

# *Annual Convocation*



MAY 29 AND 30, 2025



# CONVOCATION 2025

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# GUIDELINES FOR GUESTS

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Thank you for joining us at Brandon University's Annual Convocation. During this special moment in the academic journey, we recognize the deep commitment that each graduate has made, and the success of their accomplishment. As you join in the celebration, we offer a few guidelines to help everyone enjoy these special moments as much as possible.

There are many great seats at Convocation, whether you choose to be as close as possible or sit up high to take in the fullness of the ceremony. Some floor area has been set aside as accessible seating. To meet the need, please limit use of this area to those who require accessible seating and to one or two companions.

Convocation is a time to celebrate! Show your pride and enthusiasm by waving, cheering and taking photos during moments of joy, such as when degrees are presented or when tassels are moved. However, you should avoid disrupting the more solemn moments, such as speeches and award presentations.

Please only take photos or video from your seat, from the stands, or from the walking track area. We have a lovely space set aside in Harvest Hall for you to take photos with your grad after the ceremony, and our official Convocation photographers and videographers are taking as many photos as they can to share with you.

For your convenience, flowers, gifts, mementoes, and official Brandon University degree frames are available for purchase on the upper level. These should be given only after the ceremony, as graduates will need free hands to receive their degrees.

It is fun to share special moments with others, and we encourage you to post about Convocation online. Please tag @BrandonUni on social media.

Have friends or family members who couldn't make it? A Convocation livestream is broadcast online, linked from [BrandonU.ca/Convocation](https://brandonu.ca/convocation) and an archive will also be available for future viewing.



# WELCOME TO CONVOCATION

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## JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE SUCCESS

Congratulations! Convocation is the culmination of an academic journey of learning and discovery. We celebrate with a highly ceremonial occasion that is filled with tradition, ritual and symbolism. This reflects the honour and heritage that are associated with an academic education and with a Brandon University degree.

At Convocation, degrees are officially conferred, awards are presented, and academic achievement is celebrated. At its essence, the Convocation ceremony is simple, yet its meaning is profound. As they proceed in, students are referred to as “graduands.” They have fulfilled all the requirements for graduation, but haven’t yet had their degrees conferred. With a pronouncement from the stage, the Chancellor will officially confer those degrees, and graduates will move the tassels on their caps from one side to the next, symbolizing their graduation. They will then each be called to the platform in turn, to receive their degree parchments. After degrees are presented, there are special award presentations and speeches, as graduates receive some final pieces of thoughtful advice and guidance, before the Chancellor concludes Convocation.

Convocation is founded on many traditions, including symbols, formal language, academic regalia and processions. Each element has history and meaning behind it, although often these are reinterpreted and reinvented by new generations. All participants in Convocation are encouraged to observe the occasion with joy and solemnity. Guests are welcome, as the whole community joins together and celebrates the newest Brandon University alumni.



# GREETINGS

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Convocation is a sacred moment, a connection between where you have been and where you are going. As Chancellor, it is my great privilege to stand with you at this threshold, and to recognize the years of effort, transformation, and purpose that have brought you here.

Education is not only the gathering of knowledge, but also a deepening of understanding. In your time at Brandon University, you have learned, and you have also grown. You have come to see yourself in new ways, and to appreciate your connections with others. You have strengthened your gifts and your voice. And you have begun to see the path ahead as one that is not only yours, but one shaped by the many who walked before you.

We are never alone on our journey. Family, friends, colleagues, teachers, and ancestors all travel with you, their stories and struggles guiding your way and lightening your burden. May you carry that awareness with you with gratitude, with responsibility, and with pride. And as you step forward into new roles, new communities, and new challenges, may your learning help you to listen deeply, to lead wisely, and to act with compassion as you travel along with others.

I offer you my warmest congratulations. May this day be a reminder of how far you've come — and how far your spirit can still go.

**Dr. Mary Jane McCallum**  
**Chancellor**



Convocation marks the culmination of your time as a student and the beginning of your exciting next chapter. Today is a day worth celebrating, fully and joyfully.

No degree is earned without determination. The early mornings, late nights, and hard work in between speak to your persistence. You showed up through challenges, uncertainty, and change and you kept going. Your grit is something to be proud of.

At Brandon University, learning extends far beyond the classroom. Whether in conversation after class, in rehearsals and labs, at community events, or walking across campus with friends, this is a place that encourages inspiration — not just in ideas, but in one another. You've contributed to that spirit, and

you've helped shape this campus with your energy, your curiosity, and your kindness.

Today, we honour not just your achievements, but the full experience: the effort, the growth, and the personal victories, big and small, that brought you here. Convocation is a celebration of everything you've accomplished and a recognition of everyone who supported you along the way.

Thank you for the mark you've left on Brandon University. We are better for your time here.

Warmest congratulations to each of you!

**Dr. David Docherty**  
**President and Vice-Chancellor**

# GREETINGS

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It is my great honour, on behalf of the Board of Governors, to congratulate each of our graduates on this momentous occasion. Convocation is a celebration of academic achievement, and a powerful symbol of commitment, growth, and transformation — personal and collective.

The Board of Governors are trustees for the people of Manitoba, stewarding the university's long-term vision of being Canada's finest regional university and ensuring excellence in teaching, research, creation, and scholarship. We safeguard the integrity and sustainability of BU so that it remains a place for future generations to thrive as you have. It is a privilege to see our purpose reflected in your success.

A degree from Brandon University represents more than completed courses and fulfilled requirements. It signifies resilience, curiosity, and a readiness to

Congratulations, graduates!

Welcome to our Alumni Association. You now belong to a network of BU grads that stretches across the country and around the globe. Each of us knows the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices it took to get here. All of us are cheering you on as you mark this major milestone.

This is the end of one chapter, but also the beginning of another. This is a challenging time and one of opportunity. Your fellow alumni are here as your circle of support, so stay connected with each other and make our network your own wherever life takes you.

Keep us in the loop and stay engaged by attending alumni events in your area. Sign up for BU Café, an online

engage with the world thoughtfully and responsibly. With this degree, you carry the strength of a university that values both knowledge and character, both achievement and empathy.

Convocation is rich with symbolism. The regalia, the ceremony, the speeches, the coat of arms — all connect you to a centuries-old tradition of learning and leadership and the 125 years of history of BU. This moment is also deeply personal: the late nights of study, moments of discovery, and relationships that shape who you are and who you will become.

Remember to use your education for good, to stay curious, and to lead with integrity. You are a vital part of the BU community, and we are proud to stand behind you.

**Kevan Sumner**  
**Chair, Brandon University**  
**Board of Governors**

networking and mentorship platform, and always feel welcome to stop by campus or drop us an email. Visit at [BrandonU.ca/Alumni](http://BrandonU.ca/Alumni) to stay connected.

You're invited to our annual fall Homecoming in September where you can reunite with former classmates, faculty, and friends old and new.

On behalf of BU Alumni, congratulations again! We can't wait to see where you will go from here.

**Christopher Hunt**  
**Incoming President, Brandon University**  
**Alumni Association**



# BRANDON UNIVERSITY'S DISTINGUISHED HISTORY

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Brandon College was founded in 1899, and the history of higher education in the Brandon area can be traced back even earlier. In 1871, the signing of Treaty 2 permitted the settling of areas that are the traditional home and shared territory of the Dakota Oyate and the Anishinaabeg, as well as the homeland of the Red River Métis. Soon thereafter, early Baptist missionaries founded a small college in Rapid City. In 1890, the McKee Academy followed the railroad to Brandon.

Brandon College absorbed McKee Academy in 1899 and began instruction that year. In 1900, the original Brandon College building was constructed, followed by Clark Hall in 1906 and then a neighbouring Science Building. The institution weathered economic hardship and two world wars to thrive and prosper.

Following decades as a college, Brandon University received its own charter on June 5, 1967, during a royal visit, and the charter was officially dated July 1 to mark Canada's centennial. The first Brandon University degrees were awarded in 1968. Today, BU is home to five faculties and schools, thriving graduate programs, and a vibrant community committed to learning, growth, and connection.

All this year, we celebrated 125 years since Brandon College's founding — a milestone honoured through reflection, connection, and planning for the future. Our BU125 theme was "CONNECT," and throughout the year we explored the deep roots of learning in this region, including knowledge systems that long predate colonization. As we mark this anniversary, we acknowledge the harms educational institutions have caused to Indigenous Peoples and recommit to reconciliation, respect, and learning from Indigenous wisdom. In this way, we help build a legacy for our next 125 years.

Special Convocation of McMaster University at Brandon College • 1911 – 1938

University of Manitoba at Brandon College • 1939 – 1967

Brandon University • 1968 – today



# UNIVERSITY COAT OF ARMS

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Steeped in the deeply symbolic meanings of heraldry, the Brandon University Coat of Arms was originally drawn in 1948 for Brandon College. The full heraldic achievement, including coat of arms, crest, mantling and motto, is reserved for highly ceremonial use, including occasions such as Convocation and Presidential Installation ceremonies.

On the coat of arms, which decorate the shield portion, the two open books represent both the learning and the arts of humankind. The wheat sheaf below represents the bounty of the earth, and takes on special resonance in the Wheat City. The lit antique lamp represents life and spirituality.

Above, the crest is what sits atop the helmet. Brandon University's crest is the mythological phoenix: a bird that was fabled to live for hundreds of years in the desert, then to burn itself to ashes in a funeral pyre before emerging from the ashes with renewed life to live. The phoenix represents immortality.

Underneath, the motto is taken from the Bible, Ephesians IV:15. Translated from Greek, "Aletheuontes de en Agape" means "Speaking the truth in love" and it reminds all members of the Brandon University community of our twin responsibilities of honesty and respect.

Brandon University's current, modern logo is based on a simplified version of the coat of arms.



# CEREMONIAL OBJECTS

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## MIGIZII MITIK – EAGLE STAFF

Brandon University has been honoured to be presented with a migizii mitik, or Eagle Staff, which has helped the university include an Indigenous element in important ceremonial occasions and celebrations like Convocation.

An Anishanaabek artisan from Ebb and Flow First Nation created the Eagle Staff out of natural elements that have spiritual significance and symbolic value to the university as well as to Indigenous communities in the region.

The staff is about five feet tall, with a curve at the top, and made from a young tamarack tree. Wrapped around the wood is deer leather near the bottom, and river otter fur along most of the length of the staff. In the centre of the curve is an inclusive version of the traditional medicine wheel, painted on both sides of a two-sided leather shield.

Five bald eagle feathers, symbolizing knowledge and community, are strung from the top of the staff. Tucked behind the feathers is a medicine bag with tobacco, sage, and cedar and sweet grass inside.

From the side of the staff, a large banner projects out, featuring the Brandon University logo, name, and graphic elements like the chevron on both sides. And, from the side of the banner, 10 bundles of horsehair are attached, representing the history of plains horsemen. Every part of the staff was crafted by hand.

The Eagle Staff is given a place of honour during important BU ceremonies. At Convocation, it is carried in earliest in the procession, held by the BU Chancellor, and the Eagle Staff serves to officially open the proceedings.

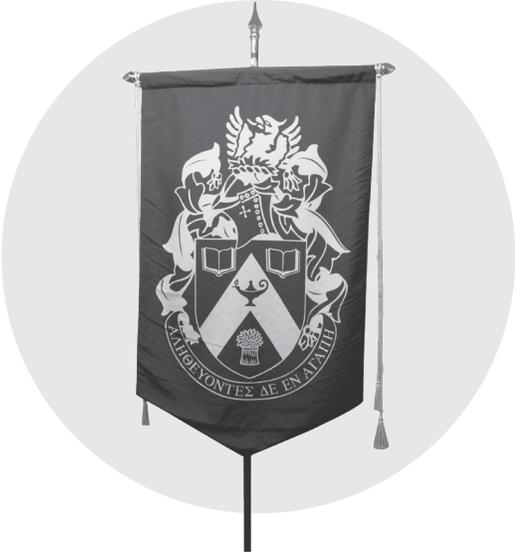


## KANDODO

The Brandon University Mace, handcarved in Malawi of African king ebony, is a kandodo, or walking stick, traditionally carried by a chief to signify authority.

Ceremonial maces are carried in many processions and ceremonies around the world. In academic contexts, they typically represent the university's independence from external authority.

The kandodo was a gift to Brandon University from Domasi College of Education in Malawi, where Brandon University had a six-year project to train secondary school teachers.



## GONFALON

A gonfalon is a long flag or banner that is suspended from a crossbar on a pole. As a symbol of state or office, the use of a gonfalon dates to medieval Italy, and they have also long been associated with ecclesiastical ceremonies.

Many universities and other academic institutions use gonfalons for identification and ceremonial purposes at large functions.

Brandon University first adopted a gonfalon in 2009 to increase the ceremonial aspects of Convocation. In 2019, new faculty-specific gonfalons were also introduced.



## LECTERN

For nearly a hundred and twenty-five years, this historic lectern has been a central part of Convocation ceremonies.

The lectern, which was originally donated by students at McMaster University around 1900 to mark the founding of Brandon College, was also used for many years in the College Chapel.

At Convocation, this lectern stands at the very centre of the stage, and is the focus of attention for most of the ceremony, including award presentations, honorary degrees, and speeches.



## CHAIRS

There are two ornate wooden chairs on stage at Convocation. They are symbols of the authority of the Chancellor and the President.

The Chancellor's chair was presented to Brandon College nearly a century ago, by the Class of 1927, and has been used ever since. The President's chair was donated by a number of faculty and staff to commemorate the service of Dr. John Mallea, who was BU President and Vice-Chancellor from 1985-90.

# UNDERSTANDING ACADEMIC REGALIA

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The distinctive cap, gown and hood of the present-day academic regalia is known worldwide to represent academic achievement. The style, believed to have originated at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in the 1300s, derived from the common religious and academic garb of the time. As universities passed from ecclesiastical control, brighter colours began to distinguish the academic robe from more modest clerical gowns. Until as recently as a century ago, some universities required academic dress be worn throughout the year, whenever attending lectures or classes, although they are now generally reserved for special occasions like Convocation.

In Canada today, academic regalia continues to be based on the British tradition, but each university establishes its own style and colours. Brandon University determines particular hood colours to mark different degrees, although many follow larger traditions.

The tassel affixed to the top of the mortarboard cap also holds a special significance. During Convocation, graduands will move their tassels from the right-hand to the left-hand side, symbolizing the moment of their graduation.

Of the regalia's three components, the hood is the most interesting. Originally it had three uses: as a head covering, as a shoulder cape, and as a bag in which alms could be collected. It is mentioned as early as 1480 in clerical literature. However, when large wigs were in vogue in Britain, the cape part of the hood was split in front and a narrow neckband inserted. The entire cape and hood was allowed to fall back as it is today, and it was never restored to the original style.



# COMMISSIONED ARTWORK

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Graduates from Brandon University this year will receive a print of commissioned artwork that reflects on their experience at campus, and will become a unique memento of their time at BU.

While every graduate looks forward to receiving their degree, which represents years of dedication, discovery, and accomplishment, the university experience includes so much more than academic learning. Each student's time at BU also includes so much fun, and the artwork presented each year at Convocation is a chance to highlight things like social, cultural, and athletic activities — the memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

This year's Convocation artwork highlights BU's bobcat mascot and athletics teams, while also incorporating elements of the university such as its campus layout, its motto and colours, strategic plan, and ongoing 125th anniversary.

Created by Katy Martin, a Neepawa-based art teacher who plans to attend BU this fall to begin a Master of Education degree, the piece features a very large central bobcat as the main focal point of the piece but also includes many subtle touches that reward closer enjoyment by viewers.

This is the sixth year that BU has commissioned artwork for graduates, and each year has been different. The annual tradition was inaugurated in 2020 and was a way to offer special recognition to graduates in a year when an in-person ceremony was not possible. The overwhelmingly positive response to the art inspired BU to make it a permanent part of Convocation moving forward.



# HONORARY DEGREE

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Photo Credit: Curtis Perry

## TOM ALLEN

Tom Allen is a broadcaster, writer, musician, and storyteller whose voice has been a mainstay on CBC Radio for decades. A passionate advocate for classical music and the artists who create it, Mr. Allen has used his national platforms to spotlight Canadian musicians — regularly featuring faculty and alumni from Brandon University and helping bring their work to listeners across the country.

Born in Montreal, Mr. Allen studied at Marianopolis College, McGill University, Boston University, and Yale before beginning his career as a bass trombonist. He worked in New York City, Toronto, and on tour with the Great Lakes Brass before stepping behind the microphone on his 30th birthday, launching a long and influential tenure with the CBC.

He has hosted a wide range of national programs including *Weekender*, *Music and Company*, *Shift*, and *About Time*, blending music with insight, curiosity, and heart. His storytelling style has made him a beloved figure for audiences and artists alike.

In addition to broadcasting, Mr. Allen has written three books, delivered storytelling workshops at music schools and universities, and created a series of chamber musicals: genre-blending performances that combine live music and narrative theatre.

Mr. Allen lives in Toronto with his partner, harpist Lori Gemmell, their son, and what he calls a very enthusiastic dog.



# HONORARY DEGREE

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## ELIN ROMBO

Elin Rombo is one of Sweden's most celebrated sopranos, known for her radiant voice, dramatic versatility, and commanding presence on operatic stages around the world. A proud alumna of Brandon University, where she studied voice and graduated in 1998, Ms. Rombo went on to complete her studies at the University College of Opera in Stockholm. She made her professional debut while still a student, performing Christa in 'The Makropoulos Case' at the Royal Swedish Opera.

Since then, she has become a frequent guest at the Royal Swedish Opera, singing roles including Violetta in 'La Traviata,' Gilda in 'Rigoletto,' 'Sophie in Der Rosenkavalier,' Blanche in 'Dialogues des Carmélites,' and Régine Saint Laurent in Rufus Wainwright's 'Prima Donna.'

She has also appeared with the Opéra National de Paris, Staatsoper Berlin, Dutch National Opera, and the Frankfurt Opera, among others.

Ms. Rombo made her Salzburg Festival debut in 2009 and has performed in major premieres, including Wolfgang Rihm's 'Dionysos' and Sven-David Sandström's 'Bathsheba.' Her concert appearances include performances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Riccardo Muti, Orchestre de Paris with Sir Colin Davis, and numerous Nordic ensembles.

Her artistry has been recognized with numerous honors, including her appointment as Court Singer in 2013, the Litteris et Artibus medal in 2016, and most recently, the Medal of St. Erik in May 2025 for her contributions to Stockholm's cultural life



Photo Credit: Peter Knutson



# AWARDS

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## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AUSTIN GULLIVER

Austin F. Gulliver joined Brandon University in 1985 and retired in 2024 as Professor in the Department of Physics & Astronomy.

Austin served on multiple University-wide committees and was appointed as Dean of Science from 2005-2011 and again from 2015-2016.

Over his 39-year career, he introduced students to the thrills of the night sky at the observatory on the roof of McMaster Hall with a 10-inch legacy telescope and then a modern computer-controlled 16-inch telescope that was installed in 2009.

His research career included collaborations with multiple astronomers over a variety of countries, and he has published 64 refereed journal articles in top international journals. Many of these publications included the names of BU students who contributed significantly to the research as they began their own careers eventually obtaining their doctorates. His research has made extensive use of large telescopes located at observatories in Victoria and in Chile. Austin's research contributions were recognized by the Senate with the granting of the Senate Award for Excellence in Research in 2004. His research activities continue into his retirement years.



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD MICHELLE MAGNUSSON

Michelle Magnusson has been a champion of accessibility, equity, and community service throughout her distinguished career. Since 2007, she has served as Brandon University's first Student Accessibility Coordinator, a role she shaped through innovation, advocacy, and compassion. Drawing on her extensive background in Speech-Language Pathology, Michelle brought years of experience working with clients of all ages across health care, education, and private practice settings.

Her commitment to inclusion is evident in her tireless efforts to ensure students with

disabilities receive the accommodations, resources, and encouragement they need to thrive. She works closely with students and faculty to create effective accommodation plans, implements assistive technologies, and contributes extensively to accessibility education across campus. Michelle has played a key role in shaping inclusive institutional policies and cultivating an environment where students gain confidence, skills, and academic success.

Michelle has represented Brandon University both provincially and nationally through her involvement with Canadian Association of College & University Student Services, while remaining active in awareness and education initiatives focused on accessibility and equity.

# AWARDS

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## BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

### NANCY MCPHERSON

Nancy McPherson is an Associate professor in the Department of Nursing. Over the past 45 years, Nancy has worked in a variety of capacities in diverse locations including northern/remote, rural and urban settings as well as international health positions in the West Indies and northeastern Siberia. These experiences are foundational to her passion for caring for under-served populations and addressing social justice issues.

Nancy was raised on a farm in the Brandon Hills by parents with a strong sense of community. They didn't talk specifically about concepts of civic engagement and the collective good, but, like many rural families, she saw her parents do what needed to be done for the community as a whole. Watching parents and neighbours invest in their community through service has shaped every aspect of her life. Nancy has been involved with many not-for-profit and service agencies throughout the Brandon community, and she has worked with all levels of government. Being an active community volunteer with a lifelong commitment to service wherever she has lived has always been an easy choice, as it gives her personal joy, allows her to use her professional skills more broadly, and helps her communities thrive.



## SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

### LORRAINE MAYER

Lorraine Mayer is a Métis philosopher, scholar, and trailblazer whose work has shaped Indigenous philosophy and feminism across Canada and beyond. A mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Lorraine brings generations of wisdom to her academic and community work. She earned her PhD in Philosophy from the University of Oregon, where she wrote a groundbreaking dissertation on Cree philosophy, an area she continues to develop and share through research, teaching, and writing.

As an undergraduate, Lorraine was drawn to philosophy by a profound question:

“Who was the man who owned my mother’s world?” Her journey led her to recognize the systems of power — racism, sexism, and colonialism — that had shaped her life and the lives of other Indigenous women.

She is the author of *Cries from a Métis Heart* and co-editor of *Philosophy and Aboriginal Rights: Critical Dialogues* (Oxford University Press), and has published widely in leading journals, including *Hypatia*. Her most recent article, “Indigenizing the Academy: Epistemic Injustice, Epistemic Resistance,” continues her efforts to bring Indigenous knowledge systems into critical conversation with Western thought. She is currently editing a manuscript titled *Indigenous Philosophy: A Cree Perspective*.



# AWARDS

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## SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

### BRYAN HILL

Dr. Bryan Hill began his career at Brandon University in 2005 and is currently a Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry. He has taught 15 different courses at BU and supervised 20 students with their Masters, Honours Thesis, or Research Topics projects.

Bryan teaches the two flagship Organic Chemistry courses, an area that has suffered from a bad reputation at universities near and far. Bryan endeavored to change this at BU,

borrowing and adapting strategies from others to develop an interactive, engaging, and inclusive classroom that broke down course content into digestible bits that students could master and enjoy. As noted in one of the student nomination letters, “Dr. Hill builds a strong community within his classroom. Questions were encouraged, and mistakes were welcomed. This fostered an environment where students weren’t afraid of trying, so we mastered the concepts quickly through trial and error, helping each other along the way.”

Bryan is a member of Senate and the Board of Governors; he currently resides with his wife in Rapid City.



## SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

### ELLEN WATSON

Dr. Ellen Watson is a teacher educator and science education researcher specializing in epistemic beliefs about scientific knowledge. She joined BU in 2021 and has recently been promoted to Associate Professor of Curriculum. Ellen has taught courses in science education, curriculum studies, pedagogy, and educational research.

Before her tenure at BU, Ellen served as an instructor and Senior Educational Developer at the University of Alberta, where she received a Graduate Student

Teaching Award. Her success in academia is built upon her earlier career as a high school teacher specializing in science, physics, and mathematics in Saskatchewan and on those faculty members from whom she has learned about teaching.

Ellen’s teaching philosophy emphasizes offering and discovery, characterized by, as one student noted, her “unwavering dedication to her students.” She designs her courses to engage students critically with the subject matter, encouraging them to question the systems they have inherited. Through thoughtful course planning, she challenges students to think beyond conventional educational norms and consider how they might contribute to reimagining the schooling system.

# AWARDS

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## DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

### SKYE FOORD-KELCEY

Skye Foord-Kelcey graduated from Brandon University with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education in 2021. She began her teaching career with the Brandon School Division and currently teaches in the Southwest Horizon School Division at Souris School, where she leads a Grade 1–2 split classroom.

Skye is deeply committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful, and student-centered learning environment. She believes in the power of relationships and strives to ensure every child feels seen, supported, and encouraged to take risks in their learning.

Since beginning her teaching journey, Skye has embraced professional growth and collaboration. She has worked closely with colleagues and has engaged in mentorship that has strengthened her practice, particularly in literacy and inclusive education. Her background working with individuals with disabilities and volunteering in community organizations has also shaped her compassionate and reflective approach to teaching.

Skye believes learning is most meaningful when it includes joy, connection, and opportunity for personal growth. Whether she is guiding a morning meeting, supporting social-emotional development, or celebrating student achievements, her goal is to create a space where all learners can thrive.



# VALEDICTORIANS

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## FACULTY OF ARTS

### RENATA TRUELOVE

Renata Truelove is a proud mother, a sensitive soul, the wild middle child, a forever student, the fun friend, a deep thinker, and a wonder seeker.

She is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours), majoring in Psychology with a minor in Drawing. She extends the greatest hoorah to her family, friends, faculty, and fellow students for all the support and good times along the way.

Renata is a passionate advocate for the arts and has an intuitive understanding of the transformational powers of creativity and curiosity. Always one to value process over product and authenticity over perfection, Renata embraces self-expression and leads with compassion. Her future plans include pursuing a career in art therapy (with a soft spot for people who want therapy but would also rather do literally anything else) and bringing more arts programming to underserved rural communities. The learning is in the doing – keep growing.



## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

### CHARIS KEHLER

Charis, a Manitoba-born third culture kid, spent her childhood living between multiple Canadian provinces and Burkina Faso in West Africa. Her internationally diverse upbringing fostered a love of cultural exchange, language learning, and meaningful connection with people. This passion for connection led her into careers in customer service, sales, real

estate, retail management, and para-education. Through her experiences in para-education, Charis recognized the transformative power of learning, inspiring her to pursue a university degree. She is now graduating from the 5-year Integrated Program for Education, where she applied her learning in real time while gaining valuable hands-on experience.



## FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

### DANA SIMOENS

My name is Dana Simoens, and I am graduating from the Bachelor of Nursing Program! I grew up in rural Manitoba on a beef and grain farm just outside Bruxelles with my family of 6. Caring for animals and growing up on the farm I learned compassion and work ethic which ensured my passion to one day pursue the field of healthcare. I have wanted to be

a nurse for as long as I can remember. I took part in many school activities such as the peer mentor program, student leaders, and the Health Studies Student Association. I enjoy reading, boating, bonfires and spending time with family and friends.

# VALEDICTORIANS

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## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

### NIC BRAY

Nic Bray is an award-winning Manitoban musician whose practice spans composition, orchestration, songwriting, and jazz saxophone performance. He is graduating from his Master of Music, specializing in Composition. His versatility and innovative approaches to composition aim to bridge the gap between contemporary classical, jazz, and pop idioms. Actively engaged in

community outreach, Nic values fostering and elevating emerging local artistic talent while simultaneously providing support for local public resources. Through fundraising events and collaborative performances, his work exemplifies the potential for musicians to make a significant impact beyond the stage, using music to build stronger, more vibrant communities.



## FACULTY OF SCIENCE

### JADE SMITH

Jade Smith is graduating with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biology, with a minor in Psychology. Through her honours research, Jade studied long-term memory formation and the potential role of a protein called RBM3. She served as co-president of the Biology Club and was involved with initiatives such as the STEMInist convention, classroom

outreach, Swimmingly's one-on-one swim program, and minor hockey coaching. As a student who received accessibility accommodations, she is especially grateful for the inclusive and supportive community at BU. Jade is thankful for the friends, family, and mentors who shaped her university experience. She plans to pursue research-focused graduate studies, but first looks forward to taking time to rest, reflect, and explore.



# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

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**THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.**

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE & SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

## PROCESSIONAL

### O CANADA

Brandon University's Lower Voices Ensemble: Invicta

### KNOWLEDGE KEEPER GREETINGS

Susie McPherson-Derendy, Cree

### OPENING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum, Chancellor

### CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

Mary Jane McCallum

### PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

David Docherty

### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Andrea McDaniel, University Registrar

### HONORARY DEGREE

Thomas Hilary Allen

Presented by: David Docherty

### HONORARY DEGREE

Elin Rombo

Presented by: David Docherty

### SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Bryan Hill

Presented by: Kofi Campbell,

Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

## ALUMNI GREETINGS

Chris Hunt, Incoming President,

Brandon University Alumni Association

## VALEDICTORY ADDRESS FROM THE CLASS OF 2025, FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Jade Smith

Introduced by: Christophe LeMoine,

Dean, Faculty of Science

## VALEDICTORY ADDRESS FROM THE CLASS OF 2025, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Nic Bray

Introduced by: Greg Gatien, Dean, School of Music

## CLOSING REMARKS

David Docherty

## HONOUR SONG

Susie McPherson-Derendy, Cree

Deidre Gregory, Anishinaabe

## CLOSING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum

## RECESSIONAL

The audience is requested to remain standing until the academic procession has left the stage.

# FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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## AWARDS

### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SILVER MEDAL

Awarded to the undergraduate who achieves the highest academic standing in their Bachelor's degree program.

*Bryce Thomas Friesen*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDALS

Awarded for the highest standing in the degree program.

#### **Bachelor of Science (3-Year)**

*Curtis Alonzo Szakacs*

#### **Bachelor of Science (4-Year)**

*Alexa Anne Bennet*

#### **Bachelor of Science (Honours)**

*Bryce Thomas Friesen*

#### **Master of Science (Environmental and Life Sciences)**

*Carter Michael Hildebrand*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY SILVER MEDALS

Awarded to those students deemed by the departments to have the best academic performance and who obtain a 3.50 grade point average (GPA) or better in their major or minor area of study.

#### **Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies**

*Kelsey Leigh Musgrove*

#### **Biology**

*Caden Alexander Pedlow*

#### **Chemistry**

*Kallie Ball*

#### **Computer Science**

*Aimee Mireille Schmidt*

#### **French**

*Cassidy Layne Manko*

#### **Geology**

*Cole John Mark Weixl*

#### **Mathematics**

*Bryce Thomas Friesen*

#### **Physics and Astronomy**

*Bryce Thomas Friesen*

### CERTIFICATES OF HONOURABLE MENTION

Awarded, upon recommendation, to students whose grade point average (GPA) is within 0.05 of that of the medal award winner.

#### **Computer Science**

*Edison Alejandro Lozano Pena*

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Award Winners for the 2025 Convocation.*

# FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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## GRADUATES

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (3-YEAR)**

#### *Light Green hood*

Gwenlyn De Guia Almanza  
Onajite Teresa Anoemuah  
Adriano Budzik  
Mahekleen Gill  
Jordan Amber Heaman  
Ian Bartosz Roque Hornik  
Emma Sydney Hynes  
Brett Madison Lane  
Abdul-Azeem Ayoade Obe  
Omotola Modesayo Oginni  
Alaba Olayemi  
Ogheneruemugba Wisdom  
Onokurhefe  
Ying Ying Ou  
Emmanuel Makanjuola Popoola  
Maria Camila Sarmiento  
David Scheck  
Caleb Donovan Seale  
Curtis Alonzo Szakacs  
Johanness Ebuka Umenzeamama  
Abigail Faith Wiens  
Delaney Margaret Johanna  
Willemen

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (4-YEAR)**

#### *Light Green hood*

Ayomikun Olasubomi Adebisi  
Praise Esther Blessing Adetundimu  
Gerald Chibuzor Ahachi  
Kamryn Rana Brielle Alexander  
Edwin Ugochukwu Ali  
Tallon Layne Anderson  
Alexa Anne Bennet  
Destanee Faith Beswitherick  
Sydney Hope Boganes  
Emma Kathleen Rose De Ruyck  
Yetemwork Temesgen Fantaye  
Hashim Farooq  
Nate Bradley Fingas  
Clayton Gallaway  
Cassidy Jade Griemann  
Sarah Faith Hallett  
Megan Noel Harris  
Aidan Douglas Hosea  
Favour Iyke Iykeokorocho  
Arianna Marie-Josee Laluk  
Cassidy Layne Manko  
Oluwafunminiyi Emmanuel  
Mohammed  
MacKenzie Grace Murray  
Jayme Alexander Paddock  
Vrushti Piyush Patel  
Iryna Prozhnyrova  
Matthias Schira  
Katie Rose Shields  
Kelsey Starchuck  
Jackie Tran  
Karlle Norma Faith Verwey  
Cole John Mark Weixl  
Deryn Rachel Werbicki-Mallett  
Riley Robert Adam Wiseman  
Rylee Paige Zalischuk  
Temesgen Tesfaye Zerihun

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (4-YEAR HONOURS)**

#### *Light Green hood*

Zakariya Muhammad Abidullah  
Antone John Maducdoc Ambona  
Kallie Ball  
Avery Elizabeth Bugar  
Evan Benjamin Dreilich  
Bryce Thomas Friesen  
Beatrice Grace Gatien  
Danielle Meloni Isfeld  
Edison Alejandro Lozano Pena  
Syed Ammar Mehdi  
Kelsey Leigh Musgrove  
Oluwagbemisola Comfort Oguntoye  
Caden Alexander Pedlow  
Marijka Lynn Marie Popadynetz  
Aimee Mireille Schmidt  
Alexandra Brooke Skelton  
Jade Elizabeth Maye Smith  
Sydney Anne Soroka

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

#### *Light Green hood*

Morgan Gwynneth Dutchak  
Bernard Taborlupa Mendoza  
Hannan Khan Pathan  
Fatima Guadalupe Rodriguez Amaya

### **MASTER OF SCIENCE (ENVIRONMENTAL AND LIFE SCIENCES)**

#### *Scarlet hood, bound in Light Green*

Moses Oluwakayode Aisida  
Cameron Joseph Beaupre  
Carter Michael Hildebrand

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Graduates for the 2025 Convocation.*

# SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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## AWARDS

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDALS

Awarded for the highest standing in the degree program.

#### **Bachelor of Music / Bachelor of Education (A.D.)**

*Kendra Eleanor Ashley Martinussen*

#### **Bachelor of Music**

*Eugene Daniel Berg*

#### **Master of Music**

*Rocio Luna Perez*

### CERTIFICATES OF HONOURABLE MENTION

Awarded, upon recommendation, to students whose grade point average (GPA) is within 0.05 of that of the medal award winner.

#### **Bachelor of Music/ Bachelor of Education (A.D.)**

*William Everett Powers*

#### **Master of Music**

*Juncheng Yu*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY SILVER MEDALS

Awarded to those students deemed by the departments to have the best academic performance and who obtain a 3.50 grade point average (GPA) or better in their major or minor area of study.

#### **General Music**

*Beatrice Grace Gatien*

#### **Music Performance**

*Tanner Rodney Hall*

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Award Winners for the 2025 Convocation.*



# SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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## GRADUATES

### **BACHELOR OF MUSIC/ BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (A.D.)**

*Pink hood, bound in Mauve*

Tyleen Jaden Haywood  
Kendra Eleanor Ashley Martinussen  
William Everett Powers  
Jonathan Si  
Reilly Andre John Sutlic

### **BACHELOR OF MUSIC (4-YEAR)**

*Pink hood*

Austin Kyle Benabbou  
Eugene Daniel Berg  
Beatrice Grace Gatien  
Joshua Noah John Geddert  
Tanner Rodney Hall  
Dianna Laurelle Hysop  
Jeremy Dean Littlefield  
Raven Etienne Mckenzie  
Xingduan Qiao  
Caeden Noah Toth  
Victoria Wegner  
Alyza Marie Zaragoza

### **MASTER OF MUSIC**

*Scarlet hood, bound in Pink*

Nicolas Stephan Bray  
Carlos Daniel Castro Gutierrez  
Han-Sheng Chiang  
Marla Danielle Fontaine  
Rocio Luna Perez  
Ariadna Ortega Torres  
Wanting Ren  
Juncheng Yu  
Jia Zhang

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Graduates for the 2025 Convocation.*



# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

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**THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 – 2:00 P.M.**

## **FACULTY OF EDUCATION (INCLUDING BA/BED INTEGRATED)**

### PROCESSIONAL

#### ○ CANADA

Brandon University's Lower Voices Ensemble: Invicta

#### KNOWLEDGE KEEPER GREETINGS

Joan Church, Metis

#### OPENING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum, Chancellor

#### CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

Mary Jane McCallum

#### PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

David Docherty

#### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Andrea McDaniel, University Registrar

#### SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Ellen Watson

Presented by: Kofi Campbell,

Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

#### DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARDS

Skye Foord-Kelcey, Souris School (Souris)

Presented by: Alysha Farrell,

Dean, Faculty of Education

### ALUMNI GREETINGS

Chris Hunt, Incoming President

Brandon University Alumni Association

### VALEDICTORY ADDRESS FROM THE CLASS OF 2025

Charis Kehler

Introduced by: Alysha Farrell,

Dean, Faculty of Education

### CLOSING REMARKS

David Docherty

### HONOUR SONG

Susie McPherson-Derendy, Cree

Deidre Gregory, Anishinaabe

### CLOSING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum

### RECESSIONAL

The audience is requested to remain standing until the academic procession has left the stage.

# FACULTY OF EDUCATION

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## AWARDS

### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S GOLD MEDAL

Awarded to the graduate student who achieves the highest standing in their Master's degree program.

*Allison Lee Ward*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDALS

Awarded for the highest standing in the degree program.

#### **Bachelor of Education (A.D.)**

*Cody Edward Daniel Muminawatum*

#### **Bachelor of Physical Education Studies**

*Lauren Elizabeth McCausland*

#### **Master of Education**

*Allison Lee Ward*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY SILVER MEDALS

Awarded to those students deemed by the departments to have the best academic performance and who obtain a 3.50 grade point average (GPA) or better in their major or minor area of study.

#### **Bachelor of Education (A.D.) (Early Years)**

*Rowan Kathryn Balchen*

#### **Bachelor of Education (A.D.) (Middle Years)**

*Mercedes Grace Ward*

#### **Bachelor of Education (A.D.) (Senior Years)**

*Camryn Rae Veitch*

### DEAN'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Awarded to students deemed by the Faculty of Education to have demonstrated exceptional academic performance, excellence in the practice of teaching, outstanding leadership qualities, collegial behaviour, self-directed learning and appropriate application, commitment to ongoing professional improvement, demonstrated integrity and diligence, and demonstrated professional responsibility.

#### **Early Years**

*Rowan Kathryn Balchen*

#### **Early Years**

*Charlotte Heather Castle*

#### **Middle Years**

*Cody Edward Daniel Muminawatum*

#### **Middle Years**

*Mercedes Grace Ward*

#### **Senior Years**

*Bryce Charles Colquhoun*

#### **Senior Years**

*Camryn Rae Veitch*

#### **Integrated/Concurrent**

*Diana Margaret Buhler*

#### **Integrated/Concurrent**

*Charis Elaine Kehler*

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Award Winners for the 2025 Convocation.*

# FACULTY OF EDUCATION

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## GRADUATES

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS/ BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (A.D.)**

#### *Mauve hood*

William Alfred Alcock  
Ashley Jean Andersen  
Olivia Lucille Anderson  
Naomi Jean Baker  
Jeremy James Bassett  
Jordan Mary Bertholet  
Janelle Elizabeth Rae Bone  
Diana Margaret Buhler  
Elizabeth Marie Charrier  
Hayley Cherie Lynn Cook  
Mackenzie Dianne Cords  
Donna Lee Duncan  
Jessica Temperance Dupre  
Marlee Grace Farkas  
Siri Arstein Freeman  
Tanner Parker Gordon Garnham  
Nadine Rayanne George  
Desiree Amy Glover  
Grace Anne Lauren Gohl  
Maegan Elizabeth Inman  
Charis Elaine Kehler  
Abigail Alemseged Ketema  
Elizabeth Lilli Leaske  
Neil Corey Little  
Kelsey Alyssa Ruth Wallace Mann  
Lori Deborah Martin  
Mona Moria  
McKenna Brianne Nicholls  
Kaitlyn Dawn Perrett  
Rachel Elizabeth Peters  
Brian Kerry-Ann Shlachetka  
Britney Jade Stadnyk  
Jewell Ann Marie Thompson  
Caroline Marleen Travers  
Racquel Kimberly Ann Wilson  
Juliana Irma Wright

### **BACHELOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION STUDIES**

#### *Royal Blue hood*

Oluwaseun Jacob Adesina  
Ethan Douglas Connor Alcock  
Robyn Lynn Anderson  
Jason Nicholas Biletski  
Riley Arthure Joseph Brunet  
Colby Daniel Carmichael  
Ashton Brett Cullen  
Zachary Vaughn Edmunds  
Magan Allyn Griffin  
Stefan Akeem Hunte  
Liam Kindle  
Victor Donald George Lamb  
Jeremy Bland Love  
Blake Harrison Magnusson  
Lauren Elizabeth McCausland  
Emmalee Hope Mitchler  
Dawson Dawne Naylen  
Ashley Lynn Palumbo  
Brooklyn Jade Pratt  
Ireland Jaydine Pierce Staples

### **BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (A.D.)**

#### *Mauve hood*

Korinne Michelle Alexander  
Jeremy Rowatt Allen  
Denise Marie-Agnes Ashcroft  
Saira Atif  
Amber Dawn Baker  
Rowan Kathryn Balchen  
Eric John Barbour  
Kirsten Alice Bighetty  
Dayle April Blackbird  
Jessica Florence Bonner  
Bella Paige Brading  
Kenneth Bryant  
Jeremy James Byczkowski  
Charlotte Heather Castle  
Graeme Hugh Paetkau Chapman

Chelsey Christina Collier  
Bryce Charles Colquhoun  
Ashton Brett Cullen  
Jodie Danielle Davis  
Kaitlyn Grace Dmytriw  
Brianna Doerksen  
Lauryn Jolene Dunning  
Jordan Alexander Eagle Bears  
Guilherme Fernandes Vieira  
Rhys Sydney Dale Fletcher  
Blaine Riley Foley  
Caitlin Rachel Fontaine  
Andrea Nicole Gohl  
Daylen Zachery Everett Green  
Riley Keith Grusing  
Kristen Anne Heathcote  
Whitney Morgan Hodgins  
Michael Hofer  
Jamie Irwin  
Cassidy Lorelle Jones  
Jayden Chase Laliberty  
Madison Rochelle Lambert  
Caeleigh Jane MacDonald  
Aidan Douglas MacIsaac  
Samantha Dawn Meisner  
Caitlin May Meyers  
Tyler Jordan Monias  
Bobbee Le Morrisseau  
Cody Edward Daniel Muminawatum  
Emily Rachel Nichol  
Marshall Levi Northam  
Robert Gregory Oliver  
Naomi Andrina Plett  
Kamryn Jaymes Prokopow  
Victoria Sarah Rae  
Brenda Richer  
Jamie Ricklefs  
Emma Nykol Scott  
Abigail Yvonne Simms  
Lantz Elmer Joseph Skidmore  
Connor Michael Slipp  
Trent Jarrod Sloane  
Taylor Nicole Spurrill

Mandy Reine Hilda Swidersky  
 Nigel Gordon Tolley  
 Rayna Paige Topham  
 Lauren Hunter Treble  
 Camryn Rae Veitch  
 Mercedes Grace Ward  
 Anne Ella Weaver  
 Emily Leann Wiebe  
 Isabella Rory Grace Wieler  
 Benjamin Wollmann  
 Sarah Ann Wollmann  
 Sydney Wright  
 Beverly Ann Young

**MASTER OF EDUCATION**  
*Scarlet hood, bound in Sky Blue*

Joshua Alan Abraham  
 Cecile Jolynne Affleck  
 Gabriel Reis Alves  
 Jessica-Anne Andres  
 Michelle Colleen Banks  
 Brent Steven Alexander Barsewsky  
 Hannah Dorrell Beghin  
 Stacey Kristine Gessner Boss  
 Natasha Anna Brancewicz  
 Shannon Louise Braun  
 Myles Carson Demaray Brown  
 Matthew Wayne Buck  
 Amanda Joyce Dora Burtnack  
 Robyn Dawn Caldwell  
 Jennifer Rae Carson  
 Ronna Cayer  
 Chantalle Leigh Crepeele

Helen Susan Dawert  
 Devyn DeGagne  
 Wendy Mae Di Curzio  
 Alison Irene Elizabeth Downing  
 Mabel Dzigbordzi  
 Jordana Ashley Etkin  
 Nancy Anne Findlay  
 Cassidy Nicole Florentino  
 Devin William Foord  
 Lauren Kelsey Frohwerk  
 Allyson Giardino  
 Laura Jayne Graham  
 Nicole Robin Harwood  
 Cari Dawn Heinrichs  
 Blessing Chukwuyemu Iwegim  
 Bryce Joel Ketcheson  
 Tara Candace Knoll  
 Kelsey Dawn Kroeker  
 Kassandra Kusie  
 Hayley Lauren Lamb  
 Robin Ann LeBlanc  
 Christian John Leclerc  
 Susanne Lee  
 Paige Maggie Mackey  
 Joshua Seth Cameron Malcolmson  
 Taylor Louise Diane Marks  
 Angela Marie Marquart  
 Cindy Dawn Mason  
 Ardin Daniel Masson  
 Heather Leigh McCormick  
 Shanique Ayana McDermott  
 Brett James McNabb  
 Simone Ferreira Miranda  
 Delonna Joelle Morrissette

Pauline Pearl Morton  
 Caitlin Alanna Rosina-Grace Munro  
 William Noseworthy  
 Karen Fay O'Gilvie  
 Michelle L. Olinyk  
 Paula Michelle Opperman  
 Shawna Renee Packo  
 Robyn Leanne Paulishyn  
 Tanya Renatta Polasek  
 Sara-Lyn Vittoria Pozzebon  
 Stephen Proskurnik  
 Shumaila Qurashi  
 Nicholas Thomas Alexander Rusak  
 Stephanie Mary Diana Sawatsky  
 Megan Lee Seddon  
 Tania Mary Sigurdson  
 Carol Ann Silverthorn  
 Dana Elaine Smaluck  
 Alicia Jane Smith  
 Jackelyn Georgette Spencer  
 Carol Ann Silverthorn  
 Suzanne Amy Sullivan  
 Jody-Kay St. Theresa Thompson  
 Kelci Rae Thompson  
 Fritzgerald Asinas Villanueva  
 Melissa Vince  
 Dwayne Wall  
 Allison Lee Ward  
 Trisha Lynne Wilson  
 Rachelle Ann Wizniak  
 Shyla Morgan Yuriy  
 Shayla Lindsay Marie Zadorozny  
 Joanne Marie Zahaiko  
 Jennifer Leah Zawadsky

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Graduates for the 2025 Convocation.*



# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

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**FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.**

**FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES**

## PROCESSIONAL

### O CANADA

Brandon University's Lower Voices Ensemble: Invicta

### KNOWLEDGE KEEPER GREETINGS

Barb Blind, Anishinaabe

### OPENING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum, Chancellor

### CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

Mary Jane McCallum

### PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

David Docherty

### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Andrea McDaniel, University Registrar

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Nancy McPherson

Presented by: Dean Hammond

Brandon University Board of Governors

## ALUMNI GREETINGS

Chris Hunt, Incoming President

Brandon University Alumni Association

## VALEDICTORY ADDRESS FROM THE CLASS OF 2025

Dana Simoens

Introduced by: Linda Ross,

Acting Dean, Faculty of Health Studies

## CLOSING REMARKS

David Docherty

## HONOUR SONG

Barb Blind, Anishinaabe

Susie McPherson-Derendy, Cree

Deidre Gregory, Anishinaabe

## CLOSING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum

## RECESSIONAL

The audience is requested to remain standing until the academic procession has left the stage.

# FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

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## AWARDS

### LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S GOLD MEDAL

Awarded to the undergraduate who attains the highest academic standing in their degree excluding the Faculty or School already represented by the Governor General's Silver Medal.

*Misty Dawn Bryson*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDALS

Awarded for the highest standing in the degree program.

**Bachelor of Nursing**  
*Chigozie Somtochi Akalonu*

**Bachelor of Science in  
Psychiatric Nursing**  
*Misty Dawn Bryson*

### **Master of Psychiatric Nursing**

*Jennifer Lynne Adair*

### THE REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSES' FOUNDATION'S MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

*Courtney Lynne Nicholson*  
*Jelaine Adele van der Meulen*

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Award Winners for the 2025 Convocation.*

# FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

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## GRADUATES

### **BACHELOR OF NURSING** *Maroon hood*

Gryle Acquisio  
Chigozie Somtochi Akalonu  
Grace Oluwatoyin Alabi  
Rea Antonio  
Tabkirat Barham  
Jasmine Bhasin  
Janae Christine Braun  
Jordyn Kayla Brown  
Amber Paige Burnett  
Samantha Kristen Cabat  
Alyssa Rae Calvadores  
Seungyeon Cha

Angeline Courtney Marie Chubb  
Grace Lorri Lynn Dubnick  
Jessica Fitzpatrick  
Mikaila T Griffin  
Stephanie Somtochukwu Ikechukwu  
Alexandria Brooks Johnson  
Kamryn Kirra Johnson  
Hailey Diane Karbonik  
Simranpreet Kaur  
Novelpreet Kaur Khaira  
Brittany Kiesman  
Brooklyn Alayna Dawn Krahn  
Rory Elizabeth Ann Lawless  
Ana Vanessa Maria Lopez Menjivar

Jon Matthew Lucero  
Haley McConnell  
Kelsey Lyn Michaudville  
Melissa May Mummery  
Calista Murphy  
Oluyemi Abiola Obagade  
Ijeoma Divine-Winner Oshanugo  
Olubukunola Alimotu Otaiku  
Sarah Bri-Lynn Paluch  
Harita Patel  
Carter Robert Patterson  
Eiyemi Zainab Sadiq  
Jann Alaena Salmon  
Pevée Nicole Lulu Sarmiento

Nicole Elizabeth Sheane  
 Dana Diane Simoens  
 Kendra Julianne Simpson  
 Peyton-Lynn Aleece Stuart  
 Morgan Alyssa Surcon  
 Miracle Adaku Tony-Innocent  
 Nirali Trivedi  
 Chibuzo Naomi Ugochukwu  
 Jamie Lee Verhaeghe  
 Marithe Francine Gabrielle  
 Santos Vicedo  
 Mia Visser  
 Olajumoke Barakat Wasiudeen  
 Pearl Aballe Zamora

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
 IN PSYCHIATRIC  
 NURSING**

*Teal hood*

Grace Helene Alcock  
 Chimaeze Stanislaus Amadi  
 Isabella Caterina Ammazzini  
 Tiger Charles Bernardin  
 Cobi Billauer  
 Augusteeno Binoye  
 Taylor Jade Booth  
 Misty Dawn Bryson  
 Katherine Erin Charette  
 Maddison Michelle Christie  
 Kayla Marie Christophe  
 Christina Dawn Creaser  
 Clara Jonneal Esteban  
 Cruz-Gonzales  
 Tiffany Marie Haley Cullen

Taylor Brynn Deleau  
 Kenzie Lynn Edwards  
 Toritseju Winifred Effiok-Osu  
 Patricia Elijah Estacio  
 Melissa Rose Fletcher  
 Kaia Dawn Gibson  
 Sydney Lin Glover  
 Leah Dawn-Marie Gusberti  
 Carlyn Adrienne Dimatulac  
 Gutierrez  
 Kyra Dawn Halford  
 Samantha Jacqueline  
 Cathleen Hrechka  
 Tara Lynne Hykawy  
 Nicole Maria Iwaszewski  
 Taylor Rose Johnson  
 Elliette Rae Joyal  
 Cassidy Kelbert  
 Abigail Ann Diana  
 Kelly-McGillivray  
 Kira Janelle Koehler  
 Payton Grace LaRocque  
 Ryse Alexandra Lehky  
 Jaylie Alice Marie Lemire  
 Alexandria Nichole  
 Levandoski Baluta  
 Madison Loewen  
 Seida Elizabeth Lou  
 Makenzie Danielle Lourenco  
 Jacqueline Macariola  
 Merrydene Roselle Manipis  
 Gavrielle Angela Marasigan  
 Avery Rayne McNabb  
 Cindy Alexis Moniz  
 Sally Jean Nagam  
 Chiara Beatrice Neufeld Wiebe

Courtney Lynne Nicholson  
 Jenna Helen Simone Oakley  
 Hailey Grace Olfert  
 Grace Olamide Opeseitan  
 Henry Nzube Oraetue  
 Maddison Reanna Orvis  
 Aramide Adetoun Osiname  
 Jessica Nicole Peters  
 Colton Daniel Pommer  
 Emily Laurie Postnicks  
 Leonora Salome Amete Preteau  
 Traci Nicole Pyrozyk  
 Megan June Roziere  
 Kailey Taryn Schultz  
 Paige Margaret Gail Sherman  
 Sheila Soulsby  
 Stephanie Anne Spence  
 Taylor Joyce Strandberg  
 Abbey Nicole Thorne  
 Theresa Marie Ticsay  
 Lorena Torio  
 Mackenzie Paije Trudeau  
 Daryn Umpherville  
 Jelaine Adele van der Meulen  
 Lauren Faith Wilson

**MASTER OF  
 PSYCHIATRIC NURSING**  
*Scarlet hood, bound in Emerald Green*

Jennifer Lynne Adair  
 Christine Anne Gullacher  
 Alana Elizabeth Prejet  
 Rupinder Danielle Sandhu  
 Tyla Marlin Eleanor Sylvestre

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Graduates for the 2025 Convocation.*



# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

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**FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025 – 2:00 P.M.**

## **FACULTY OF ARTS**

### PROCESSIONAL

#### O CANADA

Brandon University's Lower Voices Ensemble: Invicta

#### KNOWLEDGE KEEPER GREETINGS

Barb Blind, Anishinaabe

#### OPENING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum, Chancellor

#### CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

Mary Jane McCallum

#### PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR'S GREETINGS

David Docherty

#### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Andrea McDaniel, University Registrar

#### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Michelle Magnusson

Presented by: David Docherty

#### SENATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Lorraine Mayer

Presented by: Bernadette Ardelli,  
Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies)

### ALUMNI GREETINGS

Chris Hunt, Incoming President,  
Brandon University Alumni Association

#### VALEDICTORY ADDRESS FROM THE CLASS OF 2025

Renata Truelove

Introduced by: Gregory Kennedy,  
Dean, Faculty of Arts

#### CLOSING REMARKS

David Docherty

#### HONOUR SONG

Barb Blind, Anishinaabe  
Susie McPherson-Derendy, Cree  
Deidre Gregory, Anishinaabe

#### CLOSING OF CONVOCATION

Mary Jane McCallum

#### RECESSIONAL

The audience is requested to remain standing until the academic procession has left the stage.

# FACULTY OF ARTS

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## AWARDS

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDALS

Awarded for the highest standing in the degree program.

#### **Bachelor of Arts (3-Year)**

*Juliana Irma Wright*

#### **Bachelor of Arts (4-Year)**

*Julie Michelle Gibson*

#### **Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**

*Josephine Felicity Ruth Nicholson*

#### **Bachelor of Business Administration**

*Lenord Leneil Hall*

#### **Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours)**

*Carter Darren Sawchuk*

#### **Bachelor of Fine Arts**

*Sierra Logan Hadway*

#### **Master of Arts (Rural Development)**

*Shirlyn Minoja Kunaratnam*

### CERTIFICATES OF HONOURABLE MENTION

Awarded, upon recommendation, to students whose grade point average (GPA) is within 0.05 of that of the medal award winner.

#### **Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**

*Renata Melanie Truelove*

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY SILVER MEDALS

Awarded to those students deemed by the departments to have the best academic performance and who obtain a 3.50 grade point average (GPA) or better in their major or minor area of study.

#### **Anthropology**

*Charlotte Stein*

#### **Business Administration**

*Lenord Leneil Hall*

#### **Creative Writing**

*Craig Matthew Hinch*

#### **Economics**

*Vincent O'Laney*

#### **English**

*Randy James McLeod*

#### **Gender and Women's Studies**

*Jessica Kimberly Ann Giesbrecht*

#### **Geography & Environment**

*Josie Anne Smith*

#### **History**

*Jessica Rae Old*

#### **Native Studies**

*Brittany Arlette Knight*

#### **Political Science**

*Jessica Kimberly Ann Giesbrecht*

#### **Psychology**

*Josephine Felicity Ruth Nicholson*

#### **Sociology**

*Julie Michelle Gibson*

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Award Winners for the 2025 Convocation.*

# FACULTY OF ARTS

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## GRADUATES

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS (3-YEAR)**

#### *Pale Blue hood*

Mastura Adedayo Adeyemi  
Jaquelyn Aguado  
Reuel Agyeman-Prempeh  
Joseph Motolani Ajisegiri  
Soburat Abodunde Badmos  
Mercy Barning  
Jessica Rose Marie Berard  
Zaina Marie Kennedy Bird  
Kenzie Leigh Blaine  
Jacqueline Alejandra Bonilla Grande  
Emma Rylee Brad  
Jena Lisa Brisson  
Rory Michael Cathcart  
Rolanda (Naomi) Rhu-Ann Chaske  
Alicia Cohen  
Mila Alexandra David  
Jordan Uneil Dill  
Jacob Doerksen  
Rufino Santos Fermin II  
Kaelin Grill  
Chayce Walker Hanson  
Craig Matthew Hinch  
Madison Alma Isabell Houle  
Emily Huntinghawk  
Sarah R Innerst  
Ty Carter Koshowski  
Deanna Langlois  
Ethen Wilfred Laughher  
Titilayo Lawal  
Nelson Ryan Lepla  
Charly Faye Lindberg  
Ryan Matthew Loewen  
Stephanie Mikolo  
Gillynmay Putong Moratalla  
Francesca Rae Murphy  
Hope Satin Breeze Osborne  
Ayobami Esther Oyedeji  
Laura Charlotte Pattison  
Jayda Marie Payette

Jennifer Roxanne Peters  
Oluwayemisi Folasade Poju-Babalola  
Blessie Grace Ragotero  
Shelby Elizabeth Schmidt  
Mohammad Refat Shahriar Tonmoy  
Osamudiamen Precious Uwagboe  
Chayce Viczina  
Stephan Wayne Waldner  
Skylar Marion Williams  
Courtney Kirsten Young

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS (4-YEAR)**

#### *Pale Blue hood*

Valery Andrea Alvarado Martinez  
Xochilt Ivania Alvarado Rivera  
Karleen Sierra Norma  
Anderson-Keeper  
Nathan Jeffrey Jarvis Chubaty  
Lauren Craig  
Ashley Megan Derewianchuk  
Jazlyn Sabrie Enns  
Julie Michelle Gibson  
Eduardo Enrique Gonzalez Ibarra  
Elissa Dawn Grindey  
Shae Leah Gross  
Jodeci Beverly Jansen  
Brittany Arlette Knight  
Kennedy Gracie Kruk  
Dayna Grace Lytwyn  
Carter Bernard Dale McLean  
Vincent O'Laney  
Brynne McKenna Paschinski  
Adynn Reese Praznik  
Esther Meredith Pringle  
America Daniela Rodriguez De Leon  
Osten Gerald Peter Sahulka  
Medina Faith Saleem  
Friederike-Eliese Schwennesen  
Emily Jean Simpson  
Josie Anne Smith  
Eden Lee Tabin

Reanna Lynn Turner  
Logan Elaine Wallace  
Celia Grace Whitehead

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS (4-YEAR HONOURS)**

#### *Pale Blue hood*

Brody William Burr  
Shelby Lynne Collister  
Kendra Lee Roberta Crawford  
Jessica Kimberly Ann Giesbrecht  
Bronwen Robyn Jones  
Randy James McLeod  
Hannalee Munro  
Josephine Felicity Ruth Nicholson  
Mojisola Ruth Obajuluwa  
Anuri Rejoice Okechukwu  
Jessica Rae Old  
Keiman Jayant Gerald Olson  
Derek Alexander Pike  
Madisyn Dawn Riley  
Charlotte Stein  
Eder Leonel Torres Mendez  
Renata Melanie Truelove

### **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

#### *Red hood*

Brittany Ann Blair  
Emily Elizabeth Day  
John Michael Flor  
Srijan Giri  
Lenord Leneil Hall  
Drew Horner  
Tawanda Makaruse  
Jaylene Skye McKee  
Rabonae Meleta Morris  
Usman Muhammad Moosa  
Qiuyu Peng  
Brooke Dale Jeannette Poirier  
Natalie Dawn Robertson

Jack David James Routledge  
James Aidan Scott  
Daisy Martinez Suazo

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION  
(HONOURS)**

*Red hood*

Ibukun Bolaji Akinpelu  
Julien Dizengremel  
Kate Maxinne Dedace Estremos  
Carson Trey McConnell  
Tolulope Kofoworola Oke  
Ayushi Nilesh Patel  
Carter Darren Sawchuk  
Andrea Mae Taruc-Montero

**BACHELOR OF FINE  
ARTS (4-YEAR)**

*Black hood, bound in Red*

Evelina Gasuliak  
Sierra Logan Hadway

**GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Pale Blue hood, bound in White*

Michael Yaksic

**MASTER OF ARTS IN  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Scarlet hood, bound in White*

Annie Monica Pomaa Adjei  
David Oduro Adu  
Richard Adu  
Ernestina Esinam Agbemafla

Timothy Olaseinde Agunloye  
Shangarita Osei Agyarko  
Redeemer Elikem Akpaglo  
Abayomi Tompson Bashir  
Iain Craig Cowie  
Jessica Mary Ferris  
Shirlyn Minoja Kunaratnam  
Dennis Peter Nyamekye Kwakye  
Godfred Kwakye  
Caleb Shaun Majdoub  
Uchekukwu Chigozirim Nnabugwu  
Felix Ntenhene  
Victoria Naa Adjeley Odai  
Emmanuel Gyamfi Ofori  
Nonye Victoria Okeke  
Priscilla Quaye  
Hammed Abbey Ramon  
Richmond Kwadwo Sem  
Ramatu Suma

*Note: The foregoing does not necessarily constitute the Final List of Graduates for the 2025 Convocation.*



# INDIGENOUS INFLUENCE

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While the legacy of Brandon University, Brandon College and our forerunner institutions dates back a hundred and twenty-five years to the late 19th century, the history of knowledge-keeping in this area draws on thousands of years of Indigenous traditions. Today, Brandon University is proud to celebrate our presence in Treaty 2 and Treaty 1 territory. We acknowledge Brandon is on shared territory between the Dakota Oyate and the Anishinaabeg, and is located on the Homeland of the Red River Métis. Today many other Indigenous people call Brandon their home, including the Inineew, Anisinewuk, Denesuline and Inuit.

Our commitment to Indigenous services and Indigenous education was formalized as early as 1975 when we became the first university in western Canada (and only the second in Canada) to establish a Native Studies Department. Our engagement with First Nations, Red River Métis and Inuit programming continues today, and we have a firmly renewed commitment to reconciliation.

Since 2023, Convocation has been graced with the inclusion an Eagle Staff, or migizii mitik, which is carried in a place of honour to lead the procession. The Eagle Staff indicates the official beginning and conclusion of Convocation. The ceremonies also include greetings from an elder or knowledge-keeper, as well as a traditional honour song.



# BRANDON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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The knowledge you've earned at Brandon University will last you a lifetime, and so will the connections you've built here. The Brandon University Alumni Association nurtures those connections between and among all who share Brandon University degrees.

Your privileges as a BU alumnus include access to this vast network of fellow grads, including through fun social evenings that the Alumni Association regularly organizes in cities across Canada. You are always welcome back on campus, whether for a Bobcats game or special events like our annual fall Homecoming. It's also easy to stay connected to BU through regular e-newsletters and social media groups, so you can learn about the latest research, be inspired by standout students, and share your own successes in the future.

As you know, earning a BU degree requires hard work and dedication, as well as much support. The Brandon University Foundation is a charitable organization that supports the University through fund-raising and endowment stewardship. Money raised by the BU Foundation directly supports students through bursaries and scholarships, as well as enhancing the University experience through research, equipment, and facility support.



# PREVIOUS HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

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**1967**

Dr. W.G. Bigelow, D.Sc.  
Douglas L. Campbell, LL.D.  
Milton C. Holden, LL.D.  
Dr. Stanley H. Knowles, LL.D.  
Rev. Dr. H.L. MacNeill, D.D.  
Wilfred F. McGregor, LL.D.

**1968**

Stuart Criddle, D.Sc.  
Maurice F. Strong, LL.D.

**1969**

Samuel Bronfman, LL.D.  
J.W. Grant MacEwan, LL.D.  
Christopher Riley, D.Sc.  
W.L. Wright, D.Mus.

**1970**

Sophie Carmen  
Eckhardt-Gramatté, D.Mus.  
Paul Henrik Thorbjorn  
Thorlakson, D.Sc.  
Thomas Clement Douglas, LL.D.

**1971**

Sarah Persis Darrach, LL.D.  
John Lane, LL.D.  
Philippe Andre Renaud, LL.D.

**1972**

Helen Clara Riesberry, LL.D.  
Murray Adaskin, D.Mus.  
Dr. Martin Wesley Johns, D.Sc.

**1973**

Chief Dan George, LL.D.  
Beatrice Bridgen, LL.D.  
Maurice Stanton Donovan, LL.D.  
Maurice Joseph Cooney, D.D.

**1974**

Henry Heard Marshall, D.Sc.  
Robert Dudley Howland, LL.D.  
John King Gordon, LL.D.  
Dr. John Everett Robbins, LL.D.  
James Henry Gray, D.Litt.  
Paul Gerhardt Hiebert, D.Litt.  
William Ormond Mitchell, D.Litt.

**1975**

Margaret Laurence, D.Litt.  
Andrew Hill Clark, D.Sc.  
Frank Henry Epp, LL.D.  
Laurence Gladwyn  
MacPherson, LL.D.  
Harry B. Hawthorn, LL.D.  
Grettir Leo Johannson, LL.D.

**1976**

James Harvey Tolton, D.Sc.  
Laurence Harold Cragg, D.Sc.  
Jon Vickers, D.Mus.

**1977**

Walter Gilbert Dinsdale, LL.D.  
Betty Margaret Gibson, LL.D.

**1980**

August James Henzel, D.Sc.

**1982**

Dr. Henry Edmison  
Duckworth, D.Sc.

**1984**

Audrey Engle Hawthorn, LL.D.

**1985**

Gerald A. McKinney, LL.D.

**1987**

Dr. John Warkentin, LL.D.  
Bishop Remi DeRoo, LL.D.  
Dr. Thomas H. McLeod, LL.D.

**1988**

Dr. Robert Beamish, D.Sc.  
Dr. Norma Walmsley, LL.D.

**1989**

Dr. Kenneth Winters, D.Mus.  
Dr. Wilfred McCutcheon, D.Ed.

**1990**

Lewis Whitehead, LL.D.  
Dr. Ferdinand Eckhardt, LL.D.

**1992**

Dr. Donald A. Robertson, D.Ed.  
Dr. David. B. Stewart, LL.D.

**1993**

George Gooden, LL.D.  
Dr. Lorne Watson, D.Mus.

**1994**

Arthur Amiotte, LL.D.  
Charles Gordon, D.Litt.

**1995**

Benjamin Schacter, LL.D.  
Lydia Makhubu, LL.D.

**1996**

Tomson Highway, D.Litt.

**1997**

Fred McGuinness, LL.D.  
Lawrence Stuckey, LL.D.

**1998**

Eli Taylor, LL.D.  
Peggy Sharpe, D.Mus.

**1999**

Donald Penny, LL.D.  
Leo Pettipas, LL.D.

**2000**

Yvon Dumont, LL.D.  
Dr. John R. Wiens, D.Ed.  
Westley G. Wong, LL.D.

**2001**

Leonard Evans, LL.D.  
 Ian Cormack Palmer Smith, D.Sc.  
 Norma A. Wylie, D.Ed.  
 Burton Cummings, D.Mus.  
 Randy Bachman, D.Mus.  
 Garry Peterson, D.Mus.  
 Don McDougall, D.Mus.  
 Bill Wallace, D.Mus.  
 Jim Kale, D.Mus.

**2002**

Matthew Choptuik, D.Sc.  
 Robert Prus, D.Litt.  
 Clement Chang, D.Ed.

**2003**

Victor Sharpe, D.Sc.  
 The Honourable  
 Sharon Carstairs, LL.D.

**2004**

The Honourable  
 Peter M. Liba, LL.D.  
 Dr. James S. Brown, D.Sc.

**2005**

Tom Cochrane, D.Mus.  
 James Ehnes, D.Mus.  
 Shirley Douglas, LL.D.  
 Henry Champ, LL.D.

**2006**

Miriam Toews, D.Litt.  
 Ronald Bell, LL.D.

**2007**

William R. Morrison, D.Litt.  
 Justice Warren Winkler, LL.D.  
 Diedre Irons, D.Mus.  
 Frederick Ralph Cornelius  
 Penner, D.Mus.

**2008**

Tom Breneman, D.Sc.  
 Kenneth Dortor, D.Litt.  
 Erin Moure, D.Litt.  
 Lorne Munroe, D.Mus.  
 Shirley Josephine Paine, D.Sc.

**2009**

Marlene Fitzsimmons, D.Sc.  
 Brian Keating, D.Sc.  
 Elizabeth Grant, D.Mus.  
 Basil Johnston, LL.D.

**2010**

Larry Phillip Fontaine, LL.D.  
 Stephen Lewis, LL.D.

**2011**

Gary Doer, LL.D.  
 Dr. Ray Bollman, LL.D.  
 Buffy Sainte-Marie, D.Mus.  
 Heather Bishop, LL.D.

**2012**

Annette Thorimbert Osted, LL.D.  
 Anton Kureti, D.Mus.

**2013**

Lloyd Robertson, LL.D.

**2014**

Eric "Lyle" Dyck, LL.D.  
 Christopher Summerville, LL.D.

**2015**

The Honourable Philip S. Lee, LL.D.  
 Theoren "Theo" Fleury, LL.D.  
 Lisa de Wilde, LL.D.  
 Mitch Podolak, LL.D.

**2016**

The Right Honourable  
 Paul Martin, LL.D.  
 Eric Friesen, LL.D.

**2017**

Andy Murray, LL.D.

**2018**

Linda Hutcheon, D.Litt.

**2021**

Dr. Brent Roussin, LL.D.  
 Tom Jackson, LL.D.

**2024**

Norman Fleury, LL.D.  
 Phyllis Webstad, LL.D.  
 Weiming Zhao, LL.D.



**BRANDON  
 UNIVERSITY**

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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No ceremony as large, as important, and as complex as Convocation could possibly happen without the dedication of a huge contingent of staff and volunteers. Some you will see around today, in black robes, helping direct graduates and guests to ensure that everyone is where they need to be, when they need to be there. Others have been working behind the scenes, helping with robes, hoods and caps, handing out programs, and even fixing hair. They have helped with setup, and they will help clean up. Many have worked for weeks or even months on behind-the-scenes preparation. Thank you to all who have given time to take on all the tasks you have to make today a special one for everyone involved.

Every seat in the house gets a great view of all our graduates thanks to the outstanding video work and the camera operators. Westman Communications Group also provides complimentary wireless internet access in the Healthy Living Centre so all Convocation participants and guests can share this special moment around the world with ease.

Thank you to the Brandon University faculty and staff who supported each and every student on their journey to reach Convocation. Thank you to the very many friends and family who came out to cheer for the graduates, and who also were key members of each student's support network.

And finally, thank you to the students we celebrate here today. You have fully earned your degree, and we are all proud of your hard work and your accomplishment. Brandon University will forever be your alma mater!

