

A message from Dr. Janet Morrison



Gearing up for learning

May 15, 2020

Dear Sheridan Students,

As we approach the start of the Spring/Summer Term next Tuesday, I want to extend a warm welcome to all new and returning students. Our faculty have been hard at work, developing meaningful, remote learning experiences that will stretch your thinking, build your skills and advance your knowledge. Sheridan never wavers on academic quality and we remain fully committed to helping you achieve your educational goals.

Throughout the term – though we're separated physically – all students in the Sheridan learning community can expect to receive periodic emails from me. In today's email, I'll cover:

- Canada Emergency Student Benefit
- Survey results
- Sharing your input

Canada Emergency Student Benefit

In April, the Government of Canada proposed a grant for students and recent graduates. Applications are now being accepted; please visit the [Canada Emergency Student Benefit](#) page to learn more and apply.

Survey results

Those of you enrolled for the Winter term may recall that we asked you to complete a Statistics Canada survey about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on postsecondary learners. Over 100,000 students across the country participated and the results were released this week. Below are some high-level findings:

The majority of participants reported experiencing academic disruption as a result of the pandemic, the most common (35%) being a delay or cancellation of their work placement. Roughly a quarter (26%) reported that some of their courses were postponed or cancelled, particularly those that couldn't be delivered online.

The pandemic has had a major impact on students' employment plans. Many students who had jobs confirmed at the beginning of March, had lost them (21%) or been laid off (34%) two months later.

Students have significant concerns about their financial situation. Overall, 58% indicated they were concerned about losing their job in the future, and 67% were concerned about having no job prospects in the near future.

Please visit Statistics Canada to see all the findings. Rest assured, we are using this data to design and re-design programming and support services tailored to your needs.

Sharing your input

Sheridan is creating a Student Pandemic Response & Recovery Advisory Council. The council will augment the knowledge and skills of Sheridan's Executive Team and help guide Sheridan through our pandemic response.

Council members will be expected to:

- Actively support and take a genuine interest in Sheridan's response to the pandemic.
- Raise awareness of the pandemic response.
- Provide input and feedback on pandemic response initiatives.
- Encourage student participation in pandemic response initiatives.
- Share feedback from Students with the Council during the pandemic.

Membership on the council will be comprised of a diverse group of current full-time and part-time students (enrolled in fall and winter terms). It will be struck as of September 2020 and remain in effect until June 2021. Details about the application process will be shared in September.

Enjoy the first long weekend of the summer season! You'll want to be rested and rejuvenated when formal learning resumes on Tuesday. Remote delivery is a little

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that's Sheridan's hallmark.

Sincerely,

Janet Morrison
President and Vice Chancellor

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