

- 01** *Chair's Welcome*
- 02** *Virtual Learning Q&A*
- 03** *Virtual Learning Q&A Cont.*
- 04** *Learning Passport Program: Overview*
- 05** *Learning Passport Program: Upcoming Events*
- 06** *Fall 2020 Career Week*
- 07** *Halifax Chamber of Commerce*
- 08** *Faculty Focus*
- 09** *Career Services*
- 10** *Career Services Cont.*
- 11** *Cooperative Education*
- 12** *Co-op statistics*



Chair's Welcome

Dr. Peter Mombourquette

The Department of Business and Tourism welcomes all new and returning students to our online learning environment for the fall semester. I am confident our students will have a rewarding term.

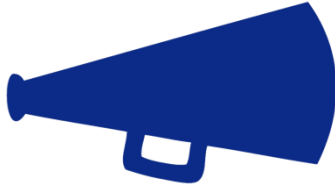
As most know, the Department of Business and Tourism has been offering our degrees, certificates, and diplomas online for well over 20 years. We have invested in creating an excellent learning environment for our students.

Over the summer, we have been preparing a semester filled with many valuable opportunities for you. We are hosting several online events, including our Fireside Chat series, Virtual tours, and Career Week. These events encompass the Department's desire to provide you with an array of exceptional opportunities to enhance your learning experience. Through the Learning Passport Program, you can grow your skill set, expand your network, and meet potential employers in your field.

With the start of this academic year, I encourage students to continue pursuing your interests, working hard to achieve your goals, and getting involved.

This Thanksgiving I want to express my gratitude to our students and faculty for your hard work and dedication to our program. Your resiliency does not go unnoticed.

Virtual Learning: Q&A



We understand that changes to your educational experience can raise many uncertainties. We want to clarify any questions Business and Tourism students may have about the transition to online learning.

Q: I am worried online courses will provide me with a lower-quality education and experience.

A: We want to ensure you that your online learning experience at the Mount will be just as rewarding as in person classes. The Department of Business & Tourism has been integrating online distance courses for over 35 years. Business and Tourism professors are experts in their field and look forward to helping you navigate your journey through online learning.

Q: Should I wait until on-campus classes resume?

A: At the Mount, providing you with the highest quality education is of the utmost importance to us. We are confident that your experience with online learning will be nothing short of what you would receive in a face-to-face environment. Our faculty are working diligently to guarantee you a full university experience online. We are maintaining our internationally recognized Learning Passport program where students can receive bonus points towards their final course marks by attending Fireside Chats, Career Week panels with various guest speakers, Chamber of Commerce activities, Conferences and Webinars, and Volunteer work. Whether on campus or online, you will be provided with the valuable resources and skills you need to thrive as a business and tourism professional. We believe that being adaptable and progressive through embracing online learning and technology fosters innovation and builds resiliency and is the way of the future.

Q: How will professors have enough time to change all of their courses to an online mode of delivery?

A: All classes within the Department of Business and Tourism are developed for both online and on campus learning. In addition, our faculty have been working throughout the summer months to increase the online experience. Many of our professors have taught overseas in addition to via distance, so they are well versed in supporting students with various learning needs in a wide variety of learning contexts.

Q: How will professors maintain their funded research programs while converting courses online?

A: Ways to modify research programs are being explored. Extensions for research projects are being negotiated and accepted. It is important to note how conducting research informs teaching. Our faculty are engaged in current research projects related to the impact of COVID. This work not only compliments content presented in many of your courses, it elevates the currency of your degree, diploma, or certificate.

Virtual Learning: Q&A

Q: Is it true that most professors do not want to teach in an online environment because they value engaging with students in discussions, debates and laboratory demonstrations?

A: The Department of Business and Tourism professors look forward to having you in their virtual classrooms. Our professors are experienced in the area of distance learning, can engage with students in discussions, debates and demonstrations through the technology that we have been using for many years. Through your Mount account, you have many applications available to you that will allow for discussions, debates and collaboration with other students and faculty. While there are positives and negatives to every teaching and learning environment, we are excited to provide our courses and services 100 percent online.

Q: How will professors balance working while caring for children and other loved ones?

A: The Department of Business & Tourism believes that your success is our success. Our Department's professors are experienced professionals. As we all navigate working remotely, your professors will be flexible and available to support you during class time by appointment and during office hours. Balancing multiple tasks is nothing new to the professors working in the Department of Business and Tourism at the Mount.

Q: How will professors have quality access to technology and connection while working from home?

A: All Business and Tourism professors have been making necessary upgrades to their home internet access to ensure students have a high quality online educational experience. In addition, all classes will be recorded so that you can review them again at any time. The Mounts IT Services will also be available to support you with any technological issues you may face throughout your online classes.



Still have questions?

[Flourish at MSVU](#)

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Learning Passport Program: Overview

What is the Learning Passport?

The Learning Passport program is a **free** program available to all Business and Tourism students with the goal of providing opportunity to extend learning beyond the classroom through a variety of exciting virtual events and activities.

Why should you participate?

- Opportunity to gain educational experiences relevant to your program of study
- Earn points toward your final grade in eligible Business and Tourism courses
- Network and make connections at events
- Get a Learning Passport certificate to add to your portfolio

How many points can you earn?

Two Activities = 1 Bonus Point

Three Activities = 2 Bonus Points

Four Activities = 3 Bonus Points

When does it start?

The Learning Passport program commences **Thursday, September 17, 2020** and concludes **Wednesday, November 25, 2020**. **Your booklet must be submitted by November 25, 2020 no later than 4:30 p.m. for your passport to be valid.**

Do's and Don'ts

Do complete surveys: Students have 48 hours to complete the corresponding survey for each activity they attend. The completed survey will be uploaded in the appropriate assignment centre on the Learning Passport Moodle page.

Do participate: All students enrolled in Business and Tourism courses at MSVU can participate in the Learning Passport Program.

Don't miss class: Students are not permitted to skip their classes to participate in learning passport activities.

Don't be late: Students must be on time for Learning Passport events. Tardy students will not be allowed to participate.

Do request a certificate: Learning Passport Certificates can be issued and used in portfolios.

Do have fun! The Learning Passport program is designed to provide students with unique networking and learning opportunities.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL LEARNING PASSPORT EVENTS

Local Entrepreneur & Cultural Tourism Virtual Tour

Thursday, October 15 at 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Finding Open Access Resources for Academic Research

Monday, October 19 at 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Sustainable Business Tour

Thursday, October 22 at 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Fireside Chat with Ben Cowan-Dewar

Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00 PM

Career Week 2020

Marketing/Public Relations Panel

Monday, November 2 at 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Fireside Chat

Tuesday, November 3 at 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Accounting/Finance Panel

Tuesday, November 3 at 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Management and HR Panel

Wednesday, November 4 at 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Tourism Management Panel

Thursday, November 5 at 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Non-Profit Panel

Thursday, November 5 at 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Business and Tourism Fall 2020 Career Week



Marketing Panel, October 31, 2019

The Department of Business and Tourism is excited to host the annual fall Career Week online **November 2nd to November 5th, 2020**. During Career Week, industry professionals will speak and provide professional advice to students during the virtual panels.

Students will learn about potential careers in the areas of Business Administration and Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Marketing / Public Relations Panel

Monday, November 2 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Entrepreneurship Panel (Fireside Chat)

Tuesday, November 3 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Accounting / Finance Panel

Tuesday, November 3 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Management Panel

Wednesday, November 4 from 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Tourism Panel

Thursday, November 5th from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Non-Profit Panel

Thursday, November 5th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

**Find your career inspiration from industry experts at Career Week
2020!**



Please Note: Students may attend a *maximum* of two Business & Tourism Career Week Learning Passport activities for bonus points.

Halifax Chamber of Commerce

Students in the Business & Tourism program at the Mount are members of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce.

Through this membership, students can attend chamber events and receive benefits such as:

- Discounts from Benefit Providers
- Connections in the business community and access to the Member Directory
- M2M Marketplace discounts
- Halifax Chamber of Commerce e-newsletter

Attending Chamber events is also a part of the Learning Passport program.

“The Chamber’s Annual Fall Dinner provided an excellent opportunity to connect with business leaders, learn of the growing innovation in Halifax, and experience the value of the Mount’s partnership with the Halifax Chamber of Commerce.”

– Abigail Hodder, MSVU student



Halifax Chamber of Commerce Annual Fall Dinner

HALIFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

About

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce is a best-practice and business advocacy organization, recognized as the first Chamber in North America, and is certified to ISO 9001:2015.

The Chamber focuses on creating positive business environments, growing the workforce, and accelerating the success of Chamber members through providing networking events, benefit programs, advocacy to governments, education, and information.

Approximately 1,600 businesses and over 65,000 employees are members of the

Learn more about the Halifax Chamber of Commerce by visiting:

<http://halifaxchamber.com/>



Students attending Halifax Chamber of Commerce Annual Fall Dinner

Faculty Focus: Nicholous Deal

The Department of Business and Tourism is pleased to welcome back Nicholous Deal to the Mount Saint Vincent University community on a 12 month term contract. Just over five years ago Nick graduated from our Bachelor of Business Administration degree program and went on to pursue graduate studies at Saint Mary's University. Nick returns to the Mount from the Sobey School of Business where not only is he finishing up his PhD in Business Administration (Management) but also a two-year stint as a full-time lecturer of business ethics and strategic human resource management courses. Just this past March he was awarded the "Full-Time Professor of the Year" award sponsored by the Commerce Society for the second consecutive year.

From early in his undergraduate studies, Nick knew he wanted to pay forward what was invested in him: faculty mentors who went out of their way to make extra time for him to succeed. He credits many in the Department for playing an instrumental role in him pursuing a PhD. Nick's position encompasses teaching and service; he is excited to be working alongside and collaborate with faculty members to revitalize the non-profit leadership program, now in its third year. He hopes to bring to these students a professional network of community leaders in Halifax and throughout Atlantic Canada and expose them to the world of social responsibility. His belief is that through a more thoughtful engagement with community leadership, the solution to society's most dire problems be it economic, social, or environmental, may be remedied by responsible business practices. He is currently working on a project that will champion the human resource profession at the Mount and see a new relationship with the provincial association of human resource practitioners: Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of Nova Scotia.

His doctoral dissertation research focuses on using history to recover the forgotten stories of the individuals who suffer systemic marginalization. His research interests are closely aligned with the Mount's culture of equality, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility, ranging from topics such as the role of gender discourses in management textbooks, historical methodology, and intersectional feminism to how certain workplace practices play a persistent role in subtly advancing exclusionary outcomes. In addition to his research, he has also a growing track record of serving the academic community through various positions including his recent election as the Graduate Student/Junior Faculty Representative-at-Large for the Management History Division of the Academy of Management, Chair of the Business History Division of the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada, and membership of the Journal of Management History editorial board.



What excites Nick most about the Mount is getting more involved with student life. In the classroom, Nick likes to use humor and current events to connect course material to "the real world." That way students can enjoy learning new ideas by contributing their own ideas, viewpoints, and opinions to discussions on how to relate theory to practice. Outside the classroom, he meets with students regularly in the local Enactus Mount chapter where he serves as a founding faculty advisor (Enactus is a student program that encourages entrepreneurial action to positively affect change and innovation in the community). His advice to students at any stage of their program is to look for ways to get involved with all the exciting things the Department of Business and Tourism has to offer. There is something for everyone and a place to belong.

Welcome back to the Mount, Nick!

Why Any Kind of Work or Volunteer Experience Counts During These Uncertain Times

The summer was challenging for many students as Plan A turned into Plan B, Plan C, or Plan D and everyone had to make tough decisions. Now that you are back to University, students are asking all the traditional questions, but with a twist:

“Are there on or off campus jobs available? How does that even work now?” “I’m graduating this year. I’m not even sure what’s out there or who’s hiring.”

Career Connects:

First, let’s answer these questions.

Log into Career Connects at careerconnects.msvu.ca with your regular Mount username and password to get access to MSVU’s main job posting site. On campus jobs for the fall/winter term (mostly work-from-home positions) will be posted by the second week of September and off campus jobs are posted regularly, year-round. Check Career Services Facebook @msvucareerservices or Instagram @msvucareers in September for the workshop link.

Halifax Universities Career Fair on September 29:

Who’s hiring these days? The Halifax Universities Career Fair features a bunch: over 50 employers have signed on to chat with students from the Mount, Dalhousie, and Saint Mary’s at the virtual Halifax Universities Career Fair on **Tuesday, September 29 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Students and soon-to-be graduates, create your profile and upload your resume now by visiting www.careerco.com/Events/HUCF to review employer details and set up one-on-one meetings for the day of the fair. Stay tuned for great contest prizes!

Now what?

So... why does any kind of work or volunteer experience count during these uncertain times?

- a) Transferable skills *always* apply to your chosen career path
- b) Competencies from your volunteer experience can be documented on your Co-curricular Record at the Mount
- c) Your time management skills and ability to problem solve have probably expanded, making you an even stronger job candidate

Did you know the 2018 Business Council Skills Survey ranked collaboration, communication skills, problem-solving skills, analytical capabilities, and resiliency ¹ [superscript] as the top five skills Canadian private sectors employers look for in entry-level hires? That means the job working in the family business or looking after a neighbour's children count. Think about which of the top five skills apply to those jobs (or jobs you've had) and ultimately apply to your career path.

Speaking of skills and competencies, when it comes to your volunteer experience, make sure to document it on your Co-curricular Record by visiting www.msvu.ca/campus-life/career-services/students/co-curricular-record-ccr. Why is this above and beyond listing the volunteer experience on your resume? The Mount validates your Co-curricular Record and the competencies you earn appear on a certificate that you can use in your job applications or job interviews. **Sounds pretty professional, right?**

Career Services is here to help!

Join us for Learning Passport workshops, career counselling appointments via video conferencing or telephone, and virtual drop-in times to review your cover letter, resume, or online profile, or help with your job search.

Appointments: Log into Career Connects at careerconnects.msvu.ca, or call 902-457-6139

Email: careerplanning@msvu.ca

Facebook: @msvucareerservices

Instagram: @msvucareer

- 1 Business Council of Canada and Morneau Shepell. (2018). *Navigating Change: 2018 Business Council Skills Survey*. <https://thebusinesscouncil.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Navigating-Change-2018-Skills-Survey-1.pdf>

Take the **Certificate in Non-profit Leadership** along with your degree. Graduate with two credentials and make yourself more marketable!

What is the Non-profit Leadership program?

The Non-profit Leadership program will give you the knowledge and skills to work or volunteer in a community sector organization. The community sector is made up of organizations whose primary purpose is social well-being and building a better world for all. There is an estimated 171,000 registered non-profit voluntary sector organizations in Canada, employing over 2 million people and with annual revenues of more than \$112 billion. Almost 40% of MSVU co-op positions are in the non-profit sector, and 21% of MSVU graduates over the past ten years now work in the non-profit sector.

The Certificate consists of 6 core courses and 2 electives which can be taken along with your regular degree courses. The faculty of this program have years of experience working in the community sector which they bring into the classroom to help you maximize your potential as a leader and make a difference in the world.

Who is the program for?

The program is for anyone interested in volunteering or working in a Community Sector organization.

Want to know more?

Contact Dr. Scott MacMillan
scott.macmillan@msvu.ca
or Professor Nicholous Deal
nicholous.deal@msvu.ca



Co-operative Education at the Mount

For students completing work terms in fall 2020:

Please be sure to contact your fall co-op supervisor before your start date to discuss your work arrangement (e.g. working from home or working in the office), and any procedures and protocols that you need to be aware of before starting work.

Co-op Student Resources:

Our national co-op accrediting body, Co-operative Education & Work-Integrated Learning (CEWIL) Canada published a number of resources for co-op students who are both on work terms and seeking work terms. You can find these resources at cewilcanada.ca

Co-operative education is an investment in your future.

Through participation in the co-op program, students acquire...

- Excellent job-search, resume and interviewing skills
- Industry contacts with potential employers
- Personal and professional confidence
- Career options
- Competitive edge when searching for a job
- One year of relevant work experience
- The opportunity to travel to other provinces
- Experience with different industry sectors across Canada

Student Focus: Abbie Hodder

Hi there – my name is Abbie Hodder! I graduated this Spring from the Mount with a Bachelor of Business Administration with majors in Accounting and Management. Currently, I am a Candidate in the CPA (Chartered Professional Accountant) program taking the Fast Track route to write the CFE in September 2021 and work at BDO as a Junior Accountant. The opportunities I had through the Mount's Business Administration program played a big role in my success during my time at the Mount and now in my career.

The Learning Passport Program provided many opportunities to network with business professionals, learn about the various aspects of business, and the chance to gain valuable skills. Some of my favourite activities were the Business & Tourism Learners and Leaders Conference, Career Week, and Halifax Chamber of Commerce events. With so many activities offered each semester there were numerous opportunities to learn more about the career path I wanted to pursue!

Starting in my second year of my degree I joined the Business and Tourism Society (BTS). I started as the VP of External Events in 2017-18 and was President in 2018-19. The BTS was a great way to connect with other Business and Tourism students and provided numerous opportunities. I assisted in the planning and participated in the Learners and Leaders Conference, fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House, and develop and run student engagement events on campus. For example, during the Learners and Leaders Conference I had the opportunity to be the Master of Ceremonies, which included speaking and officiating the events for the entire day. This further developed my public speaking abilities in a large group setting and over a longer period. I was also able to apply the skills and knowledge learned in the courses I had taken to my positions on the BTS and now later at BDO and my CPA studies.

The Co-operative Education Program at the Mount helped me to start my career in public accounting. I completed my work terms at the Mount's Business and Tourism Department and BDO. Each work term provided me the opportunity to gain confidence in my technical knowledge from the classroom and further develop essential skills such as networking, public speaking, time management, and written communication for pursuing a career in business.



As a Mount Business grad, I can confidently say that the supportive and knowledgeable faculty, student engagement activities from the Department and BTS, and the Co-op program all led to me being where I am today. Advice I would give to Business & Tourism students is - Always ask questions in class, your instructors are there to help and are always willing to help you. Get involved with things on campus such as the Learning Passport Program and BTS, these are great ways to meet other students, connect with industry professionals, and make those steps toward landing a job after graduation. And finally reach out to your instructors who are in a field of business that interests you, they can connect you with other mount grads and answer questions about what it's like to work in that field. All these things contributed to me learning more than I could by just attending class and landing my job at BDO before graduation.

Co-operative Education at the Mount

