



COLLÈGE
AURORA
COLLEGE

2024
CONVOCATION

Mission

Demonstrate leadership in the delivery of relevant and meaningful education and research rooted in strong connections to Northern land, tradition, community and people.

Land Acknowledgment

We respectfully acknowledge that Aurora College is situated on the traditional territories and homeland of the Dene, Inuit and Métis peoples of the Northwest Territories. We are grateful to the many Indigenous peoples of the NWT for allowing us the opportunity to learn, work and live on their lands. We are also deeply grateful for the generous sharing of Traditional Knowledge, wisdom and ways of knowing, being and doing with our students and employees.

Yellowknife North Slave Campus

Friday, May 31, 2024

Chateau Nova Hotel, Caribou Room, 4571 - 48 St., Yellowknife

Ceremony 1: 10:00 AM

Environment and Natural Resources Technology, Business Administration,
Office Administration, Certificate in Adult Education,
Early Learning and Child Care

Ceremony 2: 2:00 PM

Personal Support Worker, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Thebacha Campus

Friday, June 7, 2024

Salt River First Nation Business & Conference Centre, 192 McDougal Road, Fort Smith

1:00 PM

Aurora Campus

Friday, June 14, 2024

Midnight Sun Recreation Complex, 95 Gwich'in Road, Inuvik

3:00 PM



**Joseph Handley
Chair, Board of Govenors**

A heartfelt congratulations to Aurora College’s Class of 2024! From my experience as an educator, I know just how much hard work you have all put into getting here today.

This is an outstanding achievement for each and every one of you. Let your success here serve as a beacon as you face challenges ahead in life; it is evidence you can rise to any challenge.

You are joining an extensive community of graduates who have found success in their chosen fields. I know you will be part of great things to come for the Northwest Territories as each of us works to build our communities.

I look forward to seeing the change you make and seeing what successes come your way. Congratulations!

**Dr. Glenda Vardy Dell
President, Aurora College**

To all the graduates in the Class of 2024, congratulations and well done! You’ve accomplished something incredible and taken a big step down a path of growth in both your personal and professional lives.

You have dedicated yourself and worked incredibly hard to get here today. Each of us at Aurora College is proud to celebrate your achievement alongside you. While the faculty and staff at Aurora College have been here to help guide you, it’s your own strength and drive that have brought you to today’s celebration. When you next face a challenge in life, remind yourself of the strength and resiliency you’ve already shown in accomplishing this goal. It’s no small accomplishment to graduate!

It has been an honour for all of us at Aurora College to be with you on your journey, and I wish you all the best in what is sure to be a bright future. Congratulations!



**Lyndie Bourque
Thebacha Campus**

My name is Lyndie Bourque, a proud local from Fort Smith and a member of the Northwest Territories Métis Nation. I am a two-time alumni of Aurora College, first earning a diploma with honors in Office Administration Program in 2020, and now in Business Administration- Accounting Stream.

As the front face of the Thebacha Campus library, working as the library monitor on evenings and weekends, I am actively involved in the college community. I sit on the Academic Council as the student representative for the campus and hold a signing authority position in the Student’s Association.

Above all, I am a proud mother to three amazing children who inspire me in everything I do. My passion lies in growth, personal development, and inspiring others to overcome obstacles and fight for the future they desire.

My post-secondary journey has taught me that graduation is not the end goal; it is a part of a larger journey in life. Wherever your future takes you, let it take you somewhere meaningful. Never stop learning, because life is the teacher that never stops teaching. There are new lessons and opportunities for growth every day. Let each day’s lessons make you a stronger version of yourself.



**Agnes Amos
Aurora Campus**

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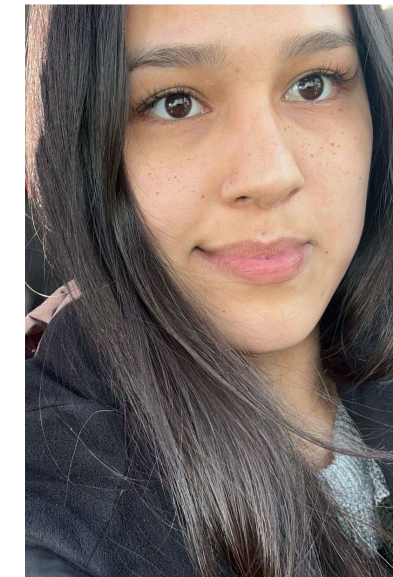
I am very delighted to be chosen as the 2024 Valedictorian for the Aurora Campus convocation in Inuvik. My name is Agnes Panilualung Kanraran Amos. I was raised in Sachs Harbour but moved back to Inuvik five years ago where I graduated high school in 2022 with “Most Improved” student award.

I am a very proud mother to my two-year-old son, Vernon; I owe a lot of my accomplishments and determination to him, along with my parents, Vernon and Lorainna, and his other grandparents, Erin and Henry, for supporting me in getting my education.

Taking on such a role at just 16 years old led me to stay determined to reach my goals, and can say that both my son and I have been flourishing and learning new things together.

As a child I never really had my heart set on one dream job or goal. I’ve always wanted to be educated in different fields and have a lot of experience so that I could find my passion. Taking the Early Learning and Child Care program has helped guide me, and I want to continue on to become an elementary school teacher. The future is in these small hands, and I want to be a part of making it great by teaching and guiding young minds.

In my near future, I plan to graduate with my diploma, and go on to get my degree in education with my son by my side. Quyanainnii.



2024 Valedictorians



Sarah Fleming Yellowknife North Slave Campus

My name is Sarah Fleming. I was born and raised in Yellowknife. After graduating from École St. Patrick's High School in 2019, I took a year off from academics and worked as an educational assistant at Weledeh Catholic School. One year quickly turned into three. Before becoming an educational assistant, I had no intentions of working in education; I had imagined myself working as a pediatric or neonatal nurse. However, after discovering a passion for early childhood education, my career aspirations changed. During COVID-19, I continued my role as an educational assistant and eventually decided to pursue a career in Early Childhood Education by enrolling in Aurora College's Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) program. This program allowed me to stay close to my family and friends.

Over the last two years, I have worn many hats. Along with my instructor, Anthoula Zachou, I represented the ELCC program at an Outdoor Education conference in Calgary, where I participated in a fact-finding mission to help create a northern-based physical literacy resource, a project that is still in progress. I was one of five students selected to join my instructor, Erica McDonald, at the NOW Play conference in Toronto, where we shared our research on the benefits of understanding and learning northern languages through storytelling. The ELCC program has broadened my knowledge in early childhood education and has encouraged me to further my education. I have been accepted to the University of Alberta to complete my Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education.

I've also been working on hockey coaching certifications and have served as an assistant coach. This season, I took on a co-head coach position alongside a former teammate and good friend for the Senior Female Development Team. I've coached three teams each season over the past two years and have been an active advocate for female hockey in the North. I was recently nominated and awarded the BFL Hockey Canada Hockey North's Women in Coaching award in the community division.

Therese Petak-Dube Yellowknife North Slave Campus

My name is Therese (Theri) Petak-Dube. I am 35 years old, and I have lived in Yellowknife nearly all of my life. This city has given me so much. In 2010, I became a mother; in 2014, I became a wife; and in 2024, I will become a nurse. These are the happiest moments of my life, and I am so grateful that they have happened in my hometown.

During my time at Aurora College, I have been a member of the Aurora College Standing Appeals Committee, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Curriculum and Evaluation Committee and a volunteer tutor. I have been working towards the goal of getting my nursing degree for nearly a decade, and I am so proud to be joining the nursing community as I move toward the next step in my journey.



Scholarships & Awards

Yellowknife North Slave Campus

**Board of Governors Student Leadership Award
Honorary Personal Support Worker Certificate
AVENS Sheila Broders Award
CANNN Academic and Clinical Excellence Award**

Thebacha Campus

**Town of Fort Smith, Duncan MacPherson Citizenship Award
Ronalda Boutillier Webb Memorial Bursary**

Aurora Campus

**Board of Governors Student Leadership Award
Town of Inuvik, Office Administration Scholarship
Aurora Cup
UNW Local 29 Staff to Student Legacy
Eli Nasogaluak Jr. Memorial Bursary
Mervin Joe Memorial Bursary**

Aurora College is grateful to the many NWT businesses, organizations and individuals who generously provide scholarships, bursaries and awards to our post-secondary students throughout the year, in addition to those presented at Convocation Ceremonies. These include:

Gahcho Kué Mine Early Learning and Child Care Bursaries (12)

De Beers Gahcho Kué Mine supports up to 12 distance Early Learning and Child Care graduates annually from 2022 through 2030 with \$2,000 scholarships. Up to \$216,000 will be awarded over the life of the program. These awards support part-time, online, certificate and diploma graduates who live in the NWT.

De Beers Group Practicum Bursaries for School of Health and Human Services

De Beers Group has committed up to \$45,000 per year for 2024-2026 to support practicum experiences for students in the School of Health and Human Services in NWT communities outside of Yellowknife. The bursaries allow students to gain skills and knowledge working in smaller, more rural health care settings, and may help alleviate staffing shortages in small centres by encouraging graduates to consider working outside of Yellowknife.

Clark Builders Scholarship

**Hotii ts'eeda/Aurora College Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship
SLR Consulting Bursary
Stantec Scholarship
Yellowknife Community Foundation Scholarships**



2024 Graduates

School of Arts & Science

Environment and Natural Resources Technology

Carpenter, Dwight (Posthumous)	Sachs Harbour/ Inuvik
Chambers, Susanne	Yellowknife
Grimes, Benjamin	Yellowknife
Menacho-Melnyk, Madison	Norman Wells
Rabesca, Colby	Behchokò

School of Business and Leadership

Business Administration Certificate

Coyen, Joshua	
Crookedhand, Candice	Yellowknife
Digap, Princess Joy	Yellowknife
Edgi, Audrey	Fort Smith
Elchico, Shadnny Bruins	Inuvik
Kotylak, Kori	Yellowknife
Kovacs, Dawson	Inuvik
Kravitz, Abigail	Yellowknife
Lockhart, Jeanette	Łutselk'e
Ruben, Dustin	

Business Administration Diploma

Aquino, Sherra Mica	Yellowknife
Cleary, Holly	Yellowknife
Costa, Lidia Jennife	Yellowknife
Domingo, Alison Lyn	Yellowknife
Mackeinzo, Jocelyn	Déłıne

Business Administration Diploma -

Accounting Stream

Bourque, Lyndie	Fort Smith
Rajasekaran, Balaji	Fort Smith
Solomon, Karmella Raizza	Yellowknife

Office Administration Certificate

Balsillie, Pamela	Fort Resolution
Hazenberg, Bradley	Yellowknife
Omilgoituk, Clara	Inuvik
Yakeleya, Sheena	Yellowknife

Office Administration Diploma

Gruben, Terri	Tuktoyaktuk
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School of Education

Certificate in Adult Education

de Bastiani, Lana	Yellowknife
Henderson, Barbara	Yellowknife
Latour, Ken	Hay River
MacKay, Jennifer	Yellowknife
Rabesca, Darla	Whatì

Early Learning & Child Care Certificate

Al Dakhil, Rola	Yellowknife
Amos, Agnes	Inuvik
Archie, Mandy	Aklavik
Baillargeon, Maalea	T' ènehda
Bekale, Kelsey	Gamètì
Bessette, Brittney	Yellowknife
Gahdèle, Honeyrain	Łutselk'e
Davidson, Jennifer M.	Yellowknife
Dumaguing, Recy	Yellowknife
Elias, Audrey	Behchokò
Juntilla, Gabriel	Yellowknife
Kaur, Jaspreet	Yellowknife
Larocque-Murphy, Cheyenne	Yellowknife
Mangelana, Morgan	Tuktoyaktuk
Mulyk, Lauryn	Norman Wells
Park, Tomeka	Yellowknife
Ruiz, Natividad	Yellowknife
Stehr, Melissa	Inuvik
Wilson, Sue Ellen	Fort McPherson

Early Learning & Child Care Diploma

Abdollahifar, Farahnaz	Yellowknife
Abel-Catholique, Verna	Łutselk'e
Antonio, Jaimyka	Yellowknife
Awichen, Sharon F.	Inuvik
Camillon, Imee	Inuvik
Catholique, Faith	Łutsel'ke
Dryneck, Reanna	Behchokò,
Fleming, Sarah	Yellowknife
Garcia, Amelia	Yellowknife
Hopkins, Sarah	Yellowknife
Kuchta, Bonnie	Yellowknife
Larocque-Murphy, Cheyenne	Yellowknife
LeGuerrier, Micaella	Fort Smith
MacCauley, Rachel	Tulit'a
Moosenose, Janet	Whatì
Tutton, Emma	Yellowknife
von Allmen, Kimberley	Yellowknife
Wolki, Breanna	Tuktoyaktuk

School of Health and Human Services

Personal Support Worker Certificate

Cabebe, Nel-joe	Yellowknife
Canning, Angela	Yellowknife
Davies, Jahara	Yellowknife
de Vera, Spencer A.	Hay River
Dewar, Grecia Sophia	Fort Simpson
Ellsworth, Nicole	Yellowknife
Felix, Stephanie	Tuktoyaktuk
Galaura, Jeanette	Yellowknife
Jackson, Christopher	Fort Good Hope
Kakkianiun, Theresa	
Lafferty, Connie	Behchokò
Lafferty, Irene Nora	Behchokò
Lim, Genevieve	Yellowknife
Mandeville, Breanna	Fort Resolution
Martin, Michelle	
Nerysoo, Ashlyne	Fort McPherson
Norwegian, Kirby	Fort Simpson
Salma, Ahoma	
Steinwand, Genielle	Behchokò
Swan, Trina	Hay River
Tinqui, Amy	Behchokò
Vital, Helen	Déłıne
Zoe, Teresa	Behchokò

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

Anderson, Toni	Yellowknife
Antoine, Luce-Ulna	Yellowknife
Calimlim, France	Yellowknife
Earle, Dakota	Yellowknife
Farrell, Hanna	Yellowknife
Ghanie, Shannon Elizabeth	Yellowknife
Heslin, Danielle	Yellowknife
Lafferty, Antonia A.	Yellowknife
Landry, Ronell	Yellowknife
Nhau, Bridget	Yellowknife
Patterson, Sally	Yellowknife
Petak-Dube, Therese	Yellowknife
Poulin, Raphaëlle	Yellowknife
Strelioff, Nadia	Yellowknife
Tennant, Kady Carlene	Behchokò
Wong, Petrina	Yellowknife
Yaceyko, Cerah	Yellowknife