



SAINT MARY'S
UNIVERSITY SINCE 1802

One University. One World. Yours.

Indigenous Peer Mentor Handbook

2016 - 2017

indigenouspeermentor@smu.ca

Facebook

Aboriginal A. Saint Mary's



What is the purpose of the Indigenous Peer Mentor?

The role of Indigenous Peer Mentor is to provide information, support, education and referrals to Indigenous students studying at Saint Mary's University.

The Indigenous Peer Mentor can help you navigate your way through your university experience, while connecting you to others on the same journey.

Students can drop by to say hello, introduce themselves get to know faculty, staff and students. All questions are welcome!

My duties include:

My goal is to help Indigenous students in the following areas:

- Scholarships & Bursaries / Financial Aid
- Employment & volunteer information
- Academic processes
- Accessing on-campus resources
- Networking with off-campus organizations relevant to Indigenous students
- Adjustment & transition concerns
- Community building by holding educational workshops and social gatherings

Societies

Getting involved on campus is a great way to meet new people. Student societies have plenty to offer from events throughout the school year.

Search

Saint Mary's University Aboriginal Society

On Facebook



Student Services

Counselling Centre offers both personal counselling and academic & life skills coaching to students free of charge. University life can be stressful, but the team of professionals will help you meet your academic and personal goals.

Career Services helps students who are preparing for a job search or who are looking for career counselling. You'll build your resume and cover letter, prepare for an interview, develop networking skills, and more.

Student Employment Centre can also help you if you're looking for a job. You'll find HireSMU, a job bank specifically for Saint Mary's students, and information on the Halifax Career Fair, and the Summer Job Fair.

Student Health Centre is your family health clinic while you're away from home. They offer a wide variety of services, including prescriptions, vaccines, contraception, blood work, and women's health services.

Student Services

Fred Smithers Centre offers assistance to students with a documented disability.

Residence Life Office plans hundreds of programs every year to educate and engage students.

Chaplaincy offers opportunities for students to discover a deeper faith, develop life balance, and encounter a welcoming community.

General questions regarding Student Services (career services, counselling, student health and more...)

Tel: 902-420-5761

[Email: student.services@smu.ca](mailto:student.services@smu.ca)

Other Services:

Patrick Power Library offers students study space, computer access, and access to thousands of books and journals from all over the province. Library staff are always available to help students with research, and the library website offers lots of advice on writing papers, citing sources, and doing research.

Writing Centre offers free tutoring and workshops geared towards helping you improve your writing skills.

Service Centre (McNally Main) houses Student Accounts, the Registrar's Office, and Financial Aid & Awards, and can help you with registration, student account payments, scholarships, student loans, and other issues relating to your student file.

Campus Directory

Main Switchboard 902-420-5400

University Security:

- **Emergencies** 902-420-5000
- **General Inquiries** 902-420-5577

Cancellation/Closure Hotlines:

- **For Students** 902-491-6263

ITSS (computer, internet & telephone support)

- 902-496-8111
- helpdesk@smu.ca

Service Centre (transcripts, academic timetables/schedules, financial aid, scholarships, awards & graduation)

- 902-420-5582
- service.centre@smu.ca

Important Dates

Sep 7, 2016	Fall term begins.
Sep 16, 2016	Last day to register and/or drop Fall courses with 100% refund.
Nov 30, 2016	End of Fall term & exam period begins.
Jan 4, 2017	Winter term begins.
Jan 13, 2017	Last day to register and/or drop Winter courses with 100% refund.
Apr 17, 2017	End of Winter term & exam period.

Final Exam Dates

Dec 1&2, 2016	Study days. No classes
Dec 3, 2016	Start of formal final examinations.
Dec 17, 2016	End of final exams and end of the Winter term.
Mar 31/Apr 1, 2017	Study days. No classes
Apr 3, 2017	Start of formal final examinations
Apr 19, 2017	End of final exams and end of the Winter term.

Holidays

Oct 10, 2016	Thanksgiving Day - Administrative offices closed. No classes.
Nov 9/10, 2016	Fall Break
Nov 11, 2016	Remembrance Day - Administrative offices closed. No classes.
Nov 25, 2016	Study day. No classes. Administrative offices open.
Feb 13-19, 2017	Winter Break.
Apr 14, 2017	Good Friday. Administrative offices closed. No classes.
Apr 17, 2017	Easter Monday. Administrative offices closed. No classes.

Indigenous Holidays

June 21st – National Aboriginal Day

July 26th – Saint Anne's Day

October 1st – Mi'kmaq Treaty Day

October – Mi'kmaq History Month

Scholarship Information

SMU Bursary

Application Deadline:

Fall: Thursday, October 30, 2015 at 5:00 pm

Winter: TBA

Sister Dorothy Moore Mi'kmaq Education Scholarship

<http://firstnationhelp.com/SisterDorothyMooreScholarship.pdf>

Indspire: Building Brighter Futures Scholarships & Bursaries Program

<https://indspire.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/indspire-bursary-and-scholarship-spring-application-guidelines-en-2014.pdf>

First Nations & Indigenous Black Students Entrance Scholarship - Dalhousie University

<http://www.registrar.dal.ca/forms/FNIBSES.pdf>

Donald Marshall Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

<http://kinu.ca/scholarships.php>

Helen Bassett Commemorative Student Award

<http://nwac.ca/nwac-helen-bassett-commemorative-student-award>

Scholarship Information

Heroes of our Time Scholarships - Assembly of First Nations

<http://www.afn.ca/index.php/en/policy-areas/education/other/heroes-of-our-time-scholarships-2013>

Native Council of Nova Scotia/NSERC Scholarship Awards

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/Aboriginal-Autochtones_eng.asp

Undergraduate Internship Awards - The Atlantic Aboriginal Health Research Program

<http://aahrp.ca/student-program/student-applications/undergraduate-internship-application-guidelines/>

**Also for more scholarships
and bursaries offered at SMU
see:**

<http://www.smu.ca/academics/undergraduate-aid-and-awards.html>

More about the counselling centre

“We offer individual personal counselling, academic & life skills coaching and consultations. Our team of professionals will help you meet your academic and personal goals. We understand how stressful university life can be and how making small changes can have a huge impact”.

“All students new to The Counselling Centre meet first with our Intake & Programs Coordinator for an initial intake assessment. This 30 minute appointment is an opportunity for you to discuss your concerns and provide a brief history so that we can assess how best we can assist you, whether that is booking a counselling appointment with one of our Clinical Therapists/Psychologists, scheduling an academic & life coaching session or making referrals to other campus or community resources”.

<http://www.smu.ca/campus-life/the-counselling-centre.html>

