# Summer Convocation 2025

JULY 4, 2025 THE PLAYHOUSE FREDERICTON, NB



The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) whose ancestors, along with the Mi'kmaq and Passamaquoddy Nations, signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the British Crown in the 1700s.

# Program

Processional

Convener of the Convocation

Invocation

Traditional Welcome

President's Address

Conferral of Honorary Degree

Address to the Graduates

Conferral of Degrees in Course

Valedictory

Presentation of Faculty Award

Presentation of Student Medal

**Closing Remarks** 

O Canada

Dr. Kim Fenwick Vice-President (Academic and Research)

Rev. Peter Melanson *Chaplain* 

Hon. Graydon Nicholas *Chancellor* 

Dr. M. Nauman Farooqi President and Vice-Chancellor

Hon. Graydon Nicholas

Paul Ouellet

Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Education Bachelor of Social Work Master of Social Work

Selina Gaudreault

Dr. M. Nauman Farooqi

Dr. M. Nauman Farooqi

Vaughn Sturgeon Chair, Board of Governors

Bachelor of Education Graduates

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

Music is provided by members of the STU Jazz Ensemble.

# CONVOCATION

St. Thomas University's Convocation is a gathering of the university community to confer degrees, present awards and medals, and hear the Address to Graduates and Valedictory. Convocation begins with a processional led by graduating students who are followed by faculty, officials, and guests. Each group occupies a designated position and the processional becomes a meeting of the university, the definition of convocation. The Chancellor and the President wear ceremonial St. Thomas University robes designed for their office, while many faculty wear the hoods and gowns of their *alma mater*. The university bestows honorary degrees on individuals who have been deemed deserving of recognition by a Joint Board of Governors-Senate Committee. Wearing green and gold-trimmed robes, St. Thomas University's colours, the recipients receive hoods symbolizing their degrees. Students who have met the university's academic standards are similarly hooded and formally granted all the honours, rights, and privileges pertaining to their degree.

## **EAGLE FEATHER**

Graduating Indigenous students were gifted with Eagle Feathers and are carrying their feather as they receive their degree. In Indigenous communities, there is a sacred connection between the Eagle and the Creator as the Eagle flies highest and closest to the Creator and carries human prayers. In "The Story of the Eagle Feather," the Eagle offered one of its feathers to the human family as a sign of love and healing and a reminder of "Sacred Teachings." An Eagle Feather bestows honour and responsibility as it symbolizes being a messenger for respect, truth, courage, and wisdom as passed down by Elders.

# Kente Stole

The Black Students' Association has worked with the university to introduce the Kente Stole to commemorate the differences and obstacles Black students overcome in order to graduate. Adapted from African tradition in Ghana, this woven cloth, which was once only worn by royalty, is a scarf-like garment worn over the shoulders that represents an accomplishment, graduation, or other rite of passage. The Kente Stole honours the legacy of Black ancestors and is a testament to each graduate's strength and excellence.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

**Paul Ouellet** is a respected and effective advocate for the marginalized in our society. For more than four decades, he has dedicated his life to serving people suffering with mental illness, addictions, and homelessness, and connecting them to the appropriate services. At all levels of society, from advocating in countless individual cases to lobbying every level of government and elected officials, he has worked to

improve the services and programs that individuals and families deserve. His early life was marked by hardship as family members were diagnosed with illness and addictions or suffered homelessness. This inspired Paul's compassionate response to those who live in debilitating circumstances. He shares his story so that healthcare workers can see treatment and recovery from a family perspective. He has also tirelessly lobbied premiers, cabinet members, civil servants, and community leaders to find lasting solutions to these issues. The acknowledgment from those he has helped speaks most poignantly to his impact — "With his help, we were able to improve the lives of many, and save a few lives along the way."

# FACULTY AWARD

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

**Professor Léo-James Lévesque**, Field Placement Coordinator and French Language Specialist in the School of Education, is an award-winning educator. Nationally recognized for his leadership in French Second Language education, he has collaborated with school boards, districts, administrators, and teachers across Canada supporting language education. He has travelled extensively to promote STU's Bachelor of Education program and developed strong relation-



ships with educational partners to secure school-based placements for teacher candidates. During the pandemic, he developed innovative virtual field placement experiences, ensuring that students could benefit from practicum opportunities despite school closures. He has also established the Partnership in Learning Initiative to support collaborative educational projects. Through his promotion of professional, linguistic, and cultural development for students, Prof. Lévesque has demonstrated outstanding service to St. Thomas University and the educational community.



# GRADUATES

#### **Bachelor of Arts**

Jennifer Kim Alexander Ryersan John Bell Nicholas James Blyth Brayden William Elijah Cornell Ebony Hélène Gosselin Acadia Lynn Organ Hulan Presley Anne Isadore Mya Elizabeth Jefferies Jenna Javne Mcfawn (distinction) Gina Kathleen Mitchell Emma Jean Morehouse Bright Chinonso Nwokoro Sarah Ann Rouah (*distinction*) Colin Jonah Herman Simon Matthew David Wood Francine Veronica Young

Sussex, NB Miramichi, NB Chipman, NB Saint John, NB Moncton, NB Corner Brook, NL Paqtnkek First Nation, NS Fredericton, NB Fredericton, NB Thompson, MB Waasis, NB Port-Harcourt, Nigeria Moncton, NB Elsipogtog First Nation, NB Oromocto, NB Bilijk, NB

#### With Honours in History

Savannah Trinity Leah Simon

Miramichi, NB

# Certificate of Honours Standing in International Relations

Oliver James Richard McGrady Wright-Gardner Fredericton, NB

#### **Bachelor of Education**

Jenna Grace Augustine, BA Grace Brooke Baker, BA Abby Rebecca Bartlett, BA Chloe Leith Joan Box, BA Aspen Marie Boyer-Belanger, BA Kyle Francis Brown, BBA Keegan Patrick Burns, BA Shyanne Elaine Butland, BSc Mélissa Emma Carrier, BA Sarah Michelle Christensen, BKin Sydney Janice Conrad, BA Lauren Elizabeth Corlett, BA Angel Christine Côté, BSc Emma Jane Creamer, BA Lillie Anne Mckenna Cyr, BScKin Miramichi, NB Liscomb, NS Ludlow, NB Lincoln, NB Sault Ste. Marie, ON Corner Brook, NL New Maryland, NB Riverview, NB Fredericton, NB Gaspereaux, PE Oshawa, ON Miramichi, NB Grand Falls, NB Quispamsis, NB Halifax, NS Lauren Michelle Day, BA Zekiah May DeJong, BA Lia Joy Demmons, BBA Chloé Renée Doiron, BA Katelyn Breanna Drake, BA Abigail Rita Draper, BA Brandon Jerry Ferguson-Johnson, BA Kathleen Jo-Anne Grace Fernandes, BSc Billy Ray Fong, BA Kathryn Elizabeth Foord, BSc Catherine Garacho, MPACS Brennan John Garnett, BA Selina Jan Gaudreault, BSc Mary-Lynn Geraghty, BBA Maya Chase Gonzalez, BA Lindsay Joy Diana Graham, BA Bree Margaret Hallett, BA Emma-Leigh Suzanne Hallett, BScKin Lauren Tamara Halsall, BCS, BBA Joshua Ryan Hanson, BA Norah Hayley Haslett, BA Jaymee Leigh Henley, BSc Katie Elizabeth Herrington, BA Brittany Marie Hersey, BSc Emma Susan Hoch, BFA, MA Jillian Summer Hodgson, BA Emma Bell Hourihan, BA Emma Frances Keefe, BA Madison Blaire Kenny, BPhil Lauren Ashley Killam, BA Kendra Dawn Kilpatrick, BA Kyleigh Emma Roberta King, BA Molly Grace Lanigan, BA Merissa Rhiannon Theresa LeBlanc, BSc Danielle Yvonne Legere, BA Evan Lewis, BA Anne Liu, BA Emily Ann Maber, BA Sarah Jane MacCallum, BSc Benjamin Jon MacDonald, BBA Jared Montgomerie MacDonald, BRSS Cate Eliza MacKay, BBA Kiandra Caroline MacMullin, BA

Halifax, NS Quispamsis, NB Quispamsis, NB Fredericton, NB Vernon Bridge, PE Ottawa, ON Campbellton, NB Carleton Place, ON Port Coquitlam, BC Fredericton, NB Keswick, ON Quispamsis, NB Sackville, NB Campbellton, NB Saint John, NB Fredericton, NB Woodstock, NB Fredericton, NB Saint John, NB New Maryland, NB Fredericton, NB Glassville, NB Saint John, NB Saint John, NB Ottawa, ON Fredericton, NB Passekeag, NB Fredericton, NB Bathurst, NB Salisbury, NB Quispamsis, NB Oromocto, NB Quispamsis, NB Yarmouth, NS Fredericton, NB Aylesford, NS Fredericton, NB Quispamsis, NB Miramichi, NB Bathurst, NB Waasis, NB Quispamsis, NB Fredericton, NB

Lorin Taylor Marshall, BA Olivia Marie Massfeller, BPhil Noah Richard Joseph McCarthy, BComm Hannah Celeste Mclean-Sánchez, BA Rvan James Medcalf, BKin Alyssa Dawn Mersereau, BBA Matthew Alexander Chambers Milne, BScF Brooke Lynn Morales, BA, MA Charlotte Quinn Muirhead, BA Mackenzie Morgan Noiles, BA Grace Emma O'Donnell, BA Olivia Lynn Ormond, BA Jacob Douglas Lawrence Palmer, BA Ekaterina Marie Pelowich, BA Emelia Rose Piper, BCH Nyah Dawn Katherine Post, BSc Bethany Rose Ross, BA William John Russell, BA Julia Dianne Scarbro, BA Serena Joy Simmons, BSc Alex Michael Small, BScKin Kieran Michael Smyth, BMus Brett John Springer, BA Marc Alistair St. Amand, BA Benjamin Marcus Stairs, BA Hannah Jill Staples, BA Caitlin Marie Stewart, BA Kathryn Elizabeth Swift, BA Britney Alyssa Tardiff, BA Emma-Jean Elizabeth Thomson, BA Lucas Hillyard Tompkins, BScKin Xavier von Gröning, BA Alexandria Ceridwyn Weir, BA Emily Meghan Drysdale Whitty, BA Virginia Paige Wilson, BA Lauren May Wood, BA Ching Yi Yang, BA Nicole Anne Zacharuk, BA

# **Bachelor of Social Work**

Audréanne Luce Dubé

St. Stephen, NB Scotch Lake, NB Grand Falls, NB Saint John, NB Fredericton, NB Hampton, NB Fredericton, NB Cumberland City, TN, USA Ottawa, ON Amherst, NS Miramichi, NB Oromocto, NB Saint John, NB Stouffville, ON Connell, NB Sussex, NB Miramichi, NB Quispamsis, NB Nackawic, NB Devonshire, Bermuda Saint John, NB Fredericton, NB Bamberg, ON Ottawa, ON Fredericton, NB Lower Coverdale, NB Saint John, NB Sussex, NB Mazerolle Settlement, NB St. John's, NL Woodstock, NB Fredericton, NB Saint John, NB Lunenburg, NS St. Stephen, NB Hanwell, NB Saint John, NB Sussex, NB

Fredericton, NB

### Master of Social Work

Champion Adewale Adejumobi, BSW Makira Jessie Asprey, BA Phyllis Danguah Boakyewaa, BSW, MA Erin Eileen Cunningham, BSW Bhreagh Elizabeth Davies, BA, BSW James Divine, BA Hilary Lucy Ann Francis, BA, BSW Danica Elizabeth Godin, BA Jamie Dolores Chisholm Hachey, BA, BSW Brianne Patricia Kowalski, BA Alisha Moriah Leet, BA Tammy Lynn Leonard, BA Autumn Dawn Locke, BA, BSW Alize Barbara Mombourquette, BA Chidubem Jim Nkoloagu, BA Tatyana Chloe Palaty, BA Jennifer Joy Park, BA, BSW Julia Catherine Pender, BSW Mary Louise Catherine Pictou, BSW Laura Cynthia Sewell, BSW Madison Lynne Seymour, BA Sonya Lynn Somers, BSW Ai Quyen Truong, BA Carmen Marie Wilkins, BA

Lagos, Nigeria Cow Bay, NS Accra, Ghana Fredericton, NB Moncton, NB Saint John, NB Elsipogtog First Nation, NB Fredericton, NB Guysborough, NS Fredericton, NB Rexton, NB Rothesay, NB McAdam, NB Island View, NB Burnaby, BC Moncton, NB Halifax, NS Corner Brook, NL Eel River Bar First Nation, NB Pabineau First Nation, NB Amherst, NS Fredericton, NB Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam Burton, NB

# Doctor of Letters, honoris causa

Paul Ouellet

