



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Michael J. McLeod

Member of Parliament/Député
Northwest Territories/Territoires du Nord-Ouest

Dear Aurora College Graduates,

JUN - 6 2021

Congratulations on your achievement in graduating from Aurora College. It is something that you will carry with you forever. In a year when many things have been taken away because of Covid-19, this achievement will remain a constant for you.

Here in the Northwest Territories, in this mostly challenging year, let's celebrate and recognize the good fortune we have had: in keeping the virus at bay; in our enviable position as compared to the rest of Canada with the openness we have enjoyed; in our early and swift vaccinations. But like your graduation certificate that is the result of your hard work, this was not determined solely by luck. It was determined by the many choices that were made. Our borders were closed and when the virus was found, hard and swift lockdowns were ordered and followed. There were choices made that were not always popular. If we had not delayed our gratification and opened up early with no measures, we would likely have seen the higher costs in poorer health outcomes in our communities and overloading our health care system like has happened elsewhere.

This mirrors why you are graduating today. You made choices, you made sacrifices and you delayed doing some things that may have been more enjoyable, to commit and succeed in your coursework. Your choices got you here today. Enjoy the satisfaction you feel now and give yourselves a pat on the back. There will be more choices for you to make tomorrow, but I think you are on the right track.

Congratulations to the Aurora College graduation classes of 2020 and 2021!

Yours truly,

Michael McLeod
Member of Parliament, Northwest Territories