

2023

GRADUATION

Providence University College
and Theological Seminary

Saturday, April 22, 2023



PROVIDENCE



2023

GRADUATION

Providence University College
and Theological Seminary

Saturday, April 22, 2023



PROVIDENCE

TO OUR GRADUATES,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, President Anderson, the Faculty and Staff at Providence University College and Theological Seminary, I would like to congratulate you on your achievements, hard work and years of study.

There are many who have contributed to your success today: Student Life staff, course instructors, those in the Registrar's Office and Library, and those that are in charge of maintenance and cleaning of the physical spaces of living and learning. But today is all about you. Graduation is the crowning event of the life of the university. It is when we truly celebrate the success of our students, now filled with knowledge and character, and now ready for leadership and service.

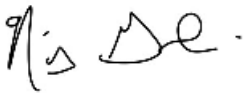
As graduates of Providence, I would ask that you go into the world to teach our sisters and brothers how to live together. Be salt and light to the world. "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16 NRSV). Of course, we must also continue to live with one another. I trust that your time at Providence has been a way to practice living in community, whether you've been a residence student, a commuter or engaged with Providence from a distance.

This day is also a day of gratitude. We are grateful for our generous donors, who support the educational mission of Providence, and for the Board of Governors, who guide the university forward as a beacon of

“Today is all about you. Graduation is the crowning event of the life of the university. It is when we truly celebrate the success of our students, now filled with knowledge and character, and now ready for leadership and service.”

salt and light in the world. We are grateful for God's goodness to us all for another year. Thank God for you, graduates. May the Lord's blessings shine upon you and let us bless the Lord in return.

I want to say thank you to the Student Life staff who made it possible for our students to live on campus in a safe way. It was challenging having to apply all the health orders and regulations relating to COVID-19. Again, I want to thank you for the grace, patience, and humility that you showed over these years. God has been good to us. God has brought us safely this far. And for that, we will offer Him our thankfulness and worship for this graduation celebration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Greco". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Nicholas P. Greco, PhD

Provost and Associate Professor of Communications and Media

ABOUT PROVIDENCE

As a Christian academic community in the evangelical tradition, Providence teaches people to grow in knowledge and character for leadership and service. We are chartered by the province of Manitoba to offer bachelor, master and doctoral degrees. Institutions across Canada and the United States recognize these degrees for entry into post-baccalaureate and graduate studies programs. Many of our alumni make an impact as pastors, counsellors, pilots, healthcare workers, small business owners and teachers of English to speakers of other languages (etc.) in Canada and around the world.

OUR VALUES

CHRIST FIRST: We affirm the essential doctrines of the Christian faith as held by evangelicals. These doctrines are defined in more detail in our Statement of Faith.

COMMUNITY: We support and strengthen one another in study and spirit, because we learn and grow better together.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: We hold all programs to rigorous academic standards.

EXPLORATION: We recognize that faith is a journey. We encourage our students to explore and develop their faith perspective.

DIVERSITY OF THOUGHT: We invite, encourage, and listen carefully to different voices and opinions, all in the service of strengthening and clarifying our faith.



OUR CAMPUS

Providence has existed since 1925 and moved to the 100-acre Otterburne campus in Fall 1970.



THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Theological Seminary opened in 1972, offering graduate degrees to help meet Canada's need for further, in-depth, evangelical ministry training.



HISTORY OF OUR NAME

Our institution was renamed four times, and in 2011, the MB Legislature allowed our name to change to Providence University College and Theological Seminary.



OUR ALUMNI

More than 10,000 Providence graduates are serving in churches, government, schools, businesses, hospitals, outreach centers, non-profits and humanitarian organizations.



NEWEST PROGRAM

Two of our University College's newest programs are four-year Bachelor of Science (BSc) degrees with a major in either Biology-Psychology or Environmental Science.



MOST POPULAR DEGREE

Our most popular Seminary program is a Master of Arts (MA) in Counselling which consists of a blend of online study, directed study and modular coursework.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023

Presiding - President Kenton C. Anderson, PhD

OPENING

Processional*

Invocation* Joshua Coutts, PhD

Welcome & Opening Remarks Kenton C. Anderson, PhD

Scripture Reading Nicholas Greco, PhD

Graduation Address The Honourable Kelvin Goertzen

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE GRADUATION EXERCISE

Presentation of Awards Catherine Rust-Akinbolaji, MA

Valedictory Address Téa Wiebe, BA

Presentation of Graduates Catherine Rust-Akinbolaji, MA

Conferral of Degrees

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY GRADUATION EXERCISE

Presentation of Awards Jeff Anderson, DMin

Valedictory Address Paul Blair, DMin

Presentation of Graduates Jeff Anderson, DMin

Conferral of Degrees

CLOSING

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Lord's Prayer* Joan M. Franz, JD

School Hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Rob Bonefaas, BEd

Pianist - Rina Schriemer, BA

Benediction* Elfrieda Lepp-Kaethler, PhD

Recessional*

**If you are able, please stand.*

**PROVIDENCE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE
DEGREES**



CONGRATULATIONS

CERTIFICATE OF BIBLE AND THEOLOGY

Kepler Blumrich
Ye Eun Kim

CERTIFICATE OF TESOL

Ian Wiebe

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Trinity Blair.....Business
Nadia Tovar Olvera.....Business

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Joshua Armstrong.....Sociology
Alana Bell..... Psychology
Trinity Blair.....Interdisciplinary Arts
Ryan Cox..... Church Ministries
Kirsten Driedger.....Business Administration
Jaime Fourchalk*.....Social Science
Émilie Giroux.....Psychology
Shanika Goigoda Gamage.....Aviation
John Harder.....Biblical Studies
Barry Hui Communications & Media
Ye Eun Kim.....Business Administration
Yelin KimTESOL
Hee Jae Kwak.....Aviation
Amanda MacDonald*Psychology
Amalia Major.....Social Science
Nathaniel Martin.....Church Ministries

Minju Park*	TESOL
Christine Marie Punay	TESOL
Hailey Sigurdson	Humanities
Dorcas Thiessen*	Business Administration
Lynaea Thiessen	Psychology
Kathryn Tierney	Social Science
Raymond Tuyishime*	Business Administration
Jessica Waytiuk	Social Science
Téa Wiebe	Social Science

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Alexandria Buhler	General Biology
Morgan Thiessen	General Biology
Abigail Wiebe	General Biology

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Alexandra Dumont
Beth Heppner
Victoria Rooks

BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

Mathew Nicholson	Christian Education
------------------	---------------------

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TESOL

Emily Wiebe

**Absentia*



CONGRATULATIONS

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TTESOL

Laura Cave

MASTER OF ARTS

Alcides Thereza Junior TESOL

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARDS

- 1st Year Class Award.....Josiah Smith
- 2nd Year Class Award.....Alex Cedeno
- 3rd Year Class Award.....Dami Abiona
- ABHE Honour Society.....Grace Driedger & Lynaea Thiessen
- Biblical Studies Award.....Beth Heppner
- Charles and Irene Christian Memorial Award.....Christina Duerksen
- Clyde Krant Memorial Business Award.....Beth Heppner
- C.W. Hiebert Memorial Award for Graduate Studies.....Lynaea Thiessen
- George Sinderson Award for Field Education.....Barry Hui
- International Student Achievement Award....Nadia Olvera and Minju Park
- Mary Hiebert Memorial Award for Humanitarian Service.....Ryan Cox
- R. Wesley Affleck Graduate Award.....Téa Wiebe
- Science Student Award.....Alex Buhler
- Social Sciences Award.....Dami Abiona
- Stewart and Elizabeth Battram Scholarship Award.....Lynaea Thiessen
- Student Life Leadership Award.....Isaiah Carriere & Madison Franks
- Valedictorian Award.....Téa Wiebe

**PROVIDENCE
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
DEGREES**



DIPLOMA IN BIBLICAL COUNSELLING

Lena Neshamar
Trygvi Neshamar
Maya Wenger

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED COUNSELLING

Oluoyomi Alarape
Leona Hunt
Kar-Lam Lai
Derek Rebman
Celina Skorobohach

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CHURCH MINISTRY

Dustin Asham

MASTER OF ARTS

Olufunke AdegoroyeEducational Studies (Leadership)
Rosa Aleye..... Counselling
Hkawn Aung.....Educational Studies (Leadership)
Teresa Berkholtz.....Counselling
Alexander Brandt.....Theological Studies (New Testament)
Shelley Burry..... Counselling
Marcia Cameron*..... Counselling
Joanne Fung*..... Counselling
Brooke Gelasco*.....Counselling
Juline Geoffrey-AkobunduCounselling
Sheila Ginter*..... Counselling



MASTER OF ARTS CONTINUED

Ute Graham*	Counselling
Lauren Harnett*	Counselling
Lindsay Hildebrand	Counselling
Renee Hui	Counselling / Counselling Psychology
Beth Jarrett	Counselling
Blessing Jima	Educational Studies (Student Development)
Michael Kiewitt	Counselling
Josephine Leung*	Counselling
Wai Han Lui	Counselling
Decia McTavish*	Counselling
David Metcalfe	Counselling
Ebube Ojukwu	Counselling
Stephanie Penner	Counselling Psychology
Tobian Penner	Counselling
Alexa Peters	Counselling
Larissa Raine	Counselling
Aaron Roorda*	Counselling
Jolyn Sawatzky	Counselling
Lucienne Sawatzky*	Counselling Psychology
Lavina Schaubel*	Counselling
Tina Stasuik*	Counselling
Flora Tan	Counselling
Jonathan Van Koughnett*	Counselling
Emily Versluis*	Counselling
Ilana Wiebe	Counselling
Blake Williams	Counselling
Tanya Woo*	Counselling
Yifan Xu*	Counselling
Daniel Zopoula	Counselling

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Ying Kyang.....	Pastoral Counselling
Ruth Malinowski	English Bible
Jordan Michalski.....	English Bible

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Paul Blair.....	Counselling and Mental Health Practice
Anna Dos Santos*.....	Counselling and Mental Health Practice
Naoto Suzuki.....	Counselling and Mental Health Practice

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DISSERTATIONS

Paul Blair: “Waterless Places: An Examination of Theology and Practice in the Exorcism of Spaces”

Naoto Suzuki: “Understanding the Pet Ownership Experience of Grieving Individuals with Comorbid Mental Illness from the Psychological and Christian Perspectives: A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Study”

Anna Dos Santos: “From Tôhûw to Shâbath: The Creation Story and Phenomenological Art Therapy for Trauma Treatment” (prov.)

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AWARDS

Counselling Award.....	David Andrew Saliba
Expository Preaching Award.....	Jon Klassen
Joseph MacAulay Scholarship (Master of Arts).....	Hkawn Aung
Joseph MacAulay Scholarship (Master of Divinity).....	Jordan Michalski
Myrna Gordon Award.....	Sarah Barkman
Valedictorian Award.....	Paul Blair

**Absentia*



GRADUATION HONOUREES



**HON. KELVIN GOERTZEN,
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Graduation Speaker

Kelvin Goertzen has had the honour of serving as the MLA for the Steinbach constituency since 2003. He is currently the province's Minister of Justice, Attorney General and Government House Leader. He also serves as the co-chair of the Midwest Canada-U.S. Relations Committee.

Since being elected to government, Kelvin has served in several senior roles. He has previously served as the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living, the Minister of Education and Training, the Minister of Legislative and Public Affairs and has been the Minister responsible for Immigration.

Kelvin also served as the 23rd Premier of Manitoba in the fall of 2021 following the resignation of Brian Pallister. He is the first person from southeast Manitoba to serve as Premier. During that time, he also served as the Interim Leader of the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Party.

A graduate of the University of Manitoba, Kelvin has degrees in economics, commerce, and law. Kelvin began his time in the Manitoba Legislature as an intern in 1996 and is the first Manitoba legislative intern to have ultimately served in a provincial Cabinet and become Premier.

Kelvin is married to Kim, and together they have a son named Malachi.



TÉA WIEBE, BA

University College Valedictorian

Téa Wiebe began her schooling at Providence in 2019, coming from the city of Morden, Manitoba. With an eagerness to know and understand the truth, she came to Providence to study Philosophy and Psychology. To her disappointment, the Philosophy professor had recently resigned which led her to dip her toes into Sociology. The discipline quickly became one of her majors and she spent the following three years completing a Social Science degree.

During her time at Providence, she took on various student roles including Resident Assistant (RA), Worship Leader, Senior Resident Assistant (SRA), Summer Maintenance Team Worker, and Women's Basketball Assistant Coach. Though these positions were extremely out of her comfort zone, she experienced a community at Providence that could see both her strengths and weaknesses and encouraged her to freely share them with others.

As she puts this chapter of her life to a close, Téa looks forward to pursuing the art of living well and using her voice to create space for healing.



PAUL BLAIR
BSc, MDiv, DMin

Theological Seminary Valedictorian

Paul Blair had initially intended to pursue a career in the natural sciences, obtaining a Bachelor degree with double honours in Physics and Mathematics from the University of Manitoba, but the unbidden awakening of a vocation to ministry towards the end of his baccalaureate program led him to seek out Theological Studies instead.

In 2016, he completed a Master of Divinity degree at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as well as a Master of Arts degree with a concentration in Systematic Theology. He then returned to his hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba to serve as a Healthcare Chaplain at Riverview Health Centre, and to begin a family with his wife, Clare. In 2019, he enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry program at Providence Theological Seminary and has recently completed his dissertation on the ministry of exorcism. He plans to continue his present work supporting the spiritual needs of patients and their families but is also looking forward to opportunities to teach.

He is grateful for his time at Providence, and is especially thankful to Dr. Tim Perry and Dr. Jeff Anderson for their guidance and encouragement throughout his studies.

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



SUNDAY OLUKOJU
BA, MDiv, PhD

Joint Theological Seminary
Alumnus of the Year

Sunday Olukoju is an Ordained Minister under the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada (EMCC). He and his wife, Deborah, preside as Senior Pastors of Immanuel Fellowship Church. Sunday came to know about Providence through his wife who was enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at the time (1999). Both are blessed with two sons.

In addition to his work in the local church, Sunday worked as an International Student Officer at Providence, Research Assistant at the University of Winnipeg, Assistant Professor at Trident University International, Counselor at the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology, Director of Distant Education at Providence Theological Seminary, Instructor at Athabasca University, Director of Academics at LINKS Institute, and currently serves as the Manitoba Hub Coordinator of the PHAC-sponsored ABR research project within the African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) population.

Sunday has two Master of Arts degrees – one in International Law and Diplomacy from the University of Lagos and the other in Educational Studies from Providence Theological Seminary. He has also earned two doctoral degrees – the first in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University; and the second in Theology from Matej Bel University.



DEBORAH OLUKOJU
BTh, MA, DMin

Joint Theological Seminary
Alumna of the Year

Deborah Olukoju is an Ordained Minister under the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada (EMCC), a Chaplain, Community Leader, and Senior Pastor of Immanuel Fellowship Church. She came to Providence for her Master of Arts degree after graduating with a Bachelor of Theology from Emmanuel Bible College in Kitchener, Ontario.

In addition to leading a local congregation, Deborah served as the Community Liaison Person with the Government of Manitoba to facilitate the migration of thousands of Nigerians to Winnipeg under the Provincial Nominee Program from 2005 to 2008.

Under her roof, she housed, fed, counseled, and guided hundreds of new immigrants who are flourishing in Manitoba today. She has worked as a Chaplain at the Health Sciences Centre, Concordia Hospital, and currently at Manitoba Justice. She taught *Spiritual Formation* for Providence through the Riverview Health Centre.

Deborah is the first woman to earn a Doctor of Ministry degree from Providence and the first woman ordained by her denomination. She has received the Prime Minister's Volunteer Award in recognition of her community service, as well as the YMCA/YWCA 'Women of Distinction Award' in leadership and volunteerism.



TERRY JANKE
BA, MDiv, DMin

University College
Alumnus of the Year

Terry Janke grew up in Hanover, ON and came to Providence (then known as Winnipeg Bible College) in January 1979. He played on the hockey team and was involved in the Student Council, becoming the Student Body President during his last year. He met his wife, Pat, at Providence and they have served together in ministry for more than 40 years.

After graduating with a BA in Biblical Studies, Terry pastored at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Eagle River, ON. Then, he completed his Master of Divinity at Acadia Divinity College before being called to shepherd the First Baptist Church in Thunder Bay, ON.

In 2002, they moved to Bolivia to serve with Canadian Baptist Ministries where he and Pat taught *Spiritual Formation* at the Seminary in Cochabamba. While there, Terry completed a Doctor of Ministry degree before returning to Canada and being appointed as Lead Pastor of Whyte Ridge Baptist Church in 2009. They continue to have a love for Latin American people and culture, having returned to Bolivia with several ministry teams over the last decade.

Terry and Pat have three children and three grandchildren. They love spending time with family, travelling, being in the outdoors and engaging in global discipleship for Jesus.



PROVIDENCE

MURPHY TAYLOR HALL



PROVIDENCE

10 College Crescent
Otterburne, MB
R0A 1G0

Prov.ca