

# 2025 Convocation

Friday, May Thirtieth
Two thousand and twenty five



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# A Message from the Chancellor

To the UNBC Graduating students of 2025.

It is my absolute pleasure to be with you today, celebrating your accomplishments in receiving your degree.

If you look back on your journey in post-secondary, how are you feeling today? Do you have a sense of pride of all the late nights studying, the hours and hours you put into getting your grades? The days when you felt you can't do this anymore?

Well, here you are, receiving your diploma, crossing the stage in front of all your peers, your family, your friends, who are so overwhelmingly proud of you.

Let that light within shine brightly. You deserve all the accolades you will be receiving today. You make your family, the community of UNBC, and the greater community of the North very proud. You have persevered, making this day very special.

Today, you have the world in your hands, with many paths to choose from. Follow your heart and above all make yourself proud of what you have accomplished.

You are the leaders of our changing landscape in the world. Make your mark, be in your integrity, open up to new ideas, new ways of thinking and change the world.

Snachailya (Dakelh – Carrier) Heartfelt thanks – you honor me as I honor you.

Elder Darlene McIntosh Chancellor

Dalu Mentosb



# A Message from the President and Vice-Chancellor

Dear Graduates, Families, and Friends,

With immense pride, I congratulate the UNBC Class of 2025. Today, we celebrate not only your academic achievements but also the spirit of initiative and leadership you have demonstrated throughout your time with us.

You have ignited curiosity within our halls, inspired your peers and professors alike, and are now poised to lead change in a world that eagerly awaits your contributions. Your journey has been a beacon of the inquiry, support, and empowerment that our communities cherish.

As new alumni, you carry with you the capacity to cultivate meaningful change and the responsibility to act on the path to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Your achievements have already begun to empower our communities, reflecting the collaborative and impactful ethos we hold dear.

We look forward to the indelible mark you will make on the world and the sustainable paths you will forge. Congratulations, once again, on this monumental day—you are truly Ready.

With warmest regards,

Deoffry Payme

Dr. Geoffrey W. Payne President & Vice Chancellor



# A Message from The Honourable Anne Kang, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

Welcome to the University of Northern British Columbia's class of 2025 convocation ceremonies.

On behalf of the Government of British Columbia, I am honoured to be part of this celebration, which marks a significant achievement for the graduates, family, friends, faculty and staff. Congratulations everyone!

As graduates, you have gained the knowledge and skills essential for building successful careers in your chosen fields. By investing in your education, you have prepared yourselves to enter the workforce with confidence.

You should be incredibly proud of all the hard work and dedication that brought you here. Your resilience and tenacity, combined with your post-secondary education, will have prepared you to seize the many employment opportunities available throughout the province.

You are the leaders of tomorrow, the ones who will have the power to drive meaningful change and shape a better future for us all.

Congratulations once again on this important achievement. As you pursue your paths, I wish you all a bright future and promising career.

Sincerely,

Amelang

Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills



### Rosalyn Bird, MLA Prince George - Valemount

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our 2025 class! Today you celebrate not just the culmination of years of hard work, but the bright futures that await each of you. Your dedication to learning reflects the core values that our community holds dear – honesty, integrity, and compassion.

For those of you who are now looking to begin your careers or professions there are countless exciting opportunities, especially here in the North. This university has equipped you with the knowledge and skills to lead with integrity and make meaningful contributions to British Columbia or wherever you choose.

In Prince George and beyond, each of you has the power to influence, innovate and inspire. Embrace your identity as alumni of the Northern University of BC and carry forward that pride. May your futures be bright and filled with purpose, and I wish you continued success in your future endeavors and hope today creates special memories as you celebrate!

Rosalyn Bird MLA for Prince George Valemount Conservative Caucus of B.C. Critic for Citizen Services Veteran/Military Liaison



#### Kiel Giddens, MLA Prince George - Mackenzie

Grads of 2025

I want to personally congratulate you on completing this major milestone in your education journey. The many hours of hard work and the sacrifices you have made while attending UNBC will serve you well in your future endeavors. What you have accomplished is something to be extremely proud of and your community is celebrating along with you. We are proud of all our graduates from UNBC, and I know the University's founders would share in that pride. You are now a part of an important legacy for Northern British Columbia.

Education is the foundation that improves our society, our economy, and the sustainability of our communities. I wish you the best of luck in your future goals in your careers, education, and personal growth. I hope you will cherish the life experiences, and the relationships formed during a formative time in your lives while studying at UNBC. On behalf of the Province of British Columbia and my riding of Prince George-Mackenzie, I extend my very best wishes and most heartfelt congratulations!

Sincerely,

Kiel Giddens

MLA Prince George- Mackenzie



#### A Message from His Worship Simon Yu, Mayor of Prince George

On behalf of the Prince George City Council, it is my privilege and honour to offer our congratulations to the University of Northern British Columbia class of 2025.

Today is a celebration of your years of dedication, sacrifice, and hard work. It is also a time to give a sincere thank you to all who have helped you get here.

Graduation from UNBC is the beginning of your further education. You have reached a significant milestone in your life, and I hope that you will be in the present moment and enjoy what you have accomplished.

Wherever your future endeavors may take you, I hope that you will find your way back to Prince George and keep in touch with your alma mater.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2025 and best wishes for everything that is ahead of you!

Mayor Simon Yu City of Prince George



# Sheldon Clare, MLA Prince George - North Cariboo

Dear UNBC Graduates,

My congratulations on graduating from UNBC. Please consider your graduation as part of making an important contribution to your community, your province, and your country. No matter what your degree, you will find that the skills that you have developed will serve you well. The education gained, connections developed, and friendships made are of tremendous value. You now have choices and opportunities before you in what is an increasingly complex world. As you embark on the next phase of your journey, work to maintain those high standards which your efforts have demonstrated. You have worked hard for the accolades bestowed upon you today; however, no one does it alone, so be grateful to the people who helped you through all the difficult times. I hope that you will consider working and living in the North; however, wherever your education takes you, your experiences at UNBC have given you a solid foundation.

I am deeply honoured to extend my congratulations on your graduation, and my best wishes on your future endeavours.



#### A Message from the Alumni Council of UNBC

On behalf of UNBC's Alumni Council, and your fellow alumni, I am so pleased to both congratulate you on your graduation, and to welcome you into our diverse and growing Alumni community.

Nearly twenty years post my own graduation, I reflect on the lasting connections I made with faculty, staff and other students (now Alumni). These connections continue to guide and support me as I navigate my career and life. Over the past year as the Chair of the Alumni Council, I've had the opportunity to engage more deeply with our fellow alumni, and I have been deeply inspired by these conversations - UNBC Alumni are making powerful contributions to our local communities, across Canada and beyond.

I hope you will stay connected with UNBC, and that you will also find inspiration and support among your fellow Alumni.

With my best wishes for your future,

Melissa Lynn Bolster Chair, Alumni Council of UNBC



### A Message from the NCLGA

Congratulations to you - the UNBC Class of '25!

That phrase, Class of '25 will always mean something special. It is your school, your year and your future opening up in front of you. I urge you to savour the moment. Consider your successes and the challenges that have shaped who you are; the friends who helped you and your family who were with every step of the way. Take a moment to thank those who have helped you get here, be they your parents, your teachers, or mentors, it will mean a great deal to get that hug from you.

You have so many choices and options before you now. Explore the world or take an opportunity close to home? Apply your talents in the public or private realm? Whatever path you choose, strive to be the best you can be to help make this a better world. Your energy, combined with the knowledge you've gained and your determination are the catalysts for shaping our future. Take up that challenge!

On behalf of the members of the North Central Local Government Association, I wish you all the best for your graduation and for your future.

Sincerely,

Gladys Atrill

Gladys Atrill Chairperson

#### **UNBC Senate Members**

#### **Senior Administration**

Darlene McIntosh Chancellor

Geoff Payne, President Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Senate

Bill Owen Vice-President, Academic and Provost (Interim)

Paula Wood-Adams Vice-President, Research and Innovation

Ronald Camp II Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics

Margot Parkes Dean, Faculty of Human and Health Sciences (Interim)

Nicola Koper Dean, Faculty of Environment

Kriston Rennie Dean, Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities

Deborah Roberts
Dean, Faculty of Science
and Engineering

Nicole Neufeld Manager, Continuing Studies

Trina Fyfe University Librarian (Interim)

### Faculty of Business and Economics

Julius Bankole Karima Fredj

### Faculty of Environment

Mark Groulx Neil Hanlon

### Faculty of Human and Health Sciences

Christine Ho Younghusband David Litz

Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities Gary Wilson

### Faculty of Science and Engineering

Fei Tong Allan Kranz

### Faculty Members at Large

Balbinder Deo
Hossein Kazemian
Kim Stathers
David Casperson
Clarence Hofsink
Tammy Klassen-Ross
Maik Gehloff
Todd Whitcombe
Joanie Crandall
Margot Mandy
Susie Wilson
Darren Brown

#### Student Representatives

Armaan Jamwal President, NUGSS

Sripana Dey President, NBCGSS

Malay Lolariya Student Representative Faculty of Business and Economics

Maria Tavares Student Representative Faculty of Environment

Lizna Lakhani Student Representative Faculty of Human and Health Sciences

Cheri Brown Student Representative Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities

Jared Hirt Student Representative Faculty of Science and Engineering

Rehana Ramzan Undergraduate Student Representative

Ranjodh Singh Undergraduate Student Representative

Rachel Fonda Graduate Student Representative

Tina Watters Graduate Student Representative

#### Lay Senators

Claudia Barreira Patricia Prince Ray Noonan Shannon MacKay

#### WWN Senator Deanna Nyce

#### **UNBC Board of Governors**

Ms. Darlene McIntosh

Chancellor

Dr. Geoff Payne

President and Vice-Chancellor

Joel McKay

Chair

Jim Martin

Vice Chair

**Faculty Members** 

Todd Whitcombe Philip Mullins

**Order in Council** 

Ibolya Agoston Amanda Alexander Allison Beswick - Alumna

Gregory Stewart Trevor Morrison

Vacant - Alumnus

**Undergraduate Student** 

**Emily Roberts** 

**Graduate Student** 

Lina Shehata

**Employee (non-faculty)** 

Joyce Henley



#### **Honorary Degree Recipients**

Honorary degrees at UNBC are presented to individuals who display the highest levels of achievement in public service, the arts, business, politics, environmental stewardship, and community development. Prominent in their professions and in the community, UNBC recognizes those whose distinguished contributions add to the betterment of the University and society as a whole.



#### **Yvonne Pierreroy**

Yvonne Pierreroy is a respected Dakelh Elder, knowledge holder and founding member of the University of Northern British Columbia. Her life's work has centred on preserving, revitalizing and celebrating Dakelh language and culture.

Born on the unceded traditional territory of the Nak'azdli Whut'en near Fort St. James, Pierreroy was raised in a large family immersed in traditional Dakelh practices and language. She has spent decades generously sharing her knowledge through mentorship, community collaboration and teaching.

A foundational figure in the history of UNBC, Pierreroy's connections to the University have been broad and enduring. She was one of the University's first employees, working out of the Provost's Office for 17 years.

As a student in UNBC's inaugural Carrier language course, it was Pierreroy and her classmates who suggested UNBC's motto En Cha Huná – meaning "respecting all forms of life." It is a motto that reflects her own values of respect and openness to diverse perspectives.

Pierreroy played a key role in launching UNBC's Dakelh Language Certification Program in Fort St. James, creating a model for future community-University partnerships.

For 35 years, her contributions have helped weave Dakelh knowledge into the heart of the University community, supporting the ongoing journey of learning and reconciliation at UNBC.

Pierreroy's commitment to this work has always been rooted in family. She credits her late father, her 97-year-old mother Mildred Martin, her husband Ron and children for walking alongside her in a shared journey of cultural stewardship.



#### **Shirley Bond**

Shirley Bond is a long-serving leader, community champion and political trailblazer who has spent her career working to improve the lives of people living in Prince George, across northern B.C. and throughout the province.

Known for her fierce advocacy, Bond served the region for more than two decades as a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) of British Columbia. In addition to holding several influential of Cabinet positions, including Deputy Premier and Minister of Education, Bond made history as the first woman in British Columbia to serve as both Attorney General and Minister of Justice.

Her leadership was pivotal in securing major regional investments in education, healthcare and infrastructure, including the establishment of the Northern Medical Program at UNBC, the Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre and the BC Cancer Centre for the North.

Bond's commitment to improving access to services for northern residents has been driven by the belief that geography should not determine opportunity.

She was recognized with the B.C. Interior, North and Yukon Woman of Distinction Award for her work in public education.

Bond continues to inspire civic engagement through her volunteer work, including her current role as Public Relations Director for the 2025 BC Special Olympics Summer Games.

Her service has always been rooted in a deep love for her community. She is grateful to her late husband Billy, her children and grandsons for their endless support throughout her distinguished career.

### **Indication of Faculty Honours**

#### **Professor Emerita**

Dr. Kathy Lewis

#### **Professor Emeritus**

Dr. Kerry Reimer Professor Elie Korkmaz

#### **Excellence in Research Award**

Dr. Hossein Kazemian Prof. Stephen Rader, Ph.D. Dr. Wenbo Zheng

#### **Excellence in Service Award**

Amanda De Smit

#### **Excellence in Teaching Award**

Professor Indrani Margolin Julie Howard

**Excellence in Professional Practice, Mentorship or Stewardship Award** 

Zoë A. Meletis

### **Ceremony One**

Program

#### **Introductory Remarks**

#### **Call to Order**

President of the Atysan Inke Atsoo, Elder Lenora White

#### **Singing of the National Anthem**

Dawn Zemoura

#### Welcome to the Traditional Territory of the Lheidli T'enneh

President of the Atysan Inke Atsoo, Elder Lenora White

#### **Chancellor's Address**

Elder Darlene McIntosh

#### **President's Address**

Dr. Geoffrey W. Payne

#### **Conferral of Honorary Degree**

Yvonne Pierreroy

#### **Conferral of Degrees**

#### Valedictorian's Address

Mr. Sean Andrew Robinson

#### **Alumni Welcome Address**

Melissa Bolster

#### **Conclusion**

#### **Recessional Led by the Thundering Eagles**

### The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

#### **Health Sciences**

Aderonke Oluwatoyin Agboji Christine Marie Anonuevo Kiah Gabriella Leone

### The Degree of Master of Arts

#### **Disability Management**

Nicole Terilynn Sloboda Alyson Straub Sadie Kimberly Watson

#### **English**

Abdelhafidh Boumaraf Anastacia Lynn Clarke Humaira Maisha Mahmud Sanchari Mitra Cassidy Margaret Muir Mohammed Farhan Fuad Ribhu

#### **First Nations Studies**

Levi Linton Black-Amstutz Helen June Knott Alexandre Dantas E Sousa

#### **Gender Studies**

Carolina Andrea Alday Mondaca Grace Anane-Nimako Shafaq Jasim Hasan Gburi Tanvi Guhagarkar Kendall Rayne McKay Halfnights Mai Ito Grace Opare Laura Cristina Rodriguez Galarza Prapti Sarkar

#### **Interdisciplinary Studies**

Kelsey Sarah Chamberlin

#### **International Studies**

Adebola Victoria Ajuwon Joyce Amalia Cortez Uju Jane Igboamauchey Chukwudumebi Dionne Isichei Wing Man Lau Valentina Anuoluwapo Odesanmi

#### **Political Science**

Nicole Gwen Fraser Matthew Wood

### The Degree of Master of Education

#### Counselling

Faith Nelson Lucy Pomaa Arthur Kelsey Noelle Baratta Kathleen Barth Kirsten Anne Brooker Tienna Lee Chang

Graziela de Caixeta e Silva Josephine Christiane Deschamps Tracey Fuller Shannel Marie Harris Shelly Kurtz Deena Robyn Latta Danielle Mary Legault Daniel Scott Prenger Sofia Regalado Tanva Elisabeth Ross-Dueck Loretta Norma Stewart Janine Louise Thompson Shoshanna Dawn van Dijk Bethany Lynn Watts Alexis Wilson Lindamarie Valenzuela Winfield Naomi Alison Woolverton Laura Maren Wrighton

#### **Multi-Disciplinary Leadership**

Lesley Elizabeth Haines

#### **Special Education**

Heather Lynn English Meagan Catherine Kwiatkowski Lexci Tierra Presley Emily Jean Rowe Seanagh Lenore Strebchuk Christopher Brett Taylor Kari Ann Walker Melissa Zaron

### The Degree of Master of Science

#### **Health Sciences**

Sama Amirkhani Ardeh Maryam Sarfjoo Kasmaei Andrew Joseph Schulz

#### **Psychology**

Alexandra Joceline Grace Lane Kelly Stone

### The Degree of Master of Science in Nursing

Alysha Tylynn Jones Miao Li Ka Wai Tong Emily Meghan Williams

#### **Family Nurse Practitioner**

Karen Jit Kaur Athwal Elizabeth Brownlie Cynthia Jennifer Cockle Gurleen Kaur Dhaliwal Sukhmani Dhillon Cassie Rae Dussault Rhiannon Shaw Hall Charmayne Brielle Harder Micha Erin Kingston Holly Jan McDonald Sara Elizabeth McFadden George Broderick McGee Heather Lynn Montgomery Manjot Kaur Munday Sarah Nishimura Kaytlin Anne Olexyn

Cianna Maye Laura-Lyn Pawluk Adrienne Jane Ross Cynthia Elaine Smith Annie Marie Tasia Switzer Rachael Victoria Thorlakson

### The Degree of Master of Social Work

Ashley Dawn Aarts Melissa Marie Dexel Wendy Lynn Morales Danielle Marie Rasmussen Sondra Mae Struke Joseph Shawn Jules Venne

#### Certificate in Indigenous Child & Youth Mental Health

Levi Linton Black-Amstutz Kristy Sheree Joseph

### The Degree of Bachelor of Arts - Honours

#### **History**

Sean Andrew Robinson

### The Degree of Bachelor of Arts

#### **Anthropology and History**

Finnigan Tate Gouger-Davis

#### Anthropology

Leo Roy Anderson Doward Bryton Churchill Andrea Danielle Hartwig Clayton Jack William Howard Matisha Elizabeth MacPhail Mehak Mukheja Heather Romeyn Autumn Lynnea Unger

### Joint Major in Anthropology and Geography

Nicolas Ryan Caverzacio Sawyer

### Joint Major in English and History

Blaise William Prior Feltis

#### **English**

Eva Älexander Almgren Sarah Marilyn Haeussler Carissa Harasym Mariah Cora Harvey-Baker Hannah Paige Hebert Lauren Elizabeth Iwanciwski Margaret Klassen Heather Marie Law
Amy Karleen LeClerc
Lauryn Gabrielle McKinnon
Hailie Grace Nauss
Mason Neuman
Madison Nicole Tonya Pinksen
Andrew Alexander Russell
Harly Jade Simpson
Erin Sarah Unger
Trinity Jade Elvira Van Der Meer

#### **First Nations Studies**

Ayla Flossie Merle Bevan Destinee M.P. Clayton Spring Coltraine Mandy Cormier Sarah Grace Dixon Olivia Delani MacDonald Naiomi Kea Mckinnon Christopher Allan Morven Francine Gale Stewart Holly Kyla West

### The Degree of Bachelor of Arts - General

Madelyn Lorraine Killman Anhelina Maksymova Taylor Dawn Standbridge

### The Degree of Bachelor of Arts

#### Joint Major in Global and International Studies and Political Science

Alexander Dmitri Munger

#### Joint Major in History and Political Science

Adam Fodor

#### **History**

Brenna Conlon Robert Scott Dunlop Luke Jeremiah Frolick Sydney Hoar Taylor James Kofoed John William Sitter Nikolas John Stivanakis Abby Sveistrup

### Joint Major in Political Science and Women's Studies

Armin Varaich

#### **Political Science**

Sarah Taylor-ann Chester Ciara Julia Daly Noah William Henry Driedger Brooke Lynn Dunkley Karla Nadine Lindstrom Nolan Robert Maggs Niraksh Mihirkumar Shah

### The Degree of Bachelor of Education

**Emily Lauren Anderson** 

Janae Faith Arnold **April Barnes** Alastair Brian Beddie Caitlin Bertrand Loré Bester Talia Grace Bleiler Tomas Bonafine Julie Michelle Agnes Bradford Lia Louise Chappell Megan Marie Connell Madison Rose Corbett Isabelle Antoinette Cote Jared Donovan Daumont Mariah Devcic Tessa Mary MacDonald Doll Nadine English Andrea Lindsey Fisher-Hynd Ocean-Lynn J Georgelin Ariel Katherine Gilbert Robert Henderson Goodey Isaac G Goodrich Amanda Jeanne Heinze Cameron Glenn Hemmons Emily Joy Hobley-McCosker Aine Marie Hogan Quinn Grant Hutson Riley Ryan Iwanciwski Talon Jeffery Jonker Jessica Anna Klor Lauren Candida KorpiC Justine Gabrielle Lamothe Natasha Alicia Massop **Emily Meers** Katey Michelle Montgomery Katelyn Victoria Morash Thu Trang Nguyen Adrianna Antonia Ochitwa Melia Jean Olson Grace Michelle Rogers Kyle Kenneth Rowell Madison Lynn Scheck Taryn Michelle Thiessen Ashleigh Nichole Travers Isabelle Elizabeth Turgeon Sloane Alexandra Vasko Kieron Hans Vick Julia Morgan Vickers Madison Margaret Makayla Webb Clarissa Mary Joyce Wight Terri Linn Wilkinson Elaina Madison Guerreiro Woroshelo

# The Degree of Bachelor of Health Sciences - Honours

#### **Biomedical Studies**

Naomi Justine Cole

#### Community and Population Health - Aboriginal and Rural Health

Elledae Marisa Armstrong

### The Degree of Bachelor of Health Sciences

#### **Biomedical Studies**

Taryn Carol-Lynn Atkinson Jessica Diane Vargas Ayson Afrin Begum Victoria Mae Bleecker Emma Marie Brown Adara Heather Anne Bryan Hope Alcina Grace Carvalho Rupali Cheema Camryn Lauren Cline Zachary Fillion Celina Raquel Galdamez-Valle Torrin Rory Gray-Umpherville Cassandra Anne Groves Anika Robin June Hendriksen Brityn Margaret Hinsche Daniel Ifeoluwa Iyaoromi Jacqueline Phuong Ma Haley Christine McNiven Isabella Loupelle Mesquita Molly Teresa Patterson Bella Sunshine Meadow Schacher Jasmin Debra Schlick Ella Stratton Nicholas Joseph Vannebo-Suwala Benjamin Shane Wolitski

#### Community and Population Health - Aboriginal and Rural Health

Danika Rose Fiala

#### Community and Population Health - Environmental Health

Mackenzie Robyn Baker Vaila Baxter Alicia Marcia Somerville

### The Degree of Bachelor of Science - Honours

#### **Psychology**

Andrea Ilse Becker
Luke Michael Bilodeau
Ryan Alexander Carriere
Cheleine Shelly Nicole Doyle
Keira Mackenzie Frost
Molly Erin Hogan-Thomas
Madalyn Susan Johnson
Sebastian Medcke
Genevieve Julia Marguerite Rea
Desiree Raven Wood
Erin Stuart Yule

### The Degree of Bachelor of Science

#### **Psychology**

Chanel Gurlene Kaur Aujla Elizabeth Ruth Batho Kirsten Paige Bigelow Khushi Pareshkumar Brahmbhatt Madison Gabriele Brasson Mattea Sipiwe Chalkias

Logan Cruz

Mercedes Jean Deaton Anna Simone Dereshkevich

Tiara Lynn French Christina George Jenelle Therese Gervais Blanka Jan Hanusek Brittany Ann Harrington Myles Logan Husband

Lula Rose Issa

Keanna Heather Lynn Jamieson

Allen John Saiju Hannah Lisa Jones Cara Louise Kardynal Jhanvi Shyam Kathuria Megan Lynn Kemp Abdulelah Ahmad Khan Sarah Michelle Kuklisin Sarah Ruth Mary Lepine Makisha Kuldip Kaur Manhas Kavla Amber Morin

Matthew Stephen Sabo Habie Sajeev Parakkattu Yanos Ruger Stephenson

Kaden Strout

#### The Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Evan Jhuneski Rubiano Abellera Carly Shannon Alexander Satwinder Kaur Aujla Melissa Ann Baggott Abby Elizabeth Bailey Emmanuel Abioye Bankole

Aliyah Paige Barta Aaryan Basra Reagan Soleil Bowers Emma Louise Buhr Abhinay Burra

Lindsay Faith Carpenter Jenna Raquel Chirkoff Ashia Lorraine Chutskoff Sharleigh Patricia-Lynn Comeau

Liviah Rain Crossfield Sarah Elizabeth Cruse Guriot Kaur Dhaliwal Jasmine Dhesi Jasmine Dhillon Holly Jane Djukastein Brylee Alexandra Dos Santos Hannah Marie Dudoward

Megan Duperron Nicole Frieda Anna Edel

Anita Ihuoma Egejuru Shayne Christine Faber Elise Kennedy Festerling Shain Rylie Gillick Kaitlin Leanne Godsoe Cameron Golder Cosenti Graf-Smith Hailey Marlies Halovich Geoffrey A Harrison Adam Patrick Hart Allison Hedderson

Sabrina Caterina Hoffman Alexa Holubosh Selena A Horne Erin Diane Howard

Mya Nicole-Marie Hudson-Jago

Kelly Rose Hunt Jordan Katherine Innis Ashley Jakob

Pravhjit Kaur Jaswal

Bjorn Graem Paul Jensen

Jessica Johal

Sara Brianne Johnstone Gaganpreet Kaur Kourtnev Rakel Kivi Simran Kaur Klar Maya Felisa Kottke Violet Elisabeth Kritz

Jean-Francois Joseph Yves Lambert

Khloe Anne Lambert Brianna Shae Lancaster Rolen Caballero Lovino Jailene Rose Lyons

Leo Maduguimpa Paquette Sophia Clover Mahmoud Amraj Kaur Mann Rebecca Marshall

Emma Elizabeth Dale McCarville Benjamin James McIntyre

Aquinnah McLean

Grayson Daniel David Medwedew

Brianna Christina Midwinter Kennedy Raquel Miles Adrianna Marie Milkovic Khrizna Ybanez Montederamos

Layla Vanita Morrow Sophia Jane Morrow Ryan Edward Naldrett Kendra Ann Nicholson

Kiran Niiier

Cassidy Rose Nikirk Shaely Alyssa Niven

Blessing Chioma Nwanekezie

Prince Obeng Concy Achiro Odong Kamalpreet Kaur Panaich Ankur Rohit Kumar Patel

Kaelin Peck Drew Hazel Marie Pederson

Andrea Thy-Anh Pham

Hanielouve Jewel Amoroso Piano

Courtney Belle Pilgrim Teslin Ann Pinter Claire Power Annika Prasad Tiffany Juanita Primus

James Carlo Calibuso Ramirez

Marissa June Ramsay Gurleen Kaur Randhawa

Caelan Rappel Mitzi Coleen Real Rachel Row Carissa Jessie Sadlo Aissatou Sall

Makenna Sharlee Maureen Salm

Sydnee Quinn Schlamp Trinity Caroline Scott Krystal Patricia Scovill

Tian Yi Shi

Samantha Lynn Simmons Faith Marie Lynn Snow Morgan Lynn Stewart Adrienne Renei Suck Mathew Joseph Szarka Eryn Melody Tiefensee Yamanik Jobix Tol Cojti Danica Emilie Vaccaro Samantha Vallejo Hernandez Brooklyn Taylor Vallentgoed Brookelyn Cherise Van Camp Abigail Monique Guinto Veran

Ashley Verma Kayla Jasmin Walters

**Emily Noelle Wehrstedt** Caitlin Mary Jean White Liam Andrew Wiebe

Kaylie Angeliquea Jade Willeboordse

Reid Allan Williams

Megan Emma Wilson Taelor Brianne Wintemute Emily Julia Gloria Woodland Lara Albina Zral

#### The Degree of Bachelor of Social Work

Gladvs Kure Agbenin Tekaaleh Atemefac Cecile Faith Eduan Atim Gabrielle Bentham Paul Jonathan Bromley Rebecca Crawford Kamaljeet Kaur Dandiwal Kelsey Del Pieve Gobbi Jessica Leslie Holmes Nadine Tiffany Hoover Shelley Anne Johnson Danika Jones Nicole McBride Cydney Danille Neil-Barry Marvelous Obasi Jessica Dawn Peel Brooke Laurel Perepeluk Taylor Shelby Polard Sayler Elizabeth Mae Ryckman Tracy Ann Taylor Filitsa Litsanna Thanos

#### Certificate in First Nations **Public Administration**

Holly Kyla West

#### Certificate in Nisga'a **Studies**

Jeffrey Clifford Azak Cynthia Yvonne Clayton Samantha Rose Gayle Gonu Rachel Lynn McDonald Dionne Delia Dawn Morven

#### Certificate in Rural Nursing

Erin Liliane Noel

#### Certificate in Traditional **Ecological Knowledge**

Taylor Lee Brink Alexandra Lise Itcush Sarah Mackenzie Nichol Dakota Julie Solmonson Nichole Amber Rose Taylor

### **Ceremony Two**

Program

#### **Introductory Remarks**

#### **Call to Order**

President of the Atysan Inke Atsoo, Elder Lenora White

#### **Singing of the National Anthem**

Dawn Zemoura

#### Welcome to the Traditional Territory of the Lheidli T'enneh

President of the Atysan Inke Atsoo, Elder Lenora White

#### **Chancellor's Address**

Elder Darlene McIntosh

#### President's Address

Dr. Geoffrey W. Payne

#### **Presentation of Awards**

**Governor General's Gold Medal** 

Dr. Christine Añonuevo

#### Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal for Inclusion, Democracy, and/or Reconciliation

Mr. Sean Andrew Robinson

#### **Conferral of Honorary Degree**

Shirley Bond

#### **Conferral of Degrees**

#### Valedictorian's Address

Dr. Guowei Li

#### **Alumni Welcome Address**

Melissa Bolster

#### **Conclusion**

#### **Recessional Led by the Thundering Eagles**

### The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Joseph Robert Bottoms Shannon Michael Crowley Rahim Jafari Guowei Li Sanaz Sediqi Bruno Serafini Sobral Thomas Alexander Willms

### The Degree of Master of Applied Science

#### **Engineering**

Adedoyin Rasheedat Adekunle
Md Sultanur Ashikin
Amir Einipour Rashti
Mohamed Ahmed Mohamed Mahmoud Elshamy
Erik Joseph Groenenberg
Kamran Hassani
Seyed Armin Hosseini
Tianci Huangfu
Manveer Kaur
Shahzeb Memon
Jibrael Kingsford Odoom
Samuel Chukwudi Alexander Ovu
Mario Alberto Salinas Toledano

### The Degree of Master of Arts

#### **Development Economics**

Taj Bano Zeta Afi Adjei-Bruce Alimardon Anvarjon Ugli Erkinjonov Muhtad Ullah Khan Olanike Oluwatimilehin Salami

#### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies - Environmental Studies

Scott Alasdair Brown Akihiko Mori Yanik Rozon

### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

- Geography

Mackenzie Laurene Ostberg Yihang Zhang

### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies - Outdoor Recreation,

**Conservation and Tourism** Sophia Eve Graham

### The Degree of Master of Business Administration

Samuel Addai Poku

Anne Adedoyin Adeniyi-Faleye Madhubala Adheip Olufunke Bernice Arogundade Patricia Baker Rodney Ellis Brown Godfrey Chikanda Eric Amoah Dampson Abiodun Esther Dapo-Olanitori Tarnveer Singh Dhillon Vaunda Arlene Dumont Aung Zaw Hein Brandy Lynn Jarvis Jason Eric Kelly Joseph Domenic Lattanzio Carl Lehr Scott Norman McMillan Stephanie A Moore Laura Margaret Mueller Nkeiruka Chinenye Nwosu Rosemary Unyeme Chidinma Owoyele Anthony Robert Shmyruk Logan Donald Nansen Smith Sonya Spiers Emmanuel Appiah Takyi Elizabeth Nwabugo Taylor Dali Yang Yang Yang

### The Degree of Master of Engineering

#### **Integrated Wood Design**

Hoi Mo Chan Samson Etaigho Emunemu Bashar Azzam Mohammad Hijazi Amirmahdi Mollazadeh Chijioke Nnaemeka Okoli Hao Zhou

#### The Degree of Master of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Farideh Barghak Sandra Anne Borton Asma Ferdous Halena Scanlon Naikun Zheng

### The Degree of Master of Science

#### **Biochemistry**

Mitzchilouise Sismo-an Baylosis Sebastian Furnador Maryam Ghaffarzadeh Md Shajjad Hossain Connor Everett Johnson Komal Naeem Maria Begona Zumarraga Rivera

#### **Business Administration**

Ashishpal Singh Gabriel Nomotsu Teye-Ali Chongrui Zhou

#### **Chemistry**

Maduabuchi Angus Modum

#### **Computer Science**

Colton Ryan Aarts Dylan Thomas Fossl Seyedeharezou Golchoubian Saeedeh Goodarzvand Chegini Febina Muhamed Rajeesh Su Yang Qing Zhao

#### **Mathematics**

Afsaneh Ashofteh Biraki Rory McClenagan Keshani Nisansala Udawatta Kankanamge Do Nhat Tan Vo

### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

#### - Biology

Julia Claire Bizon
Avery Sarah Dextrase
Keaton Stewart Freel
Carl-Evan Robert Jefferies
Emily Fay Mason
Claire Paillard
Cassandra Dawn Dianne Penfold
Meaghan Rupprecht
Bipana Maiya Sadadev
Hannah Mei Tench
Lauren Michelle Wheelhouse
Olivia Anastasia Wilson

### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

#### - Environmental Science

Parveen Brar Jhoan Paola Chavez Suazo Jeremiah DuBovis Yinchun Guo Mya Synclaire Schouwenburg

### **Natural Resources and Environmental Studies**

#### - Forestry

Maria Alejandra Chadid Hernandez Matthew David McLean Andrew Christopher Peacosh Patrick John Robinson

#### Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

- Geography

Alison Bishop Caleb Andrew Mathias

### The Degree of Bachelor of Applied Science

#### **Civil Engineering**

Daniel Katalinic
Tyler Rose Bondaroff
Jeremy Walter Burkinshaw
Gavin Caillier
Benjamin David Dyck
Nioma El-Fatihi
Xander Thijs Gerritsen
Hunter Jurgen Leonard Helfrich
Oliver Wayne Ronald Kildaw
Oliver Henry Lucas Lane
Gavin L Nanninga
Zhe Peng
Tony Reimer
Andrew Tamblyn
Maverick Tatlock

#### **Environmental Engineering**

Liam James Connon Jamie Therese Corrin Jaden Day Benjamin Paul Ibach Caleb John Leonard Mueller Sandeep Kaur Rajput Sagarika Rao Kaelin Britt Sundberg-Groot Shirin Chatterjee Harpriya Kaur Gill Zoe Isabella Kelly Calum Murdoch Mackenzie Rina Konno Ng Logan James Pike Cleo Helena Seldon Rene Talbot **Anouk Watts** 

### The Degree of Bachelor of Arts

#### Joint Major in Economics and Global and International Studies

Alejandra Gutierrez Adaobi Innocentia Ifenweobi Jazz Jaswinder Sandhu

### Joint Major in Economics and Political Science

Ryan Quinton Finkelstein

#### **Economics**

Caleb Richard Tremblay

### Joint Major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies and Political Science

Denae Ann Meise

### **Environmental and Sustainability Studies**

Namuun Bat-Urnult Benjamin Gadd Riana Smith

#### Geography

James Rick Hansen

#### Nature-Based Tourism Management

Matthew Wesley Jickling Dongxu Piao Jerek James Postuk

### Public Administration and Community Development

Brooklyn Grace Kinsley Hannah Nicole Loukes

### The Degree of Bachelor of Commerce

#### **Accounting and Finance**

Yemeema Abebe Eyob Gurwinder Kaur Brenna Taylor Bourque MacMurchy Rhys Vassallo

#### **Accounting and Marketing**

Joshua Henry Spencer Edinger Abdulmuiz O Oni

#### **Accounting**

Khadija Ahmed Al-Amin Deidre Cahoose Cortney Leona Cameron Joel Jacob Eldhose Jessica Lynne Cavaliero Li Huang Isabelle Scout Knoke Pahuldeep Muhammad Hassaan Rashid Jennifer Ilona Tritten Amber Shawn Vander Ende

### Finance and Management Information Systems

Dakota Steven Julian Chang Dinesh Sharma

#### **Finance and Marketing**

Emily Ruth Reid

#### **Finance**

Darren Hunter Nicholas Jansa Parvesh Kumar Austin Fredrick McKersie Heera Singh Panasar Dean Anthony Reid

#### General Business and Management Information Systems

Emily Anne Maxam Lisa Lynn Maxam

#### General Business and Marketing

Christina Amanda Wood

#### **General Business**

Amrita Billing Sarabjit Singh Ghalyan Rychel Matthew Lamber

### Human Resources Management and Marketing

Collin Patrick James Joyce

### Human Resources Management

Svetlana Boykova Tingyu Cai Evan Lloyd Henson Kassidy Lynn Stuart Brayden Ross Tutin Eric James Vettraino Crystal Wong

### International Business and Marketing

Deev Jyotindra Amin Zicheng Zeng

#### **International Business**

Weizun Kong Priyank Jigneshbhai Ray

### Management Information Systems

Nafula Aisha Hakoma

#### Marketing

Chloe Breanne Ellison Richard Franklin Kayla Louise Hearn Khushi Romit Patel Maryflor Saba Ariadna Suncion Trinidad

### The Degree of Bachelor of Planning

#### **First Nations Planning**

Kjera Hayman

#### **Natural Resources Planning**

Sidney Elliott Mazira Tsurawe Faubert Anastasia Zehetmeier

### Northern and Rural Community Planning

Colin Ross Benny Christopher Robert Fequet Connor Hudson Spike Lewis Jennifer Rae Poole

### The Degree of Bachelor of Science - Honours

### **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Patrick John Geertz

#### **Biology**

Talisa Ferguson Kyran Diana Gillman Erin Anwynn Keahey Jeffrey Christopher Vogt

## Forest Ecology & Management and Conservation Science & Practice - Wildland Conservation & Recreation

Helga Maria Magdalena Holler-Busch

### Forest Ecology and Management

Andrew Dyck Alexandra Lise Itcush Patrick Vahi

#### **Physical Geography**

Nicole Ashley Boyde Kainen Singh Parmar

#### **Physics**

Mila June Carpenter-Bloudoff Rachel Katriel June Hrankowski

#### Wildlife and Fisheries

Grace Meryl Olson Koehler Adam Folland Jessalynn Helmus Jamie Quinn Allyson Aileen Truscott

### The Degree of Bachelor of Science

### Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Alexander James Durupt
Brooke Madison Eberherr
Ethan Hofstede
Ryan James Koyanagi
Alexander Kohl MacPheat
Daniel Meheden
Rafael Meheden
Simranjeet Kaur Padda
Marc Paul Schieven
Davin Scott Schwentner
Deep Hemalkumar Tamakuwala

#### **Biology**

Jade Louise Anderson
Kaia Karmin Bjorklund
Mackenzie Jayden Crerar
Connor Francis Dalgleish
Rhythm Allan Donkersley
Kai Samuel Flett
Keagan Fraser
Alexis Mary Elaine Hamilton
Taylor Lee Larcombe
Dannie Mackenzie Ruff
Nicole Ann Schroeder
Dylan Shankel
Shriya Singh
Taylor Marilyn Winther

#### **Chemistry**

David Christopher Stern

### Joint Major in Computer Science and Physics

Sahib Singh

#### **Computer Science**

Harsh Dadhwal Benjamin Michael Dempsey Tyson James Thomas Ditner Faten Elshal Joseph Alexander Helle Andrew Hunter-Owega Nihal Gaurav Jani Katelyn Gail Kilburn Kiret Singh Nijjer Oluwatobi Wilfred Ojulari Spencer Lewis Peterson Mihir Bhushan Phadke Joshua Mitchell Phang Jonathan Matthew Russell Rudraksh Sahni Shrey Shrey Zakery Orion Simpson Ruijie Zhang

#### Conservation Science and Practice - Landscape Conservation and Management

Nichole Amber Rose Taylor

#### Conservation Science and Practice - Wildland Conservation and Recreation

Noah Wilhelmus Keyzers Dakota Julie Solmonson Caitlin Breanne Zvanovec

#### **Environmental Science**

Kaylee Ann Barnes Ceejay Bobadilla Dumadag Drew Lauren Gilchrist Shiyuan Jing Breagha Koroluk

### Forest Ecology and Management

Cara Beverley Brawdy Matthew Caine Olivia Card Katee-Leigh Doyon Michael Brandon Fillion Dylan Hebert McKenzie Spring Holdis Aubry Lloyd Inwood Mariah Christina Kampman Erica Anne Kreitz Hengda Liu Noah Douglas Morton Melissa Mae Nelson Graeme Jose Ringham Neto Ryan Patterson Bryanna Lilly Rose Pontious Cooper Austin Michael Shea

#### Geography

Ramona Maria Elste James Daniel Eppel Tanya Fearon

#### **Integrated Science**

Ibrahim Mohamed Diriye Sadia Mohamed Diriye

#### **Mathematics**

Benjamin Mark Van Bergeyk

### Wildlife and Fisheries and First Nations Studies

Taylor Lee Brink

#### **Wildlife and Fisheries**

Angus Nolan Brochez
Tyler Havens
Alexandria Nicola Hedges
Brooke Jenner
Grace Thomas Karimpanal
Jessie May
Hailey Mizera
Jonathan Colby Morris
Sarah Mackenzie Nichol
Amber Maureen Pallister
Logan James Ramsay
Anne-Marie Sarah Robinson
Spencer Rudolph Smith
Alexis Jenee Vogt
Shannon Fleur Zimowski

### **Graduate Celebrations**

#### Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Institute

June 2, 2025

1:00pm

Ts'oohl Ts'ap Memorial Hall, 4000 Lax Mihl Street

#### **Northwest (Terrace) Campus**

June 3, 2025

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. R.E.M. Lee Theatre, 4920 Straume Avenue

#### Northeast (Fort St. John) Campus

June 6, 2025

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Northern Lights Campus Atrium, 9820 120 Avenue

#### **South-Central (Quesnel) Campus**

June 11, 2025

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. South-Central Campus, 100 Campus Way

#### **Ceremonial Items**

#### **Talking Stick**

The talking stick includes 14 traditional crests, which represent all of the First Nations clans of Northern British Columbia. They are, from top to bottom, Wolf, Black Bear, Beaver, Wolverine, Caribou, Mountain Goose, Frog, Thunderbird, Raven, Fireweed, Killer Whale, Grouse, Owl, and Eagle. The human face situated in the center represents all peoples. The talking stick rests in a base of red cedar, carved in the form of a salmon.



#### **Ceremonial Banner**

Measuring seventeen feet long by eight feet wide, and depicting a wolf, this unique design was specially created for the University of Northern British Columbia by Lee Edenshaw, Jr. and his family. The Edenshaw family comes from the Village of Skedans in Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands).

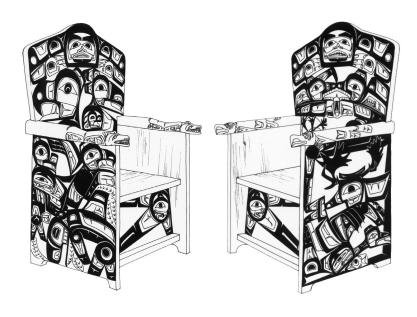
#### **Ceremonial Chairs**

The chairs include, at top and bottom, a human mask and sun, representing mankind, in particular, students and counsellors. The other symbols again represent the various First Nation peoples in the University's region.

The Chancellor's chair (left) includes representations of the thunderbird, frog, beaver, grouse, fireweed, owl, eagle, and killer whale, with armrests carved in the shape of a wolf.

The President's chair (right) includes representations of the grizzly bear, wolf, caribou, black bear, crow, frog, moose, and mountain goose, with armrests carved in the shape of a raven.

The ceremonial chairs, talking stick, and base stand were carved in 1992 by Ron Sebastian.



#### The Coat Of Arms

The University's Coat of Arms is comprised of several elements. The shield, which is divided into UNBC's colours of green and gold, contains three elements. The open book, which is a traditional symbol of learning, is flanked by two ravens, which are hardy, resident birds of the North and of open spaces. Ravens are symbols of wisdom in some First Nations traditions, and are recognized as among the most intelligent birds by ornithologists. Below these elements is a young coniferous tree with roots that symbolizes growth, and represents both the dominant flora of the North and the backbone of the northern economy.

The crest is created from a wreath surmounted by the maple leaf, symbolizing Canada; dogwood flowers, symbolizing British Columbia; and snowflake crystals, symbolizing the North. The crest is a salmon, which is the symbol on the base of the University's mace/talking stick, and is used there as an indication of all the people of the region. The salmon was created by Ron Sebastian of New Hazelton specially for the Coat of Arms.

To the left of the shield is a Kermode bear, a rare subspecies of the black bear found only in the northwest region of British Columbia. To the right of the shield is the woodland caribou, a distinctive mammal of the central interior and northeast region. Each carries a wreath comprised of conifer branches with cones, again indicating a definitive element of much of northern British Columbia.

The compartment is the base on which the supporters stand. The Kermode stands among mountains and trees, which are distinctive of much of the region. To the right is a wheat field, distinctive of the Peace River region. Beneath the mountains and wheat field is a depiction of the ocean and orca, indicative of the Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands) and coastal regions. The orca was also created by Ron Sebastian.

The motto, En cha huná (pronounced "enn cha huhNAH"), is a saying of the Dalkelh elders, with an interpretation of the direct translation that is *he/she also lives*. The saying would be used by an Elder when reminding someone who is critical of another that the individual is also a living being, with a voice and a viewpoint. The motto encapsulates much of the spirit of academic freedom, respect for others, and the willingness to recognize different perspectives.

### Academic Costume and Regalia

Distinctive academic costume has been worn in universities since their inception some 1,000 years ago. Until recently, such costume was worn as part of the everyday life of the University. Indeed, members of the faculty recollect firm instructions in their student days to wear gowns to tutorials, examinations and formal dinners. The gown, hood and mortarboard are the basic items of academic regalia and originally had practical functions. The hood was specifically created to be pulled over the head to provide protection from inclement weather. Along with the rest of the costume, it now has more of a symbolic function, and indicates through its colours, trim and lining the degree and the university giving the award. Gold and green, being the University of Northern British Columbia colours, feature widely on the academic costumes.

#### PhD green & gold

MA white MASc orange MBA blue MEd light blue MEng orange MNRES lavender MSc gold

MScN apricot MSW citron BA white BComm blue BASc orange BASc (joint) scarlet BEd light blue

BHSc silver BPI gold BSc gold BScN apricot BSW citron

Chief amongst the elements of University regalia is the Mace. In the European tradition, the Mace is the most important symbol of authority. In early medieval times, a mace was a formidable weapon - a rod with a spiked ball at the end - used to defend a king, baron, or bishop. Over the years, the martial requirements gradually declined, and the Mace evolved into a symbol. In universities, it now symbolizes the authority of the Chancellor to award degrees; only in its presence can degrees be conferred. You will also note that at the beginning of the recession (exit procession), the Mace, as tradition decrees, is "brandished," and precedes the Chancellor out of the hall. The University of Northern British Columbia Mace is unique in combining the ancient European tradition with the First Nations' tradition of the Talking Stick, which is used both as a symbol of authority and the right to speak. It was carved, as were the Ceremonial Chairs, by Ron Sebastian.



The list of graduates in this program was complete at the time of publication.

University of Northern British Columbia