



To the campus community,

As we prepare for the planned study day and Easter holiday weekend, I write to share some exciting news: by this fall, we plan to be back to 100 percent in-class learning, living in residences at full capacity, and enjoying eating in meal hall with minimal restrictions.

Why do we feel this way?

Over the last year, we were successful in leading the country in providing the highest in-person classroom learning opportunities. With the vaccine rollouts happening in Nova Scotia and across the country, based on projections from provincial health officials, we have every reason to believe the public health outlook will continue improving towards the fall and have an expectation that herd immunity will be achieved by the fall semester.

Obviously, this wonderful news must be tempered with some caution should public health's projections and expectations for the vaccine rollout and ensuring herd immunity not be realized. We commit to keeping the StFX community updated over the months ahead.

In the meantime, with only a handful of weeks until the end of exams, let's ensure we finish the year strong and continue to do our part in keeping ourselves and the community safe. This Easter weekend:

- Limit your travel. With the variant strain in the province, the best thing to do is stay within the Antigonish Bubble.
- Keep following standards for health and wellbeing including mask wearing, regular handwashing, and social distancing; and
- Limit your social interactions to the same group of 10 people.

I also encourage you to receive one of the COVID-19 vaccines as soon as you are eligible to do so.

The outlook for this fall is promising. It is exciting to think about returning to a more normal teaching, learning, and living experience. Until that time, please do everything in your power to keep yourselves and your fellow community members safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Andy

Andy W. Hakin PhD
President and Vice-Chancellor
St Francis Xavier University