

CONNECTING FOR ACTION

Gender-based Violence and Leadership in Nova Scotia

Tuesday, May 26 & Wednesday, May 27, 2026 | Mount Saint Vincent University

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Time/Location	Activity	Participants
8:30-8:50 (Rosaria (MPR))	Registration & Refreshments	AMI/Nancy's Chair
8:50-9:05	Welcome, Introduction, Land Acknowledgement	Dr. Carrie Dawson Delvina Bernard Dr. Mary Rita Holland
9:05-9:15	Advancing Women's Leadership Through Connection	Dr. Tegan Zimmerman
9:15-10:00	GBV in Politics: What we have done & what (we think) we know	Be the Peace Institute Violence and Harassment in Politics Working Group (VHIP)
10:00-10:15	Provincial Legislature Leading change on GBV	Claudia Chender, NS Opposition Leader
10:15-10:30	BREAK	
10:30-11:15	Legislatures as Workplaces: Safety for equity deserving people	Dr. Tracey Raney Parmida Khanchi
11:15-12:15	World Café: Small group conversations and open sharing	Sue Bookchin Megan Carbray & counsellor volunteers
12:15-12:45	LUNCH	

Scan QR code to view full program:



12:45-1:15	Tactile Testimonies: A Prayer Mala Communal Art Intervention	Diana Younes
1:15-1:45	Women in Leadership: Overcoming obstacles, and redefining success	Dr. Dayna Lee-Baggley
1:45-2:30	Technology Facilitated Violence and the Workplace	Dr. Suzie Dunn Dr. Alexa Dodge Dr. Gabrielle Bardall Facilitator: Dr. Meredith Ralston
2:30-3:15	Supporting the Next Generation of Leaders: Insights and opportunities	Wyndolyn Brown Tanaysha Sack Facilitator: Cameron Smith
3:15-3:30	BREAK & ROOM SET-UP	
3:30-5:00	Mentorship, Networking and Support Social: Building informal supports for current and future leaders	
Wednesday, May 27, 2026		
Time/Location	Activity	Participants
8:45-9:30	Transformational Change & Human Rights: A path forward for Nova Scotia	Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard Dr. Diane Crocker Dr. Tammy Bernasky Facilitator: Dr. Maya Eichler
9:30-10:45	Representation Roundtable: Creating safety and support for equity deserving leaders	Heidi Marshall Suzy Hansen Lisa Lachance Angela Simmonds Joanne Bernard Jess West Mica Daurie Facilitator: Dr. El Jones
10:45-11:00	BREAK	
11:00-12:00	Takeaways and Policy Recommendations	Be the Peace Institute/VHIP Working Group PEI Coalition for Women's Leadership
12:00-12:30	Tactile Testimonies & Closing	Diana Younes & Elder Deb Eisan

Scan QR code to view full program:



Featuring Art Exhibition: Love Boat -- Amanda Rhodenizer

In the early 1980s, HMCS Cormorant became the first vessel in the Canadian Navy to board a mixed gender crew. This historic first was tarnished by the alleged rampant sexual harassment and misogyny that occurred on board, earning it the nickname "The Love Boat" among sailors.

After a long career as a diving support vessel for the Canadian Navy, HMCS Cormorant was decommissioned and abandoned at a dock in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia where it languished for over 20 years. During that time the ship was neglected and eventually became an environmental hazard, with reports of toxic waste accumulating in its fuel cells.

After years of public pressure, the Cormorant was finally towed away for scrapping in 2020.

In a province where gender-based violence is on the rise, HMCS Cormorant is a reminder of the visible and invisible tolls of trauma. The works presented in "Love Boat" map the Cormorant's last resting place on the LaHave River: panoramic paintings include physical changes to the dock that took place during the ship's stay, a scale boat model displays breaches along the ship's hull, and a plywood decoy of a shag bears witness to it all.

OUR PARTNERS

We are deeply grateful for your support, and are acknowledging the following partners:



Violence and Harassment
in Politics
Working Group



PEI Coalition
for Women's
Leadership



ABOUT NANCY'S CHAIR

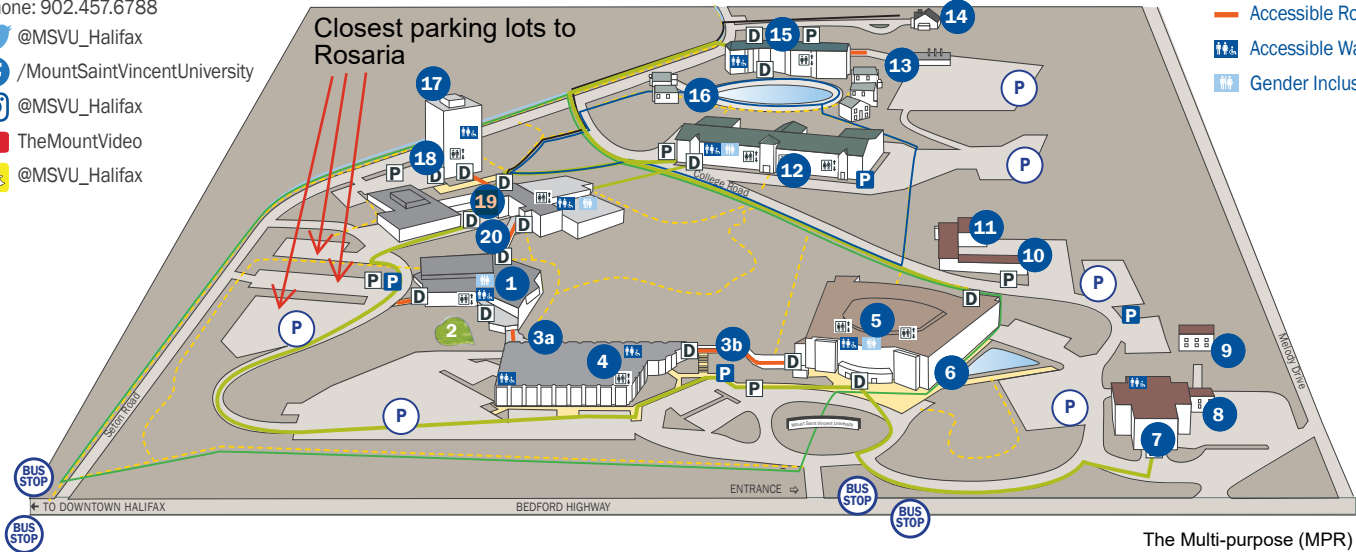
Championing Awareness, Education and Advocacy

The Nancy Rowell Jackman Chair in Women's Studies (Nancy's Chair) was established at Mount Saint Vincent University in the mid-1980s. Endowed by well-known Toronto-based feminist and philanthropist Nancy Ruth, the Chair raises awareness of women's issues by bringing to campus distinguished scholars in women's studies and activists who have contributed to the advancement of women.

The presence of the Chair adds substantially to the intellectual strength of women's studies at Mount Saint Vincent and in the Atlantic region. Duties associated with the Chair include teaching, research, and public presentations on campus and around the Atlantic provinces.

Connecting for Action: Gender-based Violence and Leadership in Nova Scotia

- Parking
- Accessible Parking
- Emergency Phones
- Elevator
- Electric Door
- Accessible Route*
- Accessible Washroom**
- Gender Inclusive Washroom***



The Multi-purpose (MPR) is located on the

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Margaret Norrie McCain Centre for Teaching, Learning and Research (including McCain Café) 2 Riva Spatz Women's Wall of Honour 3a RBC West Link 3b RBC North Link 4 E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre [EMF] (including Library) 5 Seton Academic Centre (including Seton Café) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 MSVU Art Gallery 7 Sheila A. Brown Centre for Applied Research 8 Advancement House 9 Kina'masuti aq Apognamasuti (Learning & Help) Indigenous Student Centre 10 International Education Centre (Seton Annex) 11 Child Study Centre 12 Evaristus Hall 13 Art Landry Building (Central Heating Plant) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 The Meadows 15 Westwood (residence) 16 The Birches (residence) 17 Assisi Hall (residence) 18 Assisi (including Campus Security, Health Services and Coastal Sports & Wellness) 19 Rosaria Student Centre (including Rosaria Dining Hall, The Rook, Mount Fitness Centre) 20 Student Legacy Lane (pedway) |
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3rd floor of Rosaria

* Note: The Birches is an inaccessible building. Buildings (3), (5), (10), and (14) have limited accessibility. The indoor tunnels beginning at Rosaria (to Assisi and Evaristus) are accessible via Rosaria only. The pedway to the McCain Centre is available via Rosaria.
 ** Accessible washrooms are available in Seton Academic Centre (342, 343, 453, 454), Seton Annex (1st Floor), Rosaria Student Centre (4th Floor), Evaristus Hall (C200, 2nd Floor, C300, 3rd Floor, C400, 4th Floor), E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre (1st Floor), Westwood (3rd Floor), McCain Centre (all washrooms), and Advancement House.
 *** Gender inclusive washrooms are available in Seton Academic Centre (453), Seton Annex (1st Floor), Rosaria Student Centre (402), Evaristus Hall (C200, 2nd Floor, C300, 3rd Floor, C400, 4th Floor) and the McCain Centre (113).

Seton Academic Centre 5

- Academic Advising
- Cultural Studies
- Deans' Offices
- Economics Department
- English Department
- Faculty of Education
- History Department
- Modern Languages Department
- Mount Print Shop
- MSVU Art Gallery
- Politics, Economics and Canadian Studies

E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre [EMF] 4

- Counseling and Accessibility Services
- Distance Learning and Continuing Education
- Information Technology & Services
- Library & Learning Commons

McCain Centre 1

- Alexa McDonough Institute for Women, Gender & Social Justice
- Business & Tourism Department
- Career Planning Services

- Centre for Women in Business
- Communication Studies Department
- Co-operative Education
- Dr. Rosemarie Sampson Centre on Aging
- Maritime Data Centre / Nova Scotia Centre on Aging
- Women's Studies (and Nancy's Chair) Riva Spatz Women's Wall of Honour www.womenswallofhonour.ca

Rosaria Student Centre 19

- Bookstore
- Crow's Nest (The Corner Store)
- Facilities & Conference Services
- Mount Fitness Centre (Athletics, Recreation and A. Garnet Brown Gymnasium)
- Students' Union Offices/Info Desk
- The Fountain Play Centre
- The Rook

Evaristus Hall 12

- Admissions/Registrar's Office
- Applied Human Nutrition Department
- Biology Department
- Campus Tours/Student Recruitment

- Chemistry Department
- Child & Youth Study Department
- Communications & Marketing
- Family Studies & Gerontology Department
- Financial Services
- Financial Aid
- FoodARC
- Human Resources
- Mathematics & Statistics
- Peace & Conflict Studies
- Philosophy/Religious Studies
- President's Office
- Psychology Department
- Research Office
- Residence Life Services
- Sociology/Anthropology Department
- VP Academic & VP Administration Offices

Assisi Hall 17

- Health Office & Coastal Sports & Wellness
- Safety & Security (Information Desk)

Seton Annex 10

- International Education Centre
- Child Study Centre