

Graduation

The ceremony will take place at the Edmonton Expo (Northlands Agricom) on Saturday, May 26th.

- Parking at Northlands is \$9/vehicle (**NO IN AND OUT PRIVILEGES**)
- Due to construction, the best route to take to the Edmonton Expo from Sherwood Park is Yellowhead Trail.
- Students who will be changing between the ceremony and the gala may leave their change of clothes in the dressing room (Room 202).

Ceremony

The ceremony will be starting at 12:30 pm sharp. Doors will be open to guests at 12:00 pm.

- **All guests will require a ticket in order to enter the ceremony hall.**
 - Please let your guests know that there is no reserve seating.
 - Please make sure you eat before arriving, as the ceremony will last until about 3:30 pm
 - Make your relatives, friends, teachers and school proud of you; show respect for others by listening thoughtfully and show your appreciation by applauding at the appropriate times.
1. Grads, please arrive at 11:30 am.
 2. Grads should be dressed in appropriate business casual attire under their gown. Wear shoes that are **appropriate for walking across the stage**. Do not bring cameras, purses, backpacks, jackets etc. with you, as you will not be able to carry them with you and there is no secure place to leave them.
 3. Grads will proceed immediately to the grad assembly area. The assembly area is open to staff and graduates only. Unless there is a need, please refrain from bringing your family and guests with you to the assembly area. Thank you.
 4. Grads will pick up their name card and tassel from the group leaders and get into the formation as per the rehearsal. Do not lose this card, as it is the one that you hand to the person reading your name. We will have bobby pins available to help keep your caps in place and pins to keep your stole in place. When you are in line, the group leaders will give you your tassel, place it on the right-hand side of your cap.
 5. At 12:10 pm, we will take a group photo in the assembly area. Immediately after the photo, you will go to your group and line up in alphabetical order.
 6. At 12:20pm, your group leader will move you back stage. **DO NOT CHEW GUM**. Stay in the correct order and remain silent. A staff member will cue you to begin the processional. When you exit the stage, move into the rows reserved for the grads in the same order that you are walking. Follow the person in front of you; if you are the first person in your group, start a new row and move into it quickly. Programs will be on your seats.
 7. When your group is called, you will all rise. Take your name card with you. Follow the group leader back stage.
 8. Stay extremely quiet backstage as you can be heard out front; do not take away from someone else's time on stage. A staff member will cue you to proceed up the stairs and a staff member will make sure you are in the correct order and that your tassel is in the right position.

9. Hand your card to the reader and whisper any hard pronunciations. When the reader (Ms. Rankin, Mr. Shudra, Ms. Tattie or Ms. Williamson) calls your name, proceed to the staff member handing out diplomas (Ms. Letawsky, Ms. Vandewetering, Ms. Veinot or Mr. Oatway). Take the diploma in your left hand and shake with your right hand. Move to Mr. Pallister, shake his hand with your right hand and he will move your tassel. Proceed off stage and go down the side aisle to your seat. If you are sitting on the other side, cross over in front of the media section.
10. Traditionally, grads toss their caps in the air at the conclusion of the ceremony. The tassels are keepsakes and should be removed before the toss. You will toss your cap when the class of 2018 is announced at the end of the ceremony.
11. After you toss your cap, pick it up and place it back on your head. Don't forget to take your cap and tassel with you when you leave the ceremony hall.

Between the Ceremony and Gala

Graduates are to change **quickly** and assemble in the area where the ballrooms are to prepare for the grand march into Hall E. There is one dressing room available for changing.

Graduation Gala

- **Everyone must have a ticket in order to enter the gala hall.**
1. Gala doors (Hall E) will be open at 3:30pm. Food will be available AFTER the grand march and designated dances.
 2. Bev Facey's graduation banquet is a **Dry Grad**. Beverages will be available for purchase at \$3.50/glass.
 3. Grand March - grads will march into the hall at 4:00 pm; you will go up the aisle, across the stage, down the aisle and back onto the dance floor. Once all grads are on the dance floor, the grad escort dance will begin. If your escort is not a graduate, please ask them to wait for you on the dance floor.
 4. A photo booth (free of charge) is available near the dance floor for you to take pictures with your friends and family.
 5. Icon Photographers will be on site for professional photos. **Bev Facey will provide 1 print (free of charge) for each graduate attending the gala.** Details on how to order the print will be provided by ICON photography.

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- Return gown and stole to the English wing **during lunch hour**.
- Gowns should be zipped up and stoles should be unpinned from the gown.
- Pick up composite

Please Note: Grads who smell of alcohol or drugs during the rehearsal or on the day of grad (ceremony and gala) may lose the privilege of participating in the graduation activities and will face school consequences.