



July 24, 2020

To the StFX Community,

After 14 days of isolation, I am pleased to report that I am nearing completion of the return-to-campus protocols and will soon have earned my green bracelet, able to finally make my way to campus and around Antigonish. It will be truly wonderful to be able to explore our new community. On behalf of my wife Linda and I, thank you to all for the messages of support and warm welcome to date. In addition to expressing our thanks, I wish to take this opportunity to provide a few updates regarding the continuing development of StFX's plans for the fall.

Over the last several weeks, we've had very productive meetings with various stakeholders, including members of the Town and County of Antigonish, representatives from the local medical community, parents, students, faculty and staff, and the list goes on. I am impressed by the level of engagement our community has demonstrated time and time again. The amount of effort that has been invested, the questions that are asked in response to our plans, and the level of commitment to doing all we can to ensure we are welcoming students in a safe fashion is inspiring. In the instance of a new challenge, I've witnessed many step up to help contribute to the solution. It provides me with great confidence.

Such early impressions of confidence and commitment to solving issues before us includes the work of the Students' Union around the MOU relating to our respective commitments on health and safety issues and student access and supports. Next week, my senior executive colleagues along with the executive team of the Students' Union are co-hosting information town halls for our students to review return-to-campus matters including the draft MOU.

Please know that we are committed to providing avenues for continued discussion. In fact, the frequency of our interactive, online sessions will increase as we move toward September. Our plans are detailed and can evolve as new guidance and information becomes available from Public Health. I appreciate that the changing landscape can result in questions about our plans. Please watch for details related to these sessions in the days ahead.

Earlier this week, we announced that we have transitioned into Phase II of our reopening plan and are ready to welcome more staff and faculty back to campus. Please remember that we are encouraging those who are looking to return to campus, to plan on completing your return-to-

campus training modules and target your return date during the week of August 10 – 14. Also don't forget that masks are mandatory. For more information, please visit our [Occupational Health and Safety website](#).

We have a lot of work to do, but by working together, we will achieve our goals. I look forward to seeing many of you on campus soon. It's great to finally be with you.

Andy

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