

A message from Dr. Janet Morrison



Meaningful Interactions

May 19, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

In recent days, there have been a flurry of announcements across the country – within the postsecondary education sector and beyond – that share plans for restoring economic activity while protecting the health of Canadians. With today being the first day of our Spring/Summer semester, I'd like to focus your attention on Sheridan's continued efforts to create meaningful – yet safe - learning environments and opportunities. Today, I'll cover:

- Regional differences
- Virtual events
- Bringing learning to the community

Regional Differences

Earlier today, Ontario formally entered Stage One in its Framework for Reopening the Province, which outlines three stages to recovery. As you may recall hearing, we're likely to be in any given stage for several weeks at a time. Progression to successive stages is contingent on a decrease in the number of new cases and a robust process of testing, treating, tracing and separating people who are ill – conditions that currently have not been realized.

It's also important to note that Canada's First Ministers have recognized that there will be regional differences on the approaches taken in various jurisdictions because local context matters. While our colleagues out west and out east are further along in their phased-opening efforts, we anticipate hearing repeated calls in Ontario to "stay home" where possible as well as new calls to "stay alert" while out in public. All of this is crucial to keeping everyone safe.

Virtual Events

Despite being physically separated, we're still finding ways to build a sense of community and connection for our learners. Each week, Sheridan publishes a [virtual events calendar](#), inviting students to webinars on everything from gaining study habits and coping skills, to understanding rules about study permits, as well as virtual yoga sessions and cooking classes.

Bringing learning to the community

Nor does staying apart preclude Sheridan from providing value to our internal and external stakeholders. On Wednesday May 27, at 2:00pm, we'll be launching a #MadeinCAMDT series, with a virtual demonstration of our process to print reusable, personal protective equipment (PPE) for donation to local hospitals and long-term care homes. You are welcome to participate in this free WebEx event but [registration](#) is required. We're also taking [questions in advance](#). In support of our laser focus on enrolment recovery, the event is being promoted to local high school teachers and students in our catchment areas. If you know someone who may be interested, please share the following [public registration link](#).

Colleagues – I know that these days and weeks continue to test our patience and resolve. Whether you're anxious to get back to campus or anxious about leaving home, significant work is ongoing to re-imagine the in-person experience at Sheridan. Together, we will continue to prioritize safety and create a level of comfort to help us all adjust and adapt.

I'd also like to assure you that your countless actions and selfless efforts to support our learners are being noticed and appreciated. I've had the honour of receiving many kind words in recent weeks, including an email this past weekend from your former President Dr. Rob Turner. He asked me to convey that your tremendous response to this unprecedented challenge continues to make him exceptionally proud to be part of the Sheridan community.

Stay well,

Janet Morrison
President and Vice Chancellor

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