



## Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic Newsletter

### Message from the PVPA

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As we move into the final stretch of the Winter Term, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone across the University community for your continued care, efforts, collaboration, and commitment over the past several weeks.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who is participating in the development of Pillar 1 under *Meeting the Moment: Strategic Plan 2025–2030*. Your time, insight, and thoughtful engagement are helping shape an important part of our collective work to foster a thriving academic community of excellence.

I am also grateful to everyone who contributed to recent community events, including Open House, WestCAST 2026 and *Black Narratives Leading Communities: Action, Vision & Change*. Each offered a meaningful example of the generosity, creativity, and collaboration that continue to define UWinnipeg.

Thank you, as always, for all that you do in support of our students and one another.

In respect and appreciation,

Pavlina Radia

## Updates on Strategic Initiatives

### **Pillar 1: Fostering a Thriving Academic Community of Excellence**

Following the launch of *Meeting the Moment: Strategic Plan 2025-2030* in October, the University has embarked on developing pillar implementation plans to support each of the Strategic Plan's five pillars. The PVPA Office is responsible for **Pillar 1: Fostering a Thriving Academic Community of Excellence**.

Following the Supporting Plans Consultation Session in December, the Pillar 1 Steering Committee met on February 19 to review feedback from the multi-pillar engagement session and survey responses. The committee also agreed to organize its next phase of work through three sub-groups, corresponding to the three draft objectives.

A Pillar 1 retreat was held on March 20, where members reviewed the emerging planning template, discussed alignment with the Strategic Enrolment Management Plan, and worked through draft key actions for each objective. Group discussions focused on:

- Objective 1: Student Success
- Objective 2: Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Education
- Objective 3: Faculty Supports in Teaching and Learning

Many thanks to the Pillar 1 committee members for their thoughtful participation and ongoing contributions. Further updates and engagement opportunities will be shared in May.

### **Teaching and Learning Working Group and Work-Integrated Learning Working Group**

The Teaching and Learning Working Group and the Work-Integrated Learning Working Group continue to advance foundational work in support of institutional academic priorities. A joint session held in January helped strengthen alignment between teaching innovation and experiential learning. These groups are also expected to support review of the new online Teaching and Learning Hub, which is planned to launch in April.

## BIPOC and 2SLGBTQ+ Mentorship Network Events

The BIPOC Mentorship Network and 2SLGBTQ+ Mentorship Network continue to grow as important spaces for connection, learning, and professional support for faculty and staff. Recent BIPOC Mentorship Network programming has included *How to Draft and Sell Trade Book Proposals*, led by Jenny Heijun Wills, as well as the upcoming professional development event *Fire and Silence: A Special Session for BIPOC Leaders*. In collaboration with the Pride working group, planning is also continuing for a faculty and staff mixer during this year's [Pride Winnipeg](#).

We also extend our appreciation to the many members who have been so generous in sharing their time, insights, and support across both networks. These networks remain important sites of mentorship, professional development, and community-building, aligned with the University's commitments to equity, reconciliation, and inclusion.

**Join us:** If you would like to join or invite others to join either network, please email [a.ding@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:a.ding@uwinnipeg.ca).

## Strategic Enrolment Management

The University's first Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) Plan was approved by Senate on February 26, 2026, and approved by the Board of Regents on March 23, 2026. Thanks again to all those who contributed to the development of this vital strategic document! More updates to come.



# **CICs** **CONVERSATIONS ON** **INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION**

## **CICs: Conversations on Interdisciplinary Collaboration**

The Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, is pleased to introduce *CICs: Conversations on Interdisciplinary Collaboration*, a new series of panel discussions intended to generate productive and provocative exchanges across disciplines on some of the most challenging issues facing us today.

The first event in the series, *Dialogue and Debate in the Age of Polarization*, will explore questions such as how we engage critically and respectfully across difference, whether in identity, discipline, or ways of knowing; how we move from safe spaces to brave spaces with the potential for constructive dialogue and debate; and how we work toward shared goals to transform universities and society for the better. This panel will take place on **April 14, 2026, at 5 p.m.** at **Studio 1L10** in Lockhart Hall, and will feature **Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek, Dr. Lilach Marom, and Dr. Malinda Smith.**

[Register here](#)

The two following conversations in this series will be:

- Generative AI and Its Discontents
- Collegial Governance and Decolonial Practice

Faculty are invited to submit their ideas to [provost@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:provost@uwinnipeg.ca).

## **Call for Participation**

The University of Winnipeg has designated a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC), funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), in Health Equity and Data Analytics. The University will be seeking an exceptional internal candidate

currently employed by The University of Winnipeg who, at a minimum, holds the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor and has ten or fewer years of experience as an active researcher in their field at the time of nomination. This thematic research area aims to advance health equity for individuals and populations. Applications will be considered until **May 4, 2026**.

For application information, including the application process, assessment criteria, scope, and eligibility, please visit: [Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Health Equity and Data Analytics](#)

## Upcoming Events



### Fire and Silence: A Special Session for BIPOC Leaders

April 23, 2026 | 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Fully online

April 30, 2026 | 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

2M70

This two-part professional development session, facilitated by Annahid Dashtgard and Dr. Sharanpal Ruprai, is open to BIPOC faculty, staff, and students. [Register here](#).



### 2SLGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Mixer

Early June, 2026 | 4:00–8:00 p.m.

Location to be announced

Join members of the faculty and staff community during this year's Pride Winnipeg.



## PVPA Spotlight

### 2027 Fellowship Nomination Process – Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation

The 2027 Fellowship nomination process for the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation is now open, with a nomination deadline of **May 15, 2026**. The Foundation is an independent, non-partisan Canadian registered charity that supports leading-edge research in the humanities and social sciences with strong connections to public life and contemporary societal issues. Each year, **up to four Fellows** are selected from among full professors at Canadian universities for a three-year mandate. The Fellowship has a total value of up to \$300,000 per Fellow, including a prize, research support, and potential teaching buy-out. Candidates must be nominated by their home institutions. [More details](#)

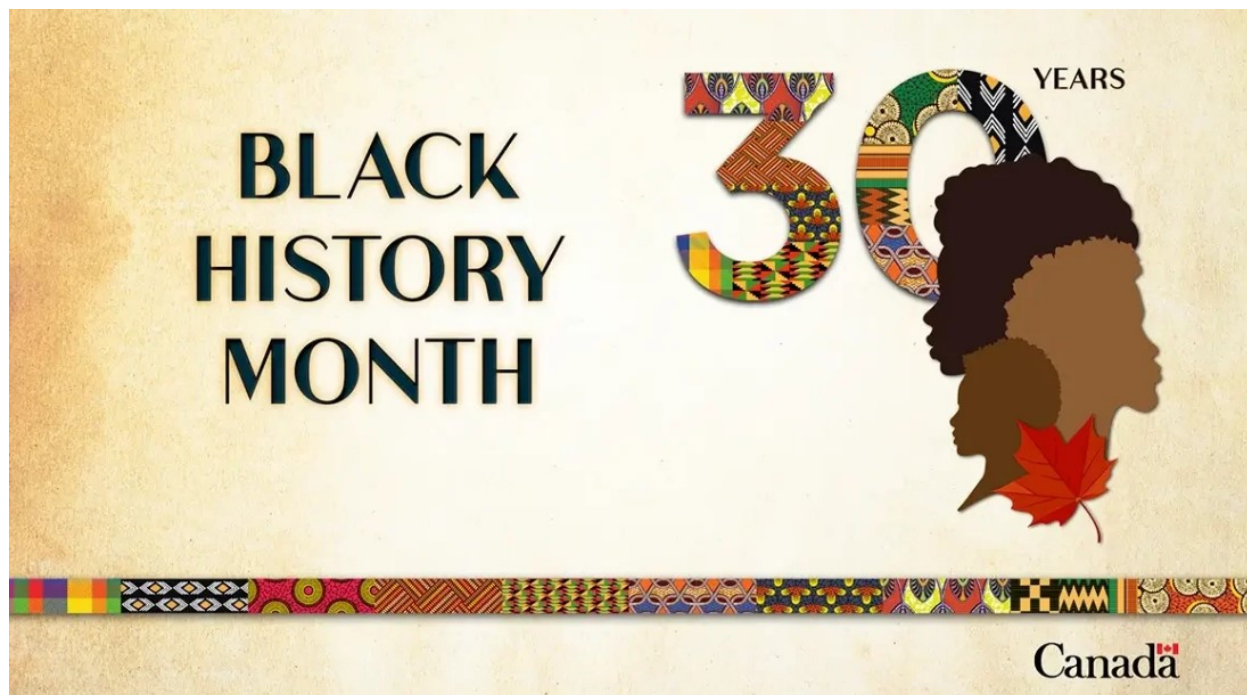


## WestCAST 2026

In February, the Faculty of Education hosted WestCAST 2026 at The University of Winnipeg. Held from February 18 to 20 under the theme “Together. We Grow!” the conference welcomed more than 450 attendees, including representation from the Manitoba Teachers’ Society, the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, the Manitoba School Boards’ Association, and the Manitoba government. The program included more than 150 presentations and workshops and five keynote sessions dedicated to the Honourable Murray Sinclair’s question of identity. With delegates from the University of the West Indies, North Dakota, and across Canada, the conference was also truly international in scope. Many thanks to the organizing team—Wayne Davies, Dr. Michael Holden, Dr. Will Burton, Dr. Farra Yasin, and Danielle Gagnon—as well as the many presenters, volunteers, and participants who contributed to the success of the conference.

## Open House

On February 18, 2026, The University of Winnipeg hosted its annual Open House, welcoming over 1,250 prospective students and their families to campus. As part of the event, 170 students attended the second annual **QuikToks** in Studio 1L10, where they had the opportunity to hear short presentations and engage directly with academic areas. Open House continues to play an important role in recruitment by giving future students and their families an opportunity to experience the vibrancy of campus life and connect with faculty, staff, and student volunteers.



### **Black Narratives Leading Communities: Action, Vision & Change**

On February 27, 2026, The University of Winnipeg hosted *Black Narratives Leading Communities: Action, Vision & Change* in collaboration with the Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program, the University of Manitoba, and Red River College Polytechnic as part of Black History Month programming. The event welcomed over 525 community members to campus, including Black high school and postsecondary students, and highlighted local Black flourishing, leadership, and community impact.

Special thanks to Jennifer Trotman (J.T.), Jade Penner, Inga Johnson Mychasiw, Dr. Cara Isaak, Jazmin Hysert, Chloe Williamson, Dr. Mary Adedayo, Dr. Susan Lingle, Dr. Enayon Sunday Taiwo, Dr. Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba, Dr. Kishi Anderson Leachman, and the planning committee for their leadership, care, and commitment in bringing this important event to life.

The University also recognized individuals whose work has strengthened equity, inclusion, and community leadership, including this year's community award recipients **Dr. Kishi Anderson Leachman**, Assistant Professor in Inclusive Education, whose work in inclusive education, social justice, and community-engaged teaching has had a meaningful impact, and **Bisola Olanrewaju-Rauf**, a third-year Psychology student and Senior Resident Advisor, recognized for her leadership in residence life, student mentorship, and fostering belonging on campus. Many thanks to the planning committee and the nearly 50 student volunteers whose contributions helped make the event a success.



## **Pinoy Gathering & Coming Together**

On February 6, 2026, UWinnipeg hosted *Pinoy Gathering & Coming Together*, an event that brought together students, faculty, and staff of Filipino heritage, as well as allies, for conversation, community building, and an arts-based workshop. Centred on the Filipino concept of Kapwa, the gathering created space for reflection on relationality, belonging, and connection within the university community. Many thanks to Dennis Gupa and all involved in organizing this thoughtful and welcoming event.

## **Faculty, Staff, and Student Supports**

We wanted to remind faculty, staff, and students to take time to care for their mental health and well-being. Please know that resources and supports are available for those who may need them.

Faculty and staff can access:

- Klinik Crisis Line: 204-786-8686
- Mobile Crisis Service: 204-940-1781
- **Employee & Family Assistance Program**

Students can access:

- Clinic Crisis Line: 204-786-8686
- Counsellors at the **Wellness Centre**
- **Indigenous Student Services** staff
- **International Student Services** staff

## **Feedback and contact information**

If you have any questions or comments about the contents of this newsletter, feel free to contact the Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, at [provost@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:provost@uwinnipeg.ca).

Contact page



You are receiving this email because you are faculty member or a staff member in a unit that is part of the Office of the Provost portfolio.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [communications@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:communications@uwinnipeg.ca).

[Learn more.](#)

### **University of Winnipeg**

515 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3B 2E9

Sent by

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