



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

To: SJU Community

From: Cristina Vanin, Vice President Academic & Dean, Interim
Mike Gourlay, Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Cristina D. Vanin
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Date: June 26, 2020

Subject: SJU Return to Campus Update

Although the St. Jerome's University campus remains closed to the public until further notice, the SJU Return-to-Campus Planning Team has been established and has been working hard to strategize a phased-in approach to the re-opening of our campus.

The work of the Return-to-Campus Planning Team will be guided by advice and best practices from three main resources: The Ontario Government, Community Public Health and the University of Waterloo. These resources will inform the building of timeliness and the establishment of what the 'new normal' will look like when we return.

Until the St. Jerome's campus can establish the necessary protocols required to safely start to re-open, employees will continue to have restricted access to SJU campus buildings.

- Staff: Only essential services staff (currently, just the Facilities team) have been approved to work on campus. Any access to buildings or offices require authorization from your direct supervisor and Tom Slaby, Director, Facilities.
- Academic Staff and Researchers: Any access to buildings or offices will need the authorization of Dr. Cristina Vanin, Interim VP Academic and Dean.

Given that all Fall 2020 classes at St. Jerome's will be delivered remotely, it makes sense that we look to a phased-in approach to our return to campus planning.

- Phase 1 Return to Campus: August 2020
Essential services as well as employees directly involved in co-ordinating Residence services (100 students expected this fall) will be permitted to return to work on campus. At this time, there will be restrictions on which spaces are open to streamline necessary sanitation practices and secure procurement supply chains. All other employees will continue to work remotely.

The determination of the next phases of re-opening as well as their timelines will be predicated by updates to recommendations and guidelines as they become available.

Over the coming weeks, the Return-to-Campus Planning Team will be meeting with University leaders and individual departments to help determine the following:

1. Securing a supply chain for critical supplies
2. Locations for the installation of physical barriers and visual cues for social distancing measures
3. Policies and procedures needed to support compliance mandates
4. Schedule for the flow of traffic that strikes a balance between space utilization and personal safety measures
5. Determination of the timeline for employees to return to campus.
6. Response Planning for a potential SJU community COVID-19 outbreak

A Return-to-Campus Communications sub-committee will be initiating an SJU Community Survey, and data collected will help to guide the Team's strategic planning initiatives for a safe and practical return to campus.

It is critical that St. Jerome's University continues to prioritize the safety and wellbeing of our entire community. With this in mind, it is clear that we are still months away from being able to safely execute a full return to our campus. The resiliency, understanding, patience, and commitment that SJU has shown during this time has been outstanding. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Mike Gourlay (mike.gourlay@uwaterloo.ca) or Cristina Vanin (cristina.vanin@uwaterloo.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.