



## President's Report to Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council

October  
2022







## Office of the President

### Lakehead University unveils Every Child Matters crosswalk and raises a Truth and Reconciliation flag



Lakehead University unveiled its new Every Child Matters crosswalk and raised a National Truth and Reconciliation flag on Wednesday, Sept. 7.

Lakehead raised the flag, designed by Residential School Survivors and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and unveiled the crosswalk in the Agora Circle with help from some local dignitaries.

The crosswalk is permanent and the flag will be proudly on display until the end of September.

The event memorialized the children lost to the residential school system and honoured survivors and their families. Learning and commemorating the truth of Canada's history is an important part of the path to reconciliation.

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





## Lakehead Orillia unveils Every Child Matters crosswalk and raises Survivors Flag

Lakehead University unveiled its new Every Child Matters crosswalk and raised the Survivors' Flag on Wednesday, Sept. 7, during an event to memorialize the children lost to the residential school system and honour survivors and their families.

The flag, designed by residential school survivors and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), was raised and the crosswalk unveiled in front of Simcoe Hall at the Orillia campus. The crosswalk is permanent, and the flag will be proudly on display until the end of September.

For Lakehead President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Moira McPherson, the installation of the flag and crosswalk on the University's campuses serves as a symbol that action and education go hand in hand.

Learning and commemorating the truth of Canada's history is an important part of the path to reconciliation. Lakehead has long been a leader when it comes to educating students about Indigenous issues and Canada's past, launching the first Indigenous Content Requirement in 2016, and creating the first Indigenous Chair on Truth and Reconciliation in Canada in 2016.

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*(from left) Chris Glover, Associate Vice-President – Administration; Elder Trish Monague; Mercedes Jacko, Indigenous Initiatives Coordinator; Elder and Indian Day School Survivor Ernie Sandy; Dr. Linda Rodenburg, Interim Principal of the Orillia campus; Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Chair on Truth and Reconciliation; Patricia Graham from the Metis Nation of Ontario; and Brandon Rhéal Amyot, Vice President Orillia of the Lakehead University Student Union (LUSU).*



## 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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## The Food Resource Centre

In 2020, the LUSU Foodbank was remodeled and renovated to the LUSU Food Resource Centre (FRC). The aim of the Centre is to break down the stigma that surrounds accessing food resources on campuses by creating a welcoming environment for students. The renovated Food Bank provides students who are experiencing food insecurity with culturally-diverse, nutritional, dietary accommodating foods including both non-perishables and fresh options. Students can access this space to get groceries once every two weeks.

The Food Resource Centre also provides students with educational workshops, volunteer, and leadership opportunities. We also run programs such as the People's potato (weekly free hot lunches to students), the Good Food Box (a community program which provides people with fresh fruits and vegetables), Monthly cooking classes, and monthly talks with a new guest speaker each session.

The Food Resource Centre is also bringing back the Annual Faculty and Departmental Food Drive Challenge! Donations to the Centre are welcome all year round! Donation boxes will be delivered during the last week of September. Once your department's box is full, call us or bring it up to the Centre (Room UC 2014B). A first semester preliminary count will take place in December. Final Totals will be calculated at the end of second semester (April) where the winner will be announced!

Any questions about the Food Resource Centre or the Annual Faculty and Departmental Food Drive Challenge can be sent to Sierra Garofalo (Food Resource Centre Coordinator) at [FRC@lusu.ca](mailto:FRC@lusu.ca).



**LUSU**  
LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT UNION

Presents the  
**ANNUAL  
DEPARTMENTAL  
FOOD DRIVE  
CHALLENGE**

Help keep the LUSU Food Resource Centre  
stocked with food for students!

**HOW IT WORKS**

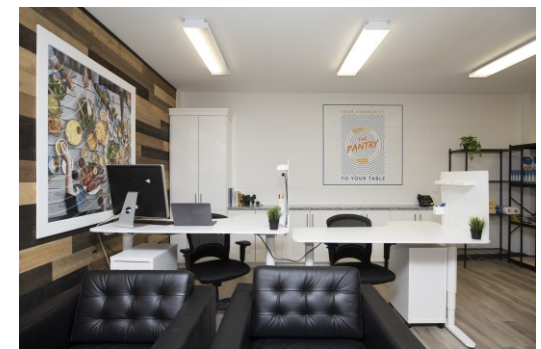
- Donations are welcome all year-round!
- Donation boxes will be delivered to offices during the last week of September. Once your department's box is full, bring it to the Centre or give us a call. We will keep track of the items donated by each department.
- A first semester preliminary count will take place in December. Final totals will be calculated at the end of the second semester (April) and the winner will be announced!

**What items are needed?**

- **Non-perishables** (e.g., canned beans, canned tuna, dried lentils, rice, canned vegetables, etc.)
- **Fresh** fruits, vegetables, bread, eggs, and other produce
- **Frozen** vegetables, fruits, and meats

**DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF TO THE LUSU FOOD RESOURCE CENTRE (ROOM UC 2014 B)  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4 PM**

FOR MORE INFO OR QUESTIONS EMAIL US AT [FRC@LUSU.CA](mailto:FRC@LUSU.CA) OR CALL (807)343-8010 EXT 8850





## **Lakehead awarded \$205,000 in the second round of eCampusOntario's Virtual Learning Strategy**

Lakehead University has been awarded \$205,000 by eCampusOntario as part of the second round of funding of the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities Virtual Learning Strategy (VLS). Originally announced on December 11, 2020, the VLS is a historic \$50 million investment by the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) intended to drive growth and advancement in virtual learning across the province's post-secondary institutions.

The VLS was introduced to expand the possibilities of traditional and life-long learning through the accelerated use of both online and hybrid learning. To expand capacity of the Teaching Commons, Lakehead has received \$150,000 to hire a full and part-time Instructional Designer and Education Media Specialist who will be utilized to support the training of faculty and instructors in online course development.

Working in collaboration with colleagues at Nipissing, Algoma, and Laurentian Universities, \$55,000 has also been awarded to research, build, and report on the impact of supporting faculty, through a reward and recognition process that issues micro-credentials.

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## Academic Excellence

### Research in Action: Service gaps might be increasing homelessness

A study involving Lakehead University and the district's primary social services agency suggests a majority of the homeless population in Thunder Bay originate from outside the city. As well, a significant number come from beyond the province.

**Dr. Ravi Gokani**, an Assistant Professor in Lakehead's School of Social Work, is leading a study to understand why so many of Thunder Bay's homeless population hail from elsewhere. The partnership with the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) also involves Lakehead researchers **Dr. Rebecca Schiff**, **Dr. Vijay Mago** and **Dr. Travis Hay**. They received \$22,000 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Partnership Engage Grant.

The TBDSSAB's interest is to understand the factors that lead to homelessness among those who migrate to the city, in hopes that by identifying trends they can develop strategies to address the issue and reduce the incidence of homelessness across the district.

Elise Agnor, a research assistant with Dr. Gokani, completed the shelter surveys. She spoke to more than 100 people who were staying at either Shelter House or Salvation Army. That was followed by one-on-one interviews with 18 individuals to ask more detailed questions about why they came to Thunder Bay, whether they planned on staying, and the barriers to returning to their home community.

Dr. Gokani and his team are working with the TBDSSAB on a report to summarize their research. Preliminary findings indicate many people come to Thunder Bay to seek employment, education or to access health care, and because of connections to family or friends. Many come from First Nations reserves in Ontario where such services are not always available. One revelation from the research is that only 21-per-cent of respondents would have safe and permanent housing if they went back to their home communities.

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## Researchers receive \$2.4 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council

Lakehead University researchers are receiving more than \$2.4 million in funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

**Dr. Adam Algar**, Associate Professor in Biology, is receiving a Discovery Grant for \$235,000 to understand how species' ecological limits are responding to rapid climate and land use change.

Dr. Algar will use lab experiments, field studies, remote sensing, and big data modelling to spend five years exploring what stops species from spreading outwards, to all environments.

**Dr. Noah Phillips**, Assistant Professor in Geology, is receiving a \$142,500 Discovery Grant to study the strength of Earth's plate-boundary-fault systems, where tectonic plates slide past one another. Fault systems host the world's largest earthquakes and are zones of enhanced permeability and fluid flow through the Earth's crust.

**Dr. Leila Pakzad**, Associate Professor in Chemical Engineering, is receiving a \$140,000 Discovery Grant to help address fundamental challenges related to medical inhaler device design.

Effective treatment of respiratory diseases depends on the properties of the aerosol/particles/droplets produced by the inhaler and the drug deposition efficiency in the lungs, which requires understanding drug particle aerodynamic behavior.

In 2020/21, Lakehead University received nearly \$2 million in assistance from the Research Support Fund to support the indirect costs of research, which includes costs for supporting the management of intellectual property, research and administration, ethics and regulatory compliance, research resources, and research facilities.

[Click here to view other funding recipients and media release...](#)







## Lakehead University researchers receiving more than \$1 million from SSHRC

Lakehead University researchers are receiving more than \$1 million in funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

**Dr. Cheryl Lousley**, an Associate Professor in the Departments of English and Interdisciplinary Studies, and her team are receiving a \$319,473 Insight Grant.

For up to five years, they will study how three aesthetic modes – the poetic, the documentary, and the speculative – are used by Indigenous, Black, Latinx, and Asian-diasporic writers, filmmakers, and artists to grapple with and change debilitating political ecologies.

**Dr. Jodie Murphy**, an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work, along with her research team, Dr. Karen McQueen, Dr. Lori Chambers and Ainsley Miller, are receiving a \$145,305 Insight Grant to explore sexual assault disclosure among sexual and gender minorities for up to three years.

**Dr. Pauline Sameshima**, a Professor in the Faculty of Education and the Canada Research Chair in Arts Integrated Research, is receiving a \$97,950 Aid to Scholarly Journals Grant over three years, which will go toward increasing dissemination, discoverability and readership of the Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies.

[Click here to view other funding recipients and media release...](#)



## Lakehead University professor named as an SES Faculty-Based Research Chair

Lakehead University's Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies is pleased to announce that **Dr. Amanda Diochon**, Associate Professor in the Department of Geology, has been named as an SES Faculty-Based Research Chair for her planned program of research in "Biogeochemical Cycling of Carbon in Northern Soils." This is a three-year appointment that started on July 1.



A committee of Lakehead University Research Chairs unanimously recommended Dr. Diochon for this position, commending her strong track record in attracting external research funding, student supervision and mentorship and in contributions to her field both in terms of publications and governance of its professional association.

Dr. Diochon joined Lakehead University in August 2012. Since then, she has attracted over \$1.1 million in external funding from a wide number of sources, including tri-council grants from NSERC, government, the public sector, and non-profit organizations.

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## Lakehead researcher recognized with Early Researcher Award

**Dr. Maryam Ebrahimi**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Department of Physics (Adjunct), and Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Low-Dimensional Nanomaterials at Lakehead University, has received a 2022 Early Researcher Award of \$140,000 from the Government of Ontario.



With an additional \$50,000 from Lakehead University, the five-year grant supports innovative research conducted by Dr. Ebrahimi, and the growth of her research team of graduate and undergraduate students.

Through the research project, Dr. Ebrahimi and her team will look to design and construct novel 1D and 2D nanomaterials with tailored quantum, topological, electronic, chemical, physical, and mechanical properties. Nanomaterials are used in electronic devices including smart phones, LED displays, sensors, materials for drug delivery, energy, and environmental applications. The research being conducted in Dr. Ebrahimi's lab provides a unique approach towards the design of robust one-atom-thick 1D and 2D nanomaterials, artificial graphene, or the next generation of synthetic 1D and 2D nanomaterials for nanoelectronics, spintronics, and quantum technology applications.

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## Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grant supports EDI research

Lakehead University professor **Dr. Sandra Jeppesen** is receiving \$448,376 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada under their new Race, Gender, and Diversity Initiative launched this year.

Dr. Jeppesen, professor in the Media, Film, and Communications program at Lakehead's Orillia Campus, will be leading an international team of community-engaged scholars and community organizations to foster knowledge and build capacity around equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) practices.

Over three years, the research team that includes the Gilbert Centre in Barrie, Pixelles and We Are The Medium in Montreal, the Rungh Cultural Society in Vancouver, and the University of Virginia Equity Centre in Charlottesville, will investigate critical EDI work being done at the community level using an innovative assets-based approach.

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## Lakehead Engineering professor selected for Nokia Visiting Professorship



Lakehead Engineering professor **Salama Ikki** has been selected for the prestigious Nokia Visiting Professorship offered by the Nokia Foundation.

Professor Ikki, a faculty member in Lakehead's Department of Electrical Engineering, will be a visiting research professor at Aalto University in Espoo, just west of Finland's capital Helsinki. He will also visit other Finnish universities, as well as various branches of the global technology firm Nokia.

Professor Ikki will give lectures to students, academics, and employees on signal processing 5G wireless networks, and take part in collaborative research projects in this field.

Professor Ikki is only the second Canadian to receive this highly-competitive professorship. He is currently Lakehead University Research Chair in Wireless Communications, where he undertakes research focused on creating a unified theoretical framework that will lead in the application of artificial intelligence to telecommunications systems.

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## Lakehead University's Dr. Max Haiven renewed as Canada Research Chair in Radical Imagination

The Government of Canada recently renewed Lakehead University's **Dr. Max Haiven** as Canada Research Chair in Radical Imagination. Dr. Haiven is an Associate Professor in English and co-director of Lakehead's Relmaging Value Action Lab, also known as RiVAL.

Dr. Haiven continues his innovative research into the power of the imagination to shape society, the economy and politics with a special focus on the opportunities and challenges posed by new media and communication technologies.

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## Canadian researchers using cutting edge technology to investigate long-COVID

In a multi-site study funded by the Ontario COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund, scientists discovered a clue into the cause of post-acute COVID-19 syndrome (PACS), also known as long-COVID. Led by Grace Parraga, Professor and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair at Western University, researchers used [novel lung imaging techniques to investigate gas exchange in the lungs of people suffering from long-COVID](#). This exploratory study used hyperpolarized xenon-129 magnetic resonance imaging (HP 129Xe MRI) and computed tomography (CT) scans to visualize the flow of oxygen through the lungs and where it is blocked.

The use of the HP 129Xe MRI technology is based on the technique co-invented by **Dr. Mitchell Albert**, Lakehead University—Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute Research Chair in Molecular Imaging and Advanced Diagnostics. As a graduate student at The State University of New York at Stony Brook, Albert co-invented this powerful diagnostic technology that allows you to see how the lungs are functioning in real time. Since then it has been applied to several important biomedical areas, including this study.

Albert's team at Lakehead University / Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute is one of five sites conducting research for this study. In this collaborative study, the impaired pulmonary transfer has been correlated to pulmonary vascular changes detected by CT scanning. This initial discovery is important as in order to develop treatment options for patients with long-COVID, the source of the issue must be identified.

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## The Claude E. Garton Herbarium's digital collection public launch



Explore the Claude E. Garton's collection of the phenomenal floral found in Northwestern Ontario at <https://lkhdcollections.lakeheadu.ca>.

Since the inception of the Claude E. Garton Herbarium (LKHD) at Lakehead University in 1967, dedicated amateur and professional botanists have entrusted us with over 115,000 preserved plant samples from around the world. The tireless work of these collectors driven by a deep seeded love of botany and the natural world have honoured us with the duty of care of over 200 years of botanical history.

Thanks in large part to Dr. Qing (Jason) Zou, Head of Digital Initiatives, Lakehead University Library, we are elated to announce the first portions of our collections fully digitized and available to the public. The first portions of the C.E.G. Herbarium's collection of over 33,000 flora from Northwestern Ontario are now available to view online, including our complete regional NW Ontario gymnosperm (conifer trees) and pteridophyte (fern) collections along with many astounding regional angiosperm (flowering plants) families.

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## The Royal Society of Canada

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC) and its members have included Lakehead University's **Dr. Charles Levkoe** among the incoming class of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Dr. Levkoe, Canada Research Chair in Equitable and Sustainable Food Systems and Associate Professor in the Department of Health Sciences, is one of more than 50 new Members of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, which includes top mid-career leaders in Canada. The College provides the RSC with a multi-generational capacity to help Canada and the world address major challenges and seize new opportunities including those identified in emerging fields.

Dr. Levkoe is the fourth Lakehead professor to be included in the class of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

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## Silas Young receives Robert Poulin Award for outstanding citizenship

Silas Young is the recipient of this year's Robert Poulin Award, presented to a full-time Lakehead University student for outstanding citizenship.

Graduating this year with his HBComm in Accounting, Silas is the founder and chair of ASSIST, which stands for Assisting International Students Together.

Silas founded the group, built the team, and achieved the not-for profit incorporation while drawing on community support. He created ASSIST to provide essential support to Thunder Bay's international student community.

Since 1952, Lakehead University has presented the Robert Poulin Award annually to a full-time student selected by their fellows, the faculty and administration, for contributing most to the welfare of the University through student activities. Lakehead named the Robert Poulin Award after an outstanding Forestry graduate from the Lakehead Technical Institute who died at the age of 20 due to a workplace accident.

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*Silas Young, right, and his classmate Stephanus Appoh served food at ASSIST, the Welcome Home Holiday Dinner.*

## Natural Resources Management student team wins CIF Annual Quiz Bowl

Each year, students compete in the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) annual student Quiz bowl; a fun, all-things-forest trivia competition with student groups from different forest-related schools across Canada. And after several rounds of head-to-head quizzing, our Lakehead Natural Resources Management student team won out and took first place in the 2022 CIF quiz bowl.

Congratulations to **Andrew Base, Dylan Cole, Stephanie Davidson and Wren Mangelli** on their well-deserved victory!

The students had a great time, met a lot of great, interesting people and made connections with industry leaders from across the country; taking the initiative to meet with and ask the tough questions of speakers, presenters and knowledgeable professionals.







## Lakehead University's Steel Bridge Team brings home two awards from National Finals

Five Engineering students from Lakehead University travelled to Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA to compete in the ASCE/AISC Student Steel Bridge National Finals on May 27 and 28.

The 2022 team, led by Dr. Yanglin Gong, includes Damien Grayda, Paul Graham, Matthew Scott, Felix LaSalle, and Philip Duke.

The competition was held over two days with bridges from 34 North American universities being judged on aesthetics, construction speed, lightness, stiffness, construction economy, structural efficiency, overall performance, and cost estimation.

The team placed 11th overall and brought back two awards: second in lightness and second in cost estimation. Lakehead came first out of the Canadian teams in overall ranking, ahead of the University of British Columbia, which placed 14th.

In the regional competition hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign in April, the Lakehead team won first overall, and qualified for the national finals. In total, about 150 universities competed in 20 regional conferences. Among them, 35 teams were invited to the National Finals.

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*From left, Matthew Scott, Felix LaSalle, Damien Grayda, Philip Duke, and Paul Graham demonstrate why their bridge came second in lightness.*



## \$1 million CIHR grant supports University-City Partnerships

A \$1 million grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) aims to improve local health outcomes for residents of Thunder Bay and Ottawa through partnership between academic researchers, universities, and municipalities.

NOSM University and Lakehead University are collaborating with the University of Ottawa and the City of Ottawa to address locally identified health and safety priorities. Recognized globally, the [CityStudio](#) framework of city-campus collaboration encourages post-secondary students to be agents of change for social accountability in their communities.

Thunder Bay will receive \$370K over four years to implement the project, which includes the hiring of a research coordinator. The funding will also evaluate the reciprocal relationship between cities and academic institutions and their ability to improve population health outcomes.

Thunder Bay and Ottawa share many challenges and factors closely linked to the social determinants of health in the areas of poverty, education, housing, racism, childhood experiences, and access to health services.

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## Local and Global Partnerships

### PDAC Alumni & Friends Breakfast

On June 13, the Alumni Association of Lakehead University in partnership with the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Lakehead University PDAC Breakfast with guest speaker, Joel Hrominchuk from BHP. His presentation highlighted how Lakehead University, Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario were fundamental to shaping his career success.



*(From left to right) Dr. Pete Hollings, CESME Director - Lakehead University; Paul Popo-Ola, Vice-President, Alumni Association of Lakehead University; Joel Hrominchuk, Head of Geosciences, Metal Exploration - BHP; Dr. Moira McPherson, President and Vice-Chancellor - Lakehead University; Eric Zakrewski, CEO, Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC)*





## **Lakehead partners with Rennes School of Business to offer International Dual Degree Program**

The Faculty of Business Administration at Lakehead University in Canada has partnered with the Rennes School of Business in France to offer a unique international learning opportunity for students at both institutions. Participating students from Lakehead who complete the International Dual Degree Program will earn two degrees in four years (one from Lakehead and one from Rennes).

Lakehead students will go on a year-long exchange in third year before returning to Lakehead to complete their studies. Upon graduation, they will receive both an Honours Bachelor of Commerce from Lakehead and a Bachelor in Management from Rennes School of Business.

Students who come from Rennes to Lakehead in their third year will earn a Bachelor of Administration from Lakehead before returning to France to earn the Bachelor in Management from Rennes.

For more information about the program: [www.lakeheadu.ca/internationaldualdegree](http://www.lakeheadu.ca/internationaldualdegree).

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## **Hands-on STEAM Learning Opportunities for Indigenous Youth in Northern Ontario**

NORDIK Institute is launching its new Aki Kikinomakaywin (Learning on the land) program, which offers hands-on, Indigenous science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) training for Indigenous youth. Aki Kikinomakaywin is a women and Indigenous-led program that teaches Indigenous youth from Northern Ontario First Nation communities Indigenous ways of knowing and being through learning on the land through the use of western science techniques.

Aki Kikinomakaywin ran the week-long camp in Thunder Bay at Lakehead University and Confederation College this summer 2022. The program is free to youth ages 12-14 and covers all costs for accommodation, transportation, and food. In future years, programs will run in both Thunder Bay and Sault Ste Marie, Ontario.

Youth participating in the program will learn from local Elders, Water Walkers, and Knowledge Holders about Indigenous water laws and governance, as well as how to complete an Indigenous Impact Assessment using Indigenous ways of knowing and being. Participants will also learn how to code sensors to collect environmental data and learn how western science techniques can be used to support Indigenous science, while also becoming more confident in university and college settings.

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



## Lakehead hosts India's Consul General

Lakehead University had the pleasure of hosting Apoorva Srivastava, India's Consul General in Toronto, on the Thunder Bay campus the afternoon of Wednesday, July 27.

Over the course of the visit, Lakehead organized a campus tour and hosted a meeting with Dr. David Barnett, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), members from the Office of Research and Innovation and Lakehead International, and faculty members from India. Consul General Srivastava was introduced to various ongoing faculty-level research collaborations with institutions in India, and we highlighted Lakehead's commitment to providing excellent support to students from India throughout their academic journey.



## Lakehead University Orillia hosts a Tipi Raising Gathering

In honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day, Lakehead University Orillia hosted a Tipi Raising Gathering on Saturday, June 18. The day began with a Sunrise Ceremony on campus, followed by crafting, flint knapping, wampum teaching, drum teaching, and more.

Elder Jimmy Dick will shared Tipi Teachings, and together helped Lakehead raised the tipi with the community. This event was presented in partnership with Mamaway Wiidokdaadwin, and was funded in part by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

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## **Anishinaabe Kendaasiwin Institute supports Indigenous self-determination in Northwestern Ontario**

The Anishinaabe Kendaasiwin Institute (AKI) was launched on Monday, May 30 at Lakehead University.

“Anishinaabe Kendaasiwin” – which loosely translates to “Anishnaabe knowledge systems” – is central to the mandate of AKI, which seeks to support mino-bimaadiziwin among Anishinaabe peoples, nations and territories through research that is situated in Anishinaabe Kendaasiwin and good relationships.

The Institute seeks to privilege Anishinaabe ways of knowing and being in research, to advance research excellence defined by Anishinaabe peoples and principles, to expand and support Indigenous governed and driven research and to support community building and mobilization between Indigenous peoples.

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## Entrepreneurship and Innovation

### Lakehead's Ascend Accelerator grads show off entrepreneurial spirit

On July 22, Lakehead University celebrated the graduation of its second cohort from the Ascend Accelerator boot-camp-style program hosted by the Ingenuity incubator space, which helps entrepreneurs turn their business ideas into reality. Along with receiving funding provided by FedNor, participants in the student-based business ventures received mentorship and weekly workshops. They were held accountable to milestone goals created over the 12-week Ascend program.

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



Participants, from left, included Derek Patterson, Gavin Shields, Esther Ukiomogbe, Christopher Silver, and Maxwell Robinson. Missing from the photo is Zak Williams.

### Lakehead and Shaw Spotlight announce new research talk show

Lakehead University is partnering with Shaw Spotlight on a new Community Link television program that will connect the public with university researchers. *Research Matters*, a monthly 30-minute talk show, will be hosted by Lakehead's **Dr. Andrew P. Dean**, Vice-President of Research and Innovation, and have university researchers share their journeys and research outcomes with the public.

The program will feature interviews with Lakehead researchers from a broad spectrum of disciplines – from natural sciences, engineering, and health to social sciences and humanities. Through conversation, the show will examine the context of research, explore community connections and industry partners, and delve into the relevance and potential impact on society from a regional, national, and international perspective.

The series is streaming on [Lakehead's YouTube channel](#).

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From left... Dr. Andrew Dean, VPRI with Dr. Elaine Wiersma, Associate Professor, Department of Health Sciences and the Associate Director, Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health and Bill Heibein, Member, North West Dementia Working Group.