
Sent: November 10, 2017 12:01 PM

Subject: Important Details on Sheridan's Plan for Strike Recovery

Dear Sheridan Community,

I want to thank you for your continued patience. Everyone at Sheridan – faculty, staff, and administrators – are keen to get you back in class as soon as possible. Having heard from many of you through social media, email, voice messages and the public forums Sheridan hosted last week, I am tremendously empathetic to the consequences you're facing on account of this labour disruption. I am very sorry that this has so significantly impacted your learning experience.

That said, and further to what I communicated at the open forums last week, I'm writing today to assure you that we remain squarely focused on modeling scenarios for semester completion. My colleagues and I have found it useful to ground this planning in the following key principles:

- (i) Consistent with Sheridan's character, we will demonstrate empathy and accommodate, when possible, extenuating personal circumstances.
- (ii) To ensure academic quality and accountability, any adjustments to curriculum and/or assessments must respect and maintain course- and program-level learning outcomes; and,
- (iii) To demonstrate fairness, the *reasonableness* of adjusted expectations for students and faculty regarding the amount of learning and assessment will be duly considered.

ACADEMIC TERMS AND VACATION PLAN

With these as our guideposts, here is what I can now share about an extension of the fall term and the consequent impact on subsequent terms.

December Extension

With the strike having lasted four weeks, it is now clear that **we must use the week of December 18 – 22 for instruction.**

Holiday Closure

As per our previous communications, **the holiday closure of December 23-January 1 will be observed;** no classes will be delivered during this time.

January, 2018

Should students return to class on or after November 20, 2017, **we will also need to use January 2, 2018 to January 8, 2018 to make up for lost instruction.** This would be further extended to January 15, 2018 if the return is delayed until November 27, 2017. These extensions of the term into 2018 will ensure that course and program learning outcomes are met.

Winter Term

Scenarios for the completion of the winter term remain under development. If possible, we would like to retain the winter reading week. **We hope to complete the winter term before April 30, 2018.**

Some program completion plans contemplate the addition of evening and/or weekend course instruction. Further details will be communicated following consultation with faculty after the strike is resolved.

STUDENT SUPPORT

We know that these scheduling changes will present challenges for many of our students, including those who were expecting to travel or work during the break, those who were expecting to graduate in December and/or those with outstanding placement hours.

We will continue to update students as planning around these issues evolves. Further, please rest assured that Sheridan will be implementing a formal process for all students to have their unique circumstances reviewed, on a case-by case-basis, to ensure they are treated fairly, and with respect.

I appreciate that living through the strike has been difficult; recovering from it will be challenging too. Our learning community, however, is resilient, resourceful and compassionate. I am confident that we will navigate the path ahead ... together.

In the interim, please continue to send us your questions and concerns; they help us reflect on what we're doing, and where there are gaps. As always, we will do our best to respond promptly, and as transparently as possible.

Warm regards,

Janet Morrison

Provost and Vice President, Academic