





**Date:** August 26, 2021

**To:** Senate

**From:** Michael Benarroch, Ph.D.  
President and Vice-Chancellor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Benarroch".

**Re:** Academic Schedule Change – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

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I write in strong support of the proposal from the Registrar to adjust the academic schedule to accommodate the University's closure on September 30 to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. I have discussed this proposal with the University's executive team, and Dr. Diane Hiebert-Murphy, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) has engaged with the University's deans, and I can affirm that there is strong and consistent support to enable the University to move forward.

In recognizing this day, all members of the University of Manitoba community will be able to participate in commemoration and reconciliation activities. The University, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation will offer events and resources to recognize this important day; further information will be available as details are finalized.

I encourage all members of our community to make themselves aware of these opportunities and to use the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation for reflection, commemoration, learning and action.



**University  
of Manitoba**

Office of the Registrar and  
Enrolment Services

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TO: Jeff Leclerc, University Secretary

FROM: Jeff Adams, University Registrar and Executive Director, Enrolment Services

DATE: August 26, 2021

**SUBJECT: Academic Schedule Change – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30<sup>th</sup>)**

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The decision has been made by the University of Manitoba to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30<sup>th</sup>) as a university closure beginning in 2021; no classes or exams will be scheduled for this day. To accommodate this modification some changes to the 2021/22 Academic Schedule are required:

- The number of instructional days in the fall term will be reduced from 62 days to 61 days.
- The voluntary withdrawal deadline for the fall 2021 term will be changed from November 22<sup>nd</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Note:** The exam period, end of term, and start of term are not impacted by this change.

The closure will apply to future years; however, further consultation will be required to determine a long-term approach to the academic schedule. Faculties who have concerns about the reduced hours of instruction for this year will identify ways to address this issue in the short-term.

Cc: Diane Hiebert-Murphy, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)  
Laurie Schnarr, Vice-Provost (Students)  
Shannon Coyston, Associate University Secretary (Senate)