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Master of Education Newsletter

FALL 2021 VOL 10 NO 4



Faculty of Education

Contact: 902-867-3906

Toll Free: 877-867-3906

Email: med@stfx.ca

FALL CONVOCATION December 4, 2021

See page 3 for more
information

X-RING December 3, 2021

[Click here for info](#)

**Frustrated when
courses are
cancelled?**

**Register early to
avoid possible
cancellation of
courses!**

**See page 4 for more
information.**



As the light gives way to longer, darker days during the Fall term, I seek hopeful examples, specifically how it emerges in educational research and school contexts. In the previous newsletter, I closed with the words of author, Shane Lopez (2014), who in the text, *Making Hope Happen: Create the Future you Want for Yourself and Others*, argues:

Hope matters.

Hope is a choice.

Hope can be learned.

Hope can be shared with others

Knowing that recent events across this nation at former Indian Residential Schools continue to be felt, compounded by the constraints of the pandemic, situating the work you do as graduate students in the Master of Education (MEd) program, as hopeful, is particularly important. The pursuit of a MEd degree provides opportunities, for not only the development of knowledge and skill, but also for possibilities in which you imagine, and acknowledge, equity education in your schools and communities. Seeing yourself in new ways about what you have done, and what you might do, are hopeful acts.

Viewing hope as a disposition towards action, and as a cumulative inclination, suggests hope can be cultivated. The good news is one does not have to look far to find such examples. In December, StFX will return to in-person ceremonies for both X-Ring and Fall Convocation. On December 4th (3:00pm start), 156 students will receive their MEd degrees. Amongst this group are individuals who, along with degree requirements, have successfully completed concentrations in Culturally Relevant Pedagogy, Early Elementary Pedagogy, Inclusive Education, Mental Health Education, and Outdoor Education. Also, are individuals¹ who successfully defended their MEd thesis, Anthony MacPherson, Emily Pope, Eric Marois, and Ronji Situ, and who completed their MEd project, Lenore O'Rahilly and Marilyn Carey.

Each day I am reminded that hopeful acts happen in and outside classrooms. Chief Andrea Paul, a MEd student in the Indigenous Education concentration cohort, was recently interviewed¹ by Jeff Douglas of CBC's Mainstreet NS. In this interview, Chief Paul describes the community's first storytelling night event. The event is called L'nui'sultinej and it was created so Elders in the community can share stories in the Mi'kmaq language. I encourage you to make the time to listen and consider the positive ripple effects such an event holds. <Continued on next page>

Alongside the hopeful work of graduate students, StFX Faculty continue to learn in their efforts to better consider and implement inclusive pedagogies in classrooms. October is Mi'kmaq History Month¹ and October 1st is Treaty Day in Nova Scotia. This, was the first Treaty Day to be formally acknowledged within our Faculty of Education, guided by the wisdom and experience of Elder Jane Meader, who urged us to think about and make visible the many contributions of Indigenous peoples to our collective humanity. In early November, a continuation of the *Black Students Matter Fall Teaching Retreat*¹ (days four and five) was held, which included keynote speakers, Dr. Carl James (York University) and Dr. Joy Mighty (Carleton University). In addition to these events, inside the Faculty of Education, Visiting Elder, Sr. Dorothy Moore, provides ongoing opportunities for StFX Faculty to discuss and consider ways to acknowledge, honour, and infuse Indigenous perspectives and contributions into course syllabi, teaching practices, and to our MEd program goals¹.

Over the coming months, I encourage you to share with me your stories of hope. We can all do with hearing about, and celebrating, hopeful acts that allow our schools and communities to thrive.

Wishing you a peaceful, and rejuvenating, holiday season. Please do not hesitate in contacting me, or Rhiannon Smith, if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Jennifer

Email: jmitton@stfx.ca

¹ My thanks and appreciation to faculty members who served as thesis and project advisors: Drs. Katarin MacLeod, Leo MacDonald, Jennifer Mitton, Laura-Lee Kearns, and Lori McKee.

² Mainstreet NS with Jeff Douglas and Chief Andre Paul Interview: https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-37-mainstreet-ns/clip/15873262-pictou-landing-first-nation-introduces-mikmaw-storytelling-nights?fbclid=IwAR2_cKvE3K4jH3VLL--RjhkXZaV2I4ANXiDEvLXHCC991cNhBwejX3aAUrE

³ <https://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>

⁴ Special mention to Faculty of Education members, Drs. Mackey and Lunney Borden, who were involved in the planning and facilitation of the event.

⁵ Program Goals of the StFX Master of Education

1. To develop future leaders to improve education.
2. To prepare leaders for educational change.
3. To engage in critical reflection.
4. To challenge assumptions and introduce new thinking.
5. To cultivate educational inquirers and researchers.

Technology Tips & Tricks

Do you have two (or more) Office 365 accounts?

It can be a little cumbersome logging in and out of Office 365 for more than one account. We recommend as a best practice to use different browsers to avoid logging in and out. For example, when using a Mac, Safari is the preferred browser. For alternatives you can use Chrome or Chrome-based browsers. Microsoft Edge (Edge for Mac) and Chrome Canary are great chrome-based browsers if you are comfortable with Chrome layout. The other advantage to separate browsers is you can create a bookmarks bar specific to StFX courses with a new browser.

- Download Chrome - <https://bit.ly/chrome4stfx>
- Download Chrome Canary - <https://bit.ly/canary4stfx>
- Download Edge (For Mac) - <https://bit.ly/edge4stfx>

That's all there is to it!

Library Tips & Tricks

Different ways to receive virtual research help

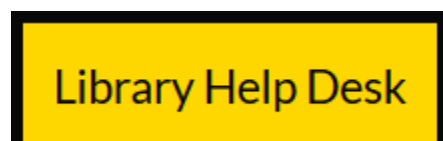
The librarians at StFX are continuing to work virtually and remotely for the Fall 2020 semester. During this time, we offer multiple ways to receive virtual research help depending on your availability and individual needs.

1. Book a one-on-one virtual appointment with myself, **Meghan Landry**:
<https://stfx.libcal.com/appointments/meghanlandry>.

I offer 3 different types of research appointments: 20 minute sessions for quick database help; 30 minute sessions for a general or beginner research consultation; or 45 minute sessions for advanced research help.



2. If you have a quick or general question, and prefer to speak to a StFX librarian: **StFX Library Help Desk**. This online help desk is staffed Monday to Friday, 1-4pm Atlantic time. The icon is located in the bottom-right corner on the Library homepage:



3. If you have a quick question that you need answered as soon as possible: **Novanet Live Help**. It is staffed by Novanet librarians (all across Nova Scotia). The hours are:

Monday - Thursday 10am - 10pm
Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday No Service
Sunday 4pm - 10pm

You can access Live Help here:

<http://www2.mystfx.ca/library/need-help>

Student Handbooks

- Master of Education Student Handbook
- Thesis and Project Guidelines
- Academic Writing <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/handbooks>
- Guide to Graduate Studies
- StFX Academic Calendar

Important Information

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS for Master of Education students: <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>

- What is the refund policy?
 - How do I register for a course?
 - How do I request a transcript?
 - How do I request an official receipt for tuition?
 - How do I apply to graduate?
 - And many more...
- **X-RING ELLIGIBILITY:** <https://www.stfx.ca/alumni/everything-x-ring/x-ring-information>
- **DROPPING A COURSE** 2 weeks prior to the start date will result in an automatic charge of \$100.00. Please see the refund policy under Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>
- **EDUC 569 SELECTED TOPICS:** Students may register for as many 569s as their elective requirements allow, provided the course title for each is different.
- **STUDENT STATUS:** If your student status changes for any reason, please notify the program office at med@stfx.ca
- **ASYNCHRONOUS:** Asynchronous e-learning is an interactive, student-centered approach to learning that is not bounded by geography or time.
- **CORE COURSES:** Non-Cohort students are encouraged to take core courses first. Please visit the FAQ's for a list.

Fall 2021 Convocation Information

Saturday December 4, 2021

See Frequently Asked Questions for instructions on how to apply.

<https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>

If you have any questions please contact Wendy Hayne in the Registrar's Office at whayne@stfx.ca

Seats are still available in the following winter and spring courses

****In accordance with section 2.1.6 of the university calendar, students with a balance of fees owing from a previous term will not be permitted to register in a subsequent term or receive official university transcripts.****

Winter 2022

EDUC 508.66: Critical Research Literacy in Education (CRN: 56928)

Tuesdays, 7-10 pm

January 11 – March 29, 2022 (No class on March 15) + 3 hours TBD

EDUC 510.66: Restorative Approaches in Educational Settings (CRN: 56929)

Mondays, 7-10 pm

January 10 – March 28, 2022 (No class on March 14) + 3 hours TBD

EDUC 527.66: Principles of Learning (CRN: 56930)

Wednesdays, 7-10 pm

January 12 – March 30, 2022 (No class on March 16) + 3 hours TBD

Spring 2022

EDUC 529.66: School and Teaching Effectiveness (CRN: 12601)

Mondays, 7-10 pm

April 4 – June 6, 2022 (No class May 23) + 9 hours TBD

EDUC 536.66: Program Development (CRN: 12602)

Tuesdays, 7-10 pm

April 5 – June 7, 2022 + 6 hours TBD

EDUC 562.66: Contemporary Issues in Educational Administration Theory (CRN: 12603)

Thursdays, 7-10 pm

April 7 – June 9, 2022 + 6 hours TBD

[For full descriptions, click here.](#)

Have you applied for Spring 2022 Convocation?

If you plan to graduate at the Spring 2022 Convocation, you need to **apply now** by completing the Application for Graduation form on Banner Self Service. If you have already applied, please check your convocation status to ensure that your name, degree and hometown are correct.

Students who do not apply to graduate cannot be considered for convocation.

If you have any questions please contact Wendy Hayne in the Registrar's Office at whayne@stfx.ca

See Frequently Asked Questions for instructions on how to apply.

<https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>