



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

60th CONVOCATION

2025
THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO

Greetings from **LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY**



Congratulations to you, our graduating class of 2025!

As you cross the stage at your convocation ceremony, I invite you to reflect on this transformational moment.

You are not simply walking across the stage to a roar of applause from your friends, family, and supporters; no, this milestone is much more profound. Crossing the stage and obtaining your hard-earned degree signifies stepping into the next phase of your bright and brilliant future.

Whether your goal is to begin working in your chosen field or to continue your education by pursuing advanced studies, completing your degree at Lakehead University has bestowed upon you the gifts of choice and opportunity.

From this moment forward, the key to unlocking your future is in your hands. I know that your journey from the first day of orientation to convocation was not easy. You have grown as a person, you have expanded your mind, built your skill sets, and you are well-prepared for what comes next.

On behalf of our faculty and staff, and alongside your friends, family, and supporters, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. The entire Lakehead community is proud of all you have accomplished, and we are honoured to be part of your life's story.

Dr. Gillian Siddall
President and Vice-Chancellor
Lakehead University



Congratulations and Power to the Class of 2025

Your class is in the unique position of graduating into a world that is suffering from extremely negative uses of Power and Privilege. Power is used now to wage trade and armed wars. Power is used now to attack education, health, the press, and the arts. Power is used now to belittle and demean individuals, groups, and countries.

However, class of 2025, you are in an equally unique position to counter these negative forces, and I have every confidence that you will. I join you in thanks for the power given to you by your support teams of family and friends. You are Empowered, and will continue to cultivate your partnerships of faculty and classmates. You are Empowered by your scholarship and abilities to find real solutions to real problems. You are Empowered by understanding the urgent need for truth and reconciliation, and by your active compassion for the demeaned. You are Empowered by your crucial involvements in education, health, the arts, and your love of Canada.

You are ready and need not be afraid. Greetings. Congratulations. Thank you.

Rita Shelton Deverell
Chancellor
Lakehead University

Friday, May 30, 2025 - 9am

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Graduate and Undergraduate Credentials to be Conferred:

Faculty of Natural Resources Management, Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies,
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Prelude

Joe Petch

Processional - Pomp and Circumstance by E. Elgar

Joe Petch, Ted Vaillant, Damian Rivers-Moore, Erik Hongisto,
Dr. Darlene Chepil-Reid

The audience is asked to stand as the Academic Procession enters

O Canada

Robert Perrier

Honour Song

Elder Audrey DeRoy

Invocation

Elder Audrey DeRoy

The Chancellor - "I hereby declare this Convocation open."

Chancellor Rita Shelton Deverell

Introduction of the Platform Party

Dr. David Richards, Interim Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Greetings from Fort William First Nation

Chief Michele Solomon, Fort William First Nation

President's Address

Dr. Gillian Siddall, President & Vice-Chancellor

Recognition of the Recipients of the Emeritus Title

Dr. David Richards, Interim Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Conferring of the Honorary Degree Candidate

Dr. Erin Pearson, Chair, Senate Honorary Degree Committee
Chancellor Rita Shelton Deverell
Dr. Gillian Siddall, President & Vice-Chancellor

Convocation Address

Dr. Jennifer Podemski

Conferring of the Title of Fellow of the University

Cathy Tuckwell, Chair of Lakehead University's Board of Governors

Message from the Class of 2025

Keira Lyn Essex

Musical Interlude

Lauren Differ Saxberg and Connor Hamilton

Presentation of the Candidates for the Conferring of Credentials and Medals/Awards

Dr. Rhonda Koster, Deputy Provost and Vice Provost (Teaching & Learning)

Credentials Granted in Absentia

Andrea Tarsitano, Vice-Provost (Students) & Registrar

Message from the Alumni Association

Paul Popo-Ola, President, Lakehead University Alumni Association

Chancellor's Remarks & Closing

"I hereby declare this Convocation closed."

Chancellor Rita Shelton Deverell

Recessional

Ryan Moore

*The audience is asked to kindly wait until the graduates have exited the Auditorium and to then make their way to the Lakehead University campus
for refreshments, photos, and conversation.*



Follow along as we acknowledge our graduates
and this year's medal recipients.





Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

The Arms of the University were granted by the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, on June 20, 1959.

The heraldic description is:

Coat of Arms

"Barry wavy of six Argent and Azure on a Chief Gules in front of a rising Sun issuant from the base of the Chief Or between two Candles enflamed proper each surmounted of an open Book also proper edged and bound Gold a Portcullis chained Sable"

Crest

"On a Wreath Or and Azure on Water Barry wavy Argent and Azure in front of a Rock growing therefrom a Pine Tree a Canoe paddled by an Indian Brave and Canadian Trapper."

Motto

Ad agusta per angusta
Achievement through effort