

A large crowd of people at a festival, many with their arms raised in the air, wearing headphones and wristbands. The background is a light blue gradient.

WELCOME WEEK AND X-FEST SCHEDULE

Pjila'si | Bienvenue | Welcome



St. Francis Xavier University stands on the lands of Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded home of the Mi'kmaw. We express our deep gratitude and appreciation to the generations of Mi'kmaw who, since time immemorial, have loved and stewarded these lands and the beings who call them home.

Colonization is not just history; it exists in the present. While we strive to decolonize ourselves and our institution, we know there is still much for us to learn. We are committed to doing the hard work of self-reflection and to repairing relationships with the Mi'kmaw on whose lands we reside, including embracing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and embodying their spirit in our day-to-day lives.

Ms~t wiaqpulti'kl ankukamkewe'l | We are all treaty people

We welcome you with open arms to our campus community. This is only the beginning in a chapter of your life and your time here will prove to be incredibly meaningful. This booklet will provide you with a guide to the orientation events, locations, and times for the month of September. We strongly encourage that you attend these activities as it will allow you the chance to meet your fellow classmates, professors, Community Advisors, and the staff here at the University.

Welcome to StFX

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Campus Map.....	3
August 28 - <i>International Student Orientation</i>	6
August 28 - <i>Relaxed Start and Community Connections</i>	7
August 29/30- <i>Residence Move-In</i>	8-11
August 31 - REACH Day	12
September 1 - <i>Academic Day</i>	14-23
September 1-Xaverian Welcome.....	14
September 2 - First Day of Classes.....	24
September 3 - X-Fest Kick Off with Jason Cyrus.....	26
September 4/5 - Mobile Vaccine Clinic.....	27
September 4 - Sports & Rec Showcase.....	28
September 4 - Welcome Home Tent Event for all Students.....	28
September 5 - Pep Rally and Varsity Football Game.....	29
September 5 - Headphone Disco.....	29
September 6 - Sunday Funday.....	30
September 6 - Opening Mass.....	30
September 7 - Drag Show Sex Toy Bingo	31
September 10-16 - More Ways to Connect.....	32-33





ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
UNIVERSITY



Denotes parking available



Denotes no parking available

In your timetable the buildings are referenced by acronyms

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Xavier Hall (XH) and Alumni House
A) Alumni House | 7. Mount Saint Bernard (MSB)
A) Immaculata Hall
B) Camden Hall
C) Marguerite Hall
D) Gilmora Hall | 9. Nicholson Tower (NT)
10. Annex
12. J. Bruce Brown Hall (JBB)
30. Nasso Family Science Center
36. Coady International Institute
37. Markin Global Complex
38. Fine Arts Building |
| 2. McKenna Centre (north entrance) | | |
| 3. Schwartz School (SCHW) | | |
| 5. St. Ninian's Place (SNP) | | |
| 6. Angus L. Macdonald Library | 8. Mulroney Hall | |

Accessibility Map Available <https://www.stfx.ca/map>

RESIDENCES

- 7. Mount Saint Bernard (MSB)
- 14. MacIsaac Hall
- 16. FX Hall
- 20. Governors Hall
- 22. Somers Hall
- 23. Power Hall

- 26. Bishops Hall
- 28. MacKinnon Hall
- 33. Cameron Hall
- 39. O'Regan Hall
- 40. Riley Hall

ADMINISTRATION & OTHER

- 4. St. Ninian's Cathedral
- 5. St. Ninian's Place (SNP)
- 8. Prayer Space (First Floor Mulroney Hall)
- 9. Nicholson Tower (NT)
Recruitment and Admissions Office
- 13. Bloomfield Centre
- 15. MacDonald Hall

- 24. Exercise Science Centre
- 25. StFX Observatory
- 27. University Chapel
- 28. MacKinnon Hall
A) Business Office
- 31. Services Building (5005 Chapel Square)
Safety and Security Services

SPORTS AND RECREATION

- 17. Alumni Aquatic Centre
- 18. Amelia Saputo Centre for Healthy Living

- 19. Charles V. Keating Centre
- 29. Bauer Theatre

DINING SERVICES

- 32. Morrison Hall



ORIENTATION WEEK SCHEDULE



AUGUST 28

International Student Orientation

International Student Orientation (ISO) is a mandatory program for all new international students. This is also a great opportunity to make friends and meet the students and staff here to support you throughout your first year. Lunch is included!

9:00am-10:00am Breakfast and Registration (Morrison Hall)

Get the day started strong with breakfast and a chance to meet fellow new international students, student leaders, and StFX President and Vice-Chancellor Andy Hakin and Mrs. Linda Hakin.

10:00am-10:30am Remarks on Mi'kma'ki

A formal welcome to Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw, with Indigenous Student Advisor, Cynthia Sewell.

10:45am-12:00pm International Student Orientation (Barrick Auditorium)

This session will cover essential information such as on- and off-campus resources, how to use your health insurance, working in Canada, and much more.

12:00pm-1:00m Lunch (Morrison Hall)



1:00pm-3:00pm Amazing Race StFX

Meet back at the Barrick Auditorium in Mulroney Centre for some more fun activities and to participate in the Amazing Race StFX.

3:00pm-5:45pm International Student Orientation Cont.

The second half of orientation will build off of the morning session.

AUGUST 28

Relaxed Start and Community Connections

12:00pm - 4:00pm Residence Check-In (Pre-Registration Required)

Students who registered for Relaxed Start or Community Connections may check in at the Keating Centre between 12:00pm and 4:00pm.

At the check-in, you will receive your Student ID card (if you have submitted a photo in advance), your access to residence, and meet some of the Human Rights and Equity Advisors.

3:00pm-5:00pm Community Connections (Various Locations)

Community Connections welcomes incoming Indigenous, Black, International and/or 2SLGBTQIA+ students. The goal of this event is to foster community building within these student groups before Welcome Day and Orientation activities.

5:30pm-8:00pm Community Connections Dinner (MacKay Room)

Join us for a special dinner to continue the connection and a chance to win some prizes!



AUGUST 29

Cameron, FX , MSB, and Riley Hall

Check-In Before Going to
Residence!

8:00am - 4:00pm Residence Check-In

Students moving into Cameron, FX, MSB, and Riley Hall as well as mature students, will be assigned a check-in time in advance.

Check-in at the Keating Centre begins with meeting the President, Dr. Andy Hakin and Mrs. Linda Hakin.

Afterwards, you will confirm your arrival with the Registrar's office, pick up your Student ID, confirm you are registered with X-ACT, check in with Housing (if you are living in residence), register for easy access to the Health and Counselling Centre, visit with Accessible Learning, and a few other important supports to set you up for success.

Once you have checked in, you can make payments or inquiries about your Student Account and chat with the Financial Aid Office, purchase a parking pass, if needed, and pick up your X-Fest kit and find out about the Health and Dental plan offered by the StFX Students' Union.



Residence Orientation

Residence orientation and fun activities. Your Community Advisor (CA) will tell you about what is happening in your building and across campus. See below for your time and location:

MSB: 6:00pm MSB 225

FX Hall: 6:00pm in FX Lounge

Riley Hall: 6:00pm in Barrick Auditorium

Cameron Hall: 7:00pm in the Barrick Auditorium



AUGUST 30

Bishops, MacIsaac, MacKinnon and Off-Campus

Check-In Before Going
to Residence!

8:00am-4:00pm On Campus Check-In

Students moving into Bishops, MacIsaac, and Mackinnon, as well as off-campus students, will be assigned a check-in time in advance.

Check-in at the Keating Centre begins with meeting the President, Dr. Andy Hakin and Mrs. Linda Hakin.

Afterwards, you will confirm your arrival with the Registrar's office, pick up your Student ID, confirm you are registered with X-ACT, check in with Housing (if you are living in residence), register for easy access to the Health and Counselling Centre, visit with Accessible Learning, and a few other important supports to set you up for success.

Once you have checked in, you can make payments or inquiries about your Student Account and chat with the Financial Aid Office, purchase a parking pass, if needed, and pick up your X-Fest kit and find out about the Health and Dental plan offered by the StFX Students' Union.

11:30am - 1:30pm Brunch (Morrison Hall)

Students from Cameron, FX , MSB, and Riley Hall can head over to Morrison Hall for brunch.



4:30pm - 5:30pm First Community Meeting (Off-Campus)

Off-campus students meet outside at the Flag Plaza at Bloomfield with the student leaders who will guide you during the weekend's activities. From there, we will head as a group up to Wellspring, which will be the central hub and meeting space just for off-campus students throughout the weekend!

5:30pm - 7:00pm Welcome BBQ (Memorial Field)

A Huge BBQ will be served outside for everyone; your residence leadership team will direct you after your community meeting.

7:00pm - 10:00pm X Photo & PUMP (StFX Stadium)

PUMP (People Up Meeting People) is your chance to break the ice, make new friends, and kick off your university experience with a burst of energy! Get ready for a fast-paced, high-energy event packed with fun activities, great conversations, and plenty of opportunities to connect with fellow new students. Come ready to laugh, mingle, and meet the people who could become your best friends, study buddies, and teammates for the year ahead!



AUGUST 31

REACH Day

REACH Day is your chance to meet new people, have some fun, and start discovering what it means to be part of the StFX community. Throughout the day, you'll connect with other students, get to know the people and services here to support you, and explore how we can create a community where everyone feels welcome, included and respected.

9:00am - 10:45am Welcome Breakfast (Keating Main Arena)

Kick off your first full day at StFX with an amazing pancake breakfast, great energy and a big Xaverian welcome!

Come hungry, bring your energy and get ready to start your Xaverian journey together!

11:00am - 4:00pm REACH Day Sessions (Schwartz and Mulroney)

REACH - an acronym for Respect, Empowerment, Awareness, Community, and Harm Reduction - reflects the core values that define us as members of the StFX community.

As part of your transition to university life, all incoming students are expected to attend three REACH sessions. These sessions are peer-led, offering a unique opportunity to learn directly from student leaders who will warmly welcome you into the Xaverian community. They'll share insights, experiences, and ways you can contribute your own unique voice to campus life.

Your CA or O-Crew Leader will give you the REACH schedule for your residence or group. Sessions start at 11:00am and include lunch at Morrison Hall.

Residence Orientation

Residence orientation and fun activities. Your CA will tell you about what is happening in your building and across campus. See below for your time and location:

MacIsaac: 6:30pm Schwartz Auditorium

Bishops Hall: 6:30pm in Barrick Auditorium

Mackinnon Hall: 6:30pm MSB 225

O'Regan Hall: 6:00pm 4th floor lounge

Governors Hall: 7:00pm 2nd floor lounge central

8:00pm - 10:00 Field Party (Field behind Keating Centre)

Get ready for an exciting evening packed with energy, laughter, and opportunities to connect with your fellow Xaverians! Join us outdoors for a high-energy experience filled with interactive activities, music, and plenty of fun. This is your chance to build new friendships, embrace the spirit of community, and experience the Xaverian values of connection, inclusion, and engagement.



SEPTEMBER 1

10:30am - 11:30am Academic Day Kick-off (Keating Main Arena)

Come for an introduction to StFX academic services and applications, and to our academic values, by the Academic Success Centre and the Assistant VP Academic. Join us for a chance to have your voice heard on a series of open questions put forward by your students' union VP Academic.

12:30pm-5:00pm Academic Orientation

Check the Academic Day detailed schedule starting on page 15, for your specific program. If you are not sure, ask an O-Crew member, your CA, or any staff or faculty member.

7:30pm Xaverian Welcome Ceremony (Keating Main Arena)

The Xaverian Welcome is a tradition to mark the beginning of your academic journey and becoming a Xaverian. It is a formal event, and you will be provided with academic robes for the ceremony. We recommend business casual and sensible shoes. Faculty and senior administration will welcome you and witness as you pledge your commitment to the Xaverian community values and write a note to your future self to be recovered at your Xaverian Farewell at the end of your journey.

Check with your CA for your gown pick-up time. Off-campus students can pick up gowns at 6:30pm, and procession line-up for everyone is at 7:00pm.



WHAT IS ACADEMIC DAY?

Academic day will focus on setting you up for success in the first few weeks of school with tips on finding classes, support services, books, and key policies. Meet your Dean, explore course options, and learn how to succeed.

Panel presentations will include students, faculty, lab instructors, academic advisors, and representatives of the Academic Success Centre. Get rewarded for showing up! By attending the afternoon panels and presentations, you'll earn an entry into our academic day prize draw. The winners of this draw will receive a StFX Swag Bag to take home!

Join a guided tour of StFX's beautiful campus and visit key areas and stops relevant to your life as a first-year student. These tours will cover academic spaces, student services, and key components of our campus. Find Your Classroom tours will also be available for those looking to locate their specific buildings and classrooms before the first day of classes!

For the detailed schedule, please refer to pages 16-22.

Room Abbreviations

KC: Keating Centre (Conference Rooms)

SCHW: Gerald Schwartz School of Business

MSB: Mount Saint Bernard

MULH: Mulroney Hall

IM: Immaculata Hall

ARTS

Music, PGOV, Social Justice & Humanities

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 1:00PM	Dean of Arts Presentation	KC Conference Rm A/B/C
1:00 - 2:30PM	Panel	KC Conference Rm A/B/C
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1stFloor)

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APPLIED FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 1:15PM	AFP Orientation Session	NFSC 1072
1:15 - 1:45PM	Dean of Arts Presentation	NFSC 1072
1:45 - 2:30pm	AFP Panel & Question Period	NFSC 1072
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1stFloor)

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HUMAN NUTRITION

Time	Event	Location
1:00 - 2:00PM	HNU Q&A	MULH 3022
2:00 - 2:30PM	Dean of Science Presentation	MULH 2070
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

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HEALTH

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 2:00PM	Panel	SCHW 156
2:00- 2:30PM	Dean of Arts Presentation	SCHW 156
2:30 - 4:00pm	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

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BUSINESS

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 1:00PM	Dean of Business Presentation	SCHW 110
1:00 - 2:30PM	Panel	SCHW 110
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

Room Abbreviations

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SCIENCE

Science, BSc with ENGR & Diploma in Engineering, AQUA, CLEN

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 1:00PM	Dean of Science Presentation	IM 114
1:00 - 2:30PM	Panel	IM 114
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

Room Abbreviations

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HUMAN KINETICS

Time	Event	Location
1:30 - 2:00PM	Info Session	MULH 2070
2:00 - 2:30PM	Dean of Science Presentation	MULH 2070
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

Room Abbreviations

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NURSING

Time	Event	Location
12:30 - 2:00PM	Panel	MSB 225
2:00 - 2:30PM	Dean of Science Presentation	MULH 2070
2:30 - 4:00PM	Academic Meet & Greet	MULH Scholar's Walk (2nd Floor) & Joyce Family Atrium (1st Floor)
3:00 - 5:00PM	Find-Your-Classrooms Tour	MULH Atrium Entrance (1st Floor)

Room Abbreviations

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SEPTEMBER 2

First Day of Classes!!

Students begin their Fall term courses.





SEPTEMBER 3



8pm- 10pm X-Fest Kick Off - Jason Cyrus - LIVE! (Keating Centre)

Jason fostered his love for magic and hypnosis at a very young age and is now called “Canada’s Stage Hypnosis KING” by the country’s entertainment capital, Niagara Falls. Jason began touring at the major theatres/casinos across Canada and very quickly had one of the hottest tickets in town.

Audiences are completely blown away by his highly entertaining world class shows coming from everywhere to experience the laughter and thrills. Jason continues to pack the theatres more and more each and every year, and we have him for X-FEST!

This event is only open to incoming students who have bought an X-FEST kit and is hosted by the Student’s Union!



SEPTEMBER 4

12:30pm - 5:30pm Mobile Vaccine Clinic (Keating Centre)

If you have a copy of your immunization record, please bring it with you. If you don't have your records, you're still welcome to attend. Public Health Nurses can review your immunization history, discuss your vaccination needs, and determine which publicly funded vaccines you may be eligible for.

Publicly funded vaccines available at the clinic may include:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap/Td)
- Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR)
- Varicella (Chickenpox)
- Meningococcal vaccines (including Men-B, for those who meet specific eligibility criteria)
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- Hepatitis B (for those who meet specific eligibility criteria)
- Pneumococcal vaccines

A second Public Health immunization clinic will be offered in November for students who need follow-up doses to complete a vaccine series or who wish to receive seasonal vaccines, such as the annual influenza vaccine.



2:00pm - 4:00pm Sports & Recreation Showcase (Outside the Saputo Centre)

Want to learn more about Club Sports, Intramurals and Societies? Come out to our Sports & Recreation Showcase at the Saputo Courtyard from 2-4 pm. We will have answers to the most frequently asked questions, registration information, and much more!

9:00pm- 12:00am Welcome Home Tent Event for all Students - featuring Pineo & Loeb! (Bloomfield Parking Lot)

Hosted by the St.FX Students' Union (not included in your X-Fest Kit)

Our 3rd annual Welcome Home event, this time hosted in a massive outdoor tent in the lower Bloomfield parking lot. This event will feature the amazing DJ duo Pineo & Loeb. Uplifting, Funky, High-Energy & Good Vibes are just a few words that describe Canadian electronic Producer/DJ duo, PINEO & LOEB! Together, they blur genre boundaries, uniting electronic, dance, hip-hop & rock fans alike.

With over 100 shows annually across international hotspots, this dynamic DJ duo thrives on high-octane performances that have rocked festivals like Shambhala, Friendship, Envision, Burning Man, Future Forest and Escapade.

This is a wet/dry event; tickets can be purchased on Showpass. If you are 19+ you will need 2 pieces of government ID to enter the licensed spaces.



SEPTEMBER 5

10:30am - 3:30pm Mobile Vaccine Clinic

See description on page 24



12:00pm Pep Rally and Varsity Football Game (Bloomfield Parking Lot)

Get special early access to be game-day ready before the big StFX vs. SMU football game! Join us for music, face paint, school spirit, and plenty of excitement as we rally together before heading into the game. Be ready to rush the field to the bleachers when the gates open. Wear your blue and white and get loud; let's cheer on the X-Men!

Tickets for the varsity game can still be bought at the box office.

This event is only open to incoming students who have bought an X-FEST kit and is hosted by the Students' Union!



9:00pm - 11:00pm Headphone Disco (Keating Main Arena)

Get ready to dance the night away and celebrate your first week at X! One of our signature X-Fest Events! Headphone Disco is back! We will have the Main Ice surface at the Keating Center kitted out with some of the coolest glow in the dark furniture and have 2 amazing DJ's competing for the room by playing some of the best beats around. Are you Team Red or Team Blue? The only way to find out is to check out X-Fest Headphone Disco! Bring your student ID and your Showpass QR code.

This event is only open to incoming students who have bought an X-FEST kit and is hosted by the Students' Union!



SEPTEMBER 6



2:00pm-5:00pm Sunday Funday (Memorial Field)

You have heard about it, now it is your chance to experience it....Jello slide! Join us on Memorial field in your house shirts to take a slip slide down the Jello slide, a StFX tradition! We will have some massive inflatables - think wipe out and we will also have yard games like spike ball, volleyball and may others. Bring your student ID and your Showpass QR code.

This event is only open to incoming students who have bought an X-FEST kit and is hosted by the Students' Union!

Opening Mass 5:00pm (St.FX Chapel)

All students who wish to attend are warmly invited to the Catholic Opening Mass.

StFX welcomes students of all religious, spiritual and secular identities. Throughout X-Fest, we encourage you to make time for the religious observances, spiritual practices or personal reflection that are important to you, whether they take place on Sunday or another day.

Antigonish and the surrounding area are home to a vibrant variety of faith communities offering worship, programs, outreach and opportunities for connection. Visit <https://www.stfx.ca/student-services/support-services/chaplaincy/places-worship-stfx/worship-antigonish> for local faith communities, service times and contact information.



SEPTEMBER 7

X-Fest Drag Show Sex Toy Bingo 7:00pm -10:00pm (Keating Centre)

This is an event where students play bingo (cards and tokens provided at the event) to win a variety of prizes, including sex toys! Both the Bingo and Drag hosts will dazzle the audience with essential tips, tricks and information through musical performances and comedy routines, often bringing the audience to tears (of laughter). It's also a lighthearted way to help us more safely navigate a reality that some students may be choosing as a new part of life.

This event is only open to incoming students who have bought an X-FEST kit and is hosted by the Students' Union!



MORE WAYS TO CONNECT

Society Night Sept. 10th, 5:00pm - Scholars Walk in Mulroney Hall

Discover the many ways to get involved at StFX! Meet representatives from a wide variety of student societies, learn about their events and activities, ask questions, and find groups that match your interests. Whether you're looking to explore a new hobby, meet like-minded people, or get involved on campus, Society Night is the perfect place to start.

Saturday Socials 8:00pm-Midnight (Golden X INN)

Head to the INN for Saturday Socials, a series of exciting events designed to bring students together through food, music, games, mocktails, and unforgettable fun. It's the perfect chance to meet new people and experience everything student life has to offer in a welcoming and energetic atmosphere.

Join us on September 12th for our first event of the year, Squishmallow Bingo! With great prizes, lots of laughs, and plenty of opportunities to connect, it's the ultimate way to start your semester. Follow us on Instagram to stay up to date on future Saturday Socials and special events!

Chill Spaces (Diversity and Engagement Lounge, 4th Floor Bloomfield)

The Chill Spaces is a low-key, low-stimulus, quieter space in the Diversity Engagement Centre, 4th floor Bloomfield, available on a drop-in basis for students who want a break from the action during Welcome Days!

August 28th 7:00pm – 11:00pm

August 29th 11:00am – 3:00pm

August 30th 11:00am – 3:00pm

August 31st 6:00pm – 11:00pm



Opportunities Fair September 16th 9:30am –2:30pm (MacKay Room, Bloomfield 3rd Floor)

Explore your future at the annual Opportunities Fair, hosted by Co-operative Education and Student Career Services! Connect with over 50 employers and higher education institutions from across Canada, discover career and further education opportunities, and learn about pathways that align with your goals. Open to all St.FX students, come explore, ask questions, and start building connections for your future.





THE U

StFX Students' Union
For Students, By Students.



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