of psychological strengths and incorporating this information into practical methods that address issues of education, addiction, and mental health.

Ingenuity's 8th Annual Disrupt It Weekend

Ingenuity, along with its community partner, The Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre (NOIC), hosted its 8th Annual Disrupt It Weekend on February 10-12, 2023.

Over 30 participants joined to create a total of 7 teams that worked hard on their business development over the weekend. Ten mentors along with staff of NOIC and Ingenuity guided the teams over the weekend which also included 4 workshops on the topics of Business Model Canvas, finance, business pitch and sustainable development goals for your business.



On Sunday the teams pitched to win \$6000 in cash prizes. NEWER won first place and people's choice for a total of \$4,000. Second place went to PINOY Taste taking home \$2000. NEWER is a marketplace for newcomers to Canada to showcase their goods and earn income. PINOY Taste is a Filipino Restaurant with a potential location in downtown Thunder Bay.