

2023

Spring
Convocation



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY



Dalhousie University

Spring 2023 Convocation

Order of Proceedings

Academic and Graduate Processions

Welcome

President's Remarks

Conferring of Degrees

Conferring of Honorary Degree
(see page 4)

Convocation Address

O Canada

O Canada

*O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.*

*Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,
Il sait porter la croix!*

*Ton histoire est une épopée
Des plus brillants exploits.*

*God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.*

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Dalhousie Leaders

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Dr. Rick Ezekiel

Vice-Provost, Equity, and Inclusion
Dr. Theresa Rajack-Talley

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Dr. Jennifer Bain

Associate Vice-President, Research (Ocean) and Scientific Director, Ocean Frontier Institute
Dr. Anya Waite

Assistant Vice-President, Communications, Marketing and Creative Services
Matt Proctor

General Counsel and University Secretary
John Hope

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Dr. Graham Gagnon, Faculty of Architecture and Planning

Dr. Jennifer Andrews, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Andrew Rau-Chaplin, Faculty of Computer Science

Dr. Benjamin Davis, Faculty of Dentistry

Dr. John Newhook, Faculty of Engineering

Dr. Adam Donaldson, Faculty of Graduate Studies (Acting)

Dr. Brenda Merritt, Faculty of Health

Camille Cameron, Schulich School of Law

Michael Vandenburg, Libraries

Dr. Mike Smit, Faculty of Management (Acting)

Dr. David Anderson, Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Macdonald, Faculty of Science

Dr. Dianne Tyers, Faculty of Open Learning and Career Development

Board of Governors

Chancellor

The Honourable Scott Brison

Chancellor Emeriti

Rueben Cohen
Graham Day
Richard Goldbloom
Frederick Fountain
The Honourable A. Anne McLellan

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Cheryl Fraser

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Cassandra Dorrington

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Devarsh Sood
Dr. Louise Spiteri
Caroline Zayid

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Vice-Chair, Student Affairs
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Vice-Chair, Academic Programs
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Dalhousie Student Union Executive

President
Mariam Knakriah

Vice-President, Internal
Thomais (Tammy) Maniou

Vice-President, Finance and Operations
Henry Amin

We recognize the inspiring role of our faculty in the education of our graduates, enhanced by the tremendous support of our staff and administrators.

While too numerous to list, we celebrate the impactful contributions of these individuals alongside university leadership.

Messages to Graduates

Chancellor's Message

As a fellow alumnus, I congratulate you on your graduation and on the hard work it has taken to reach this impressive milestone.

Completing a university degree is always a major accomplishment, but doing so during a pandemic, and against the backdrop of the urgent global and societal challenges recent years have seen, has required even greater fortitude. I commend you for your commitment to your education.

Thinking back, I am struck by how important my experience at Dalhousie was in shaping my own career and commitment to citizenship. Citizenship is defined as the quality of one's response to membership in a community. And during your time at Dalhousie, you have witnessed global events that affirm the importance, now more than ever before, of our individual responsibility to strive for public good.

As you embark on your future, I hope that in addition to providing a good foundation for your career, Dalhousie has played a role in forging you as a global citizen prepared to roll up your sleeves and help build a better world.

You have completed your studies in extraordinary times, and I am thrilled to join you for this very well-earned celebration of your perseverance and success.

Congratulations, and I look forward to seeing the progress you help achieve for your communities, your countries, and for humanity.



**The Honourable Scott Brison,
P.C.**
Chancellor
Dalhousie University

President's Message

Graduation is a significant and well-earned milestone. I hope that, when you cross the stage today, it is a profound and meaningful moment for both you and those who supported you along the way.

Completing your degrees – particularly through the unique circumstances of doing so through a global pandemic – has required incredible perseverance and dedication to your studies. And thanks to your commitment, you have now achieved what many people only dream of.

Convocation signifies a transition from your time as students to alumni. You are now joining an international network of over 155,000 Dalhousie graduates who are already leaving their mark around the world. I look forward to seeing the impact the Class of 2023 will no doubt make as part of this accomplished global community.

As a university, we take immense pride in the success of our graduates, and we are committed to becoming an even greater institution, so the value of your degree only increases over time. The most important benefit of your education though, is the ability that it has given you to pursue your goals with greater skills, confidence, and discernment, paving the way for a more promising future.

Congratulations on this wonderful achievement! Please enjoy the moment – and keep in touch.



Dr. Frank Harvey
President and Vice-Chancellor
(Acting)
Dalhousie University

Message from Alumni

Convocation is a special experience, a time to celebrate all your hard work and achievements as a student. You are now part of the Dalhousie University alumni community. Welcome!

You are entering a new phase in your life filled with exciting possibilities. Just as Dal supported you as a student, there are many ways we can continue to support you through the next steps of your journey.

There are more than 155,000 Dal alumni around the world, and if the events of recent years have taught us anything, it is the importance of staying connected even when we cannot physically be together.

There are many reasons to connect with Dal, like networking and mentorship opportunities, exclusive benefits, further learning opportunities, and fun social events we all can look forward to in the near future. So, find a way to stay engaged that is meaningful to you, whether that's through attending an alumni event, volunteering or connecting with us through our various Dal Alumni social media channels.

Lastly, I want to remind you to cherish your time at Dal. Graduating is one of the most important moments in your life. I hope that when you look back at your time as a Dalhousie student, you are filled with fond memories and pride in all you have accomplished.

At the top of alumni.dal.ca, you'll find a tab labelled "Connect" which will set you on your way.



Devarsh Sood (BEng'14)
President
Dalhousie Alumni Association

Honorary Degree Recipients

Dr. Edward J. Cain

Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*)

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 9:00am

Dr. Edward Cain began his medical career in 1977 after graduating from the University of Ottawa and performing his residency at Dalhousie University. He dedicated his practice to working in emergency medicine, and consequently changed the lives of countless Nova Scotians in need of acute care through his medical practice, research and advocacy work.

Among Dr. Cain's numerous achievements are his contribution to the creation of the Paramedic Act, a piece of legislation that provided the groundwork and legal authority for paramedicine to become a self-regulating profession. His research into community paramedicine enabled paramedics to perform and expand their scope of service to include primary health needs, and his research into how best to administer life-saving medicine to heart attack patients "in the field" has helped save lives. He was also instrumental in the development of protocols that guide paramedical clinical practice in line with the latest evidence and research.

Dr. Cain was an emergency medicine physician at the QEII Health Sciences Centre for many years. He was an associate professor in Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine, has held roles in emergency health services for the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick governments, and has acted as a consultant for the paramedic program at the Justice Institute in British Columbia. He has been honoured with the Dr. Ron Stewart Award by the National Association of EMS Physicians and the Health Promotion Award by Doctors Nova Scotia.



Brad Barton

Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*)

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 9:00am

Brad Barton knew he wanted to teach from the time he was a teenager and over the past 60 years, few individuals can claim to have had a more positive impact on Nova Scotia's school system. From his own experience attending a segregated school to his work in classrooms and the provincial Department of Education, Mr. Barton has transformed the way our schools welcome and support African Nova Scotian learners and, indeed, students from all corners of this province.

Born and raised in Jordantown, Digby County, Mr. Barton began teaching at Allan W Evans/Nelson Whynder Elementary School in North Preston, fresh out of high school before even completing his teaching certification. In the years since, he has been a principal at the elementary, junior high and high school levels, and has held several senior administrative positions including Supervisor of Schools and Supervisor & Coordinator of Race Relations, Cross-cultural Education and Human Rights. In these roles and others, he has been instrumental in creating and leading initiatives to increase accessibility and improve outcomes for African Nova Scotian learners. He is a lifetime member of the Canadian Education Association and a past president of the National Council of Black Educators in Canada.

Mr. Barton has left a lasting legacy in the sporting world as a volleyball coach, official and administrator. He officiated at two Olympic Games, one PanAm Games, three World Student Games and at World Championships. He is the first Black Canadian to become an internationally rated volleyball referee. Mr. Barton has received numerous awards, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Order of Nova Scotia and induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



Congratulations Graduates

Graduate and academic honour lists can be accessed via mobile using the QR codes below, or by visiting dal.ca/grad-lists.

Graduate Lists by Ceremony



Academic Distinctions, University Medals and Class Prizes



Convocation and Ceremonial Elements

Convocation

Convocation is a celebration where students transition to alumni, celebrating their achievements as they cross the stage to receive their degree.

New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging

Dalhousie introduced the New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging on May 10, 2019. The Staff officially replaced the University Mace as the ceremonial object used to open and close Convocation ceremonies. Like the Mace before it, the New Dawn Staff is carried into the ceremony by the University Beadle at the head of the graduate procession and placed onstage to signal the start of the celebration, and carried back out to mark the end.

The New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging was designed and created by artists Alan Syliboy of Millbrook First Nation and Mark Austin of Cumberland County with guidance from the university and in collaboration with a team of artists and craftspeople from diverse communities across Nova Scotia.

Dalhousie is one of the first universities in North America to replace its traditional mace with a new ceremonial object. Through its mix of symbols, materials and textures, the New Dawn Staff reflects the rich diversity of individuals who make up the Dalhousie community today and their collective history in this place that we share together.

Symbols and materials integrated along the shaft signify Dalhousie's location in Mi'kma'ki and important on-going relationships with Mi'kmaq communities. Descendants of early European and international settlers, Acadians, Peoples of African descent, persons with disabilities, all genders and the LGBTQ2S+ communities are acknowledged with Staff elements in an effort to convey inclusion, diversity, and equity. Contributions by artists from Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian and other communities celebrate that Dalhousie is part of a larger geographic and cultural place of diversity and inclusion.

More than thirty materials and twenty processes were used in the creation of the New Dawn Staff and its accompanying stand. Nova Scotian materials were used when possible, including the white ash that serves as the base material for the pole and driftwood that forms the top segment.

Textiles from around the world, near-field chip technology, recycled gold, and several other natural materials were incorporated throughout using processes ranging from wood turning and textile wrapping to laser cutting, wire weaving, and gilding.

At 7'4" (2.24 metres) tall, the New Dawn Staff cuts an impressive figure befitting of a symbol of achievement. But as a walking stick it also symbolizes the idea of a journey — educational and otherwise — and provides functionality as an aid for walking and as a beacon for community. Four distinct grip zones mean the staff can be carried by individuals with different walking or sitting heights.

Artists involved in the creation of the New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging were Mark Austin, Alan Syliboy, Wendie Poitras, Annie Martin, Mohammed Issa, Jessie Marshall, Mark Hamilton, Matt D'Entremont, Fred Marshall, Lily Volio, Debby Finkbeiner, Arjun Lal, and many unknown makers whose pre-existing work was incorporated for its cultural significance.

With the New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging, Dalhousie journeys proudly through its third century informed by the past and inspired for the future.

Coat of Arms

The Dalhousie University Coat of Arms, which you see hanging at the back of the stage, is based on the heraldic achievement (commonly called "Coat of Arms") of the Ramsay family of Scotland. The Rt. Hon. George Ramsay, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, founded the University in 1818. Initially the Ramsay family coat of arms was used to identify Dalhousie. But over time, it has evolved, as have most heraldic devices through marriage or political alliances.

The seal used by the University differs from that of the Ramsay family version in three ways. First, through marriage one of the supporters on the Ramsay achievement has now changed to include a greyhound on the right. Secondly, the original Ramsay supporters were griffins (half lion, half dragon), while Dalhousie's are dragons. The third change occurred in 1950 when the Board of Governors changed the colour of the shield from white (silver) to gold, to reflect the University's colours of black and gold.

Since 1987 the university has used the eagle and shield as the basis for its logo.

Academic Dress

Academic dress — also known as academic costume or regalia — is the distinctive gowns and hoods worn by all participants (including faculty members and university officials who sit onstage) during a Convocation ceremony. The lining of the hood identifies the field of study.

The tradition of graduates wearing gowns and hoods dates back to the 12th and 13th centuries. This tradition continues today at Dalhousie University to signify a graduate's academic accomplishment.

During the ceremony, Indigenous graduates may be recognized by Elders with the gift of a traditional handmade **Medicine Pouch**.

Indigenous students are welcome to wear traditional dress in a manner that celebrates their heritage along with their ceremonial hood.

In recognition of their heritage, Black graduates of African descent may wear a **Kente Sash**; a symbolic stole, using hand woven material made in Ghana.

Hood color references for Dalhousie degrees:

BA	White silk/white faux fur border	BScRec	Yellow silk/forest green silk border	MEng/	
BAgr	Royal blue/gold & blue silk border	BSE	Gold silk/emerald silk border	MPlan	Peacock blue/gold border
BArch	Vermilion/white corded border	BTech	Emerald green silk/gold & blue silk border	MEng/	Peacock blue/gold border
BASc	Gold/white corded border with blue piping	BSW	Gold silk/white silk border	MURP	
BACS	Emerald green/white border	DDS	Scarlet silk/gold border	MES	Copper silk
BCBD	Chartreuse silk/peacock blue silk border with red cording	JD/LLB	White silk/gold silk border	MFA	Royal blue/burgundy border with white corded piping
BCD	Green silk/peacock blue corded border	MD	Scarlet silk/white silk border	MGC	Silver silk/scarlet silk border with white cord
BCom	White satin/light blue border	LLM	Purple silk	MHI	Scarlet silk/emerald green silk border
BCSc	Emerald green/gold border	MA	Crimson silk	MHA	Sky blue silk/white silk border
BDH	Deep purple satin/gold border	EMEC	Emerald green/purple border with turquoise piping	MIM	Mint green satin/white border
BEEd	Dark blue satin/white border	MACSc	Emerald green/silver border with white piping	MITE	Teal green silk/white silk border with gold piping
BEDS	White/two parallel strips of white corded border	MAHSR	White silk/sky blue silk border with white piping	MJ	Royal blue/royal blue border with white corded piping
BEng	Gold/white corded border	March	White/two parallel stripes of red corded border	MI/MLIS	Mid-forest green silk
BHIM	Peacock satin/white border	MArch		MMM	Navy silk/sea-green silk border
BHSc	Silver satin/white border	(Post Prof)	White/vermilion border	MN	Apricot silk
BINF	Emerald green/white border	MASc	Sky blue/gold border with white piping	MPlan	Peacock blue/green corded border
BMgt	White silk/teal green silk border	MASc/	Peacock blue/gold border with white piping	MPA	Sky blue silk
BMus	White satin/lavender border	MPlan	Peacock blue/gold border with white piping	MPer	Gold silk/scarlet silk border
BMusEd	Lavender satin/white border	MASc/	Peacock blue/gold border with white piping	MPS	Cobalt crepe satin
BN	White silk/royal blue silk border	MURP		MREM	Copper silk/white silk border
BPE	Sage green silk/white silk border	MAT		MSc	Scarlet silk
BRec	Yellow silk/forest green silk border	(French)	Crimson silk/white silk border	MSW	Citron silk
BSc	White silk/scarlet silk border	MBA	Turquoise silk	MURP	Peacock blue/green corded border
BSc (Agr)	White silk/gold & blue silk border	MCS	Emerald green/gold border with white piping	JSD	Gown of black faced with Olympic blue bordered with yellow, the hood is black corded/lining of Olympic blue and bordered with yellow of the Cambridge design, birretum is black velvet with yellow cord
BScHE	Forest green silk/gold silk border	MDE	Medium blue silk/red scarlet silk border		
BScHP	Forest green silk/gold silk border	MDI	Purple silk/emerald green border		
BScK	White silk/crimson silk border	MEC	Emerald green/purple border with turquoise piping		
BScN	White silk/royal blue silk border		Royal blue silk	PhD	Black gown faced with yellow (gold), hood is black of Cambridge design with yellow, birretum is black velvet with gold cord.
BScOT	Peacock satin/crimson silk border	MEd			
BScPh	White silk/purple silk border	MEDR	White/three parallel stripes of white/vermilion corded border		
BScPT	White silk/scarlet & gold silk border	MEng	Blue/gold border		

Professional Oaths

The Hippocratic Oath

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 9:00am

To be recited by all graduating medicine students. In reciting this oath, graduates declare allegiance to an ancient, honourable, and durable tradition, the survival of which is important for the welfare of the sick and of society.

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. This awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

The Oral Health Professional Oath

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 12:30pm

To be recited by all graduating dentistry and dental hygiene students.

I do hereby solemnly swear to pledge my commitment as an oral health professional.

I will assist my patients in achieving optimal oral health.

Without discrimination, I will treat my patients with honour and respect and will contribute to their overall well-being.

My patients will be actively involved in their treatment decisions, and they can trust that I will compassionately place their needs before my own.

I will always conduct myself in an ethical and professional manner, and will hold myself to the highest standards.

I will not undertake tasks beyond my ability and competence.

I will promote access to care and social justice for those who are most vulnerable. I will protect and preserve the oral health of the public.

I am committed to evidence-based practice and life-long learning. I will strive to contribute to the advancement of dental education for the benefit of my community, patients and colleagues.

These promises I make freely, and upon my honour.

