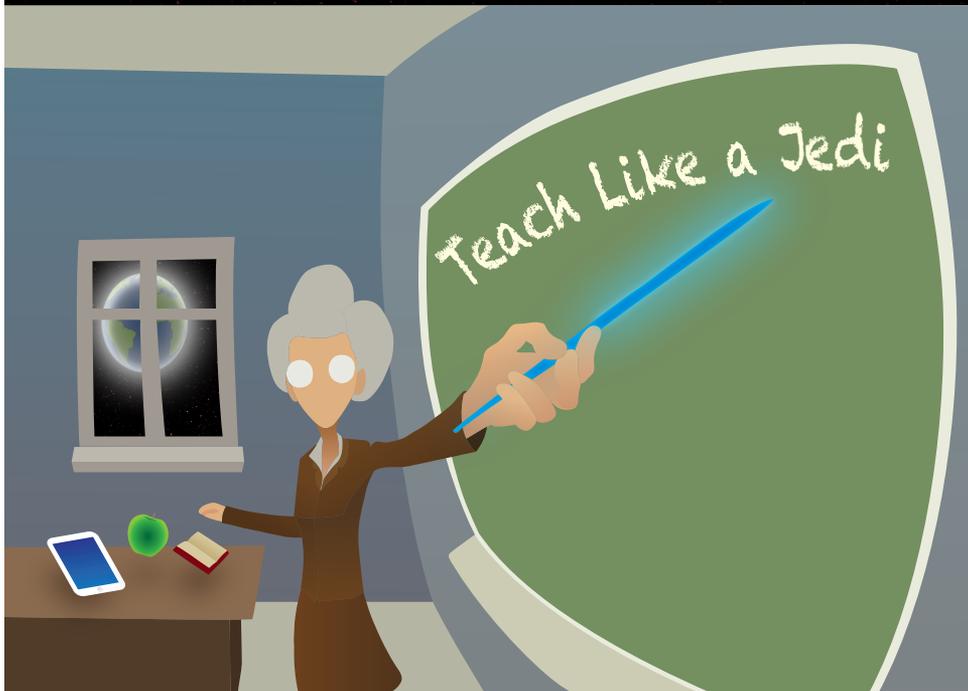


CONTACT 2016



For more information, contact your
Provincial Teachers' Association



Tuesday, August 2nd – Friday, August 5th, 2016
St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS

CONTACT 2016

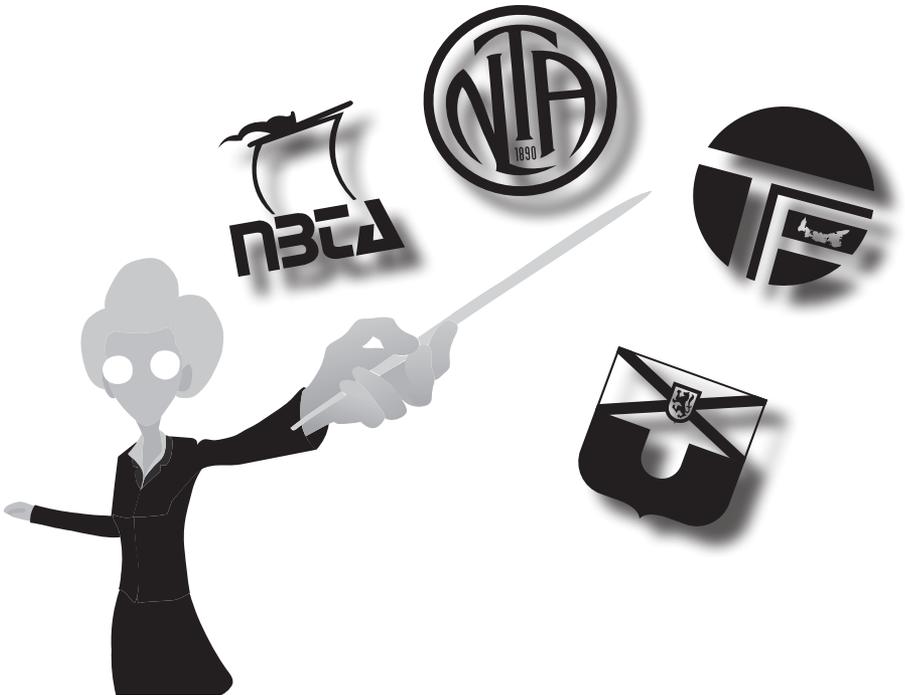
August 2-5 / du 2 au 5 août
Antigonish, Nova Scotia / Nouvelle-Écosse
St. Francis Xavier University / L'Université Saint-François-Xavier

Jointly Sponsored By / Parrainé conjointement par:

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association
Nova Scotia Teachers Union
Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation
New Brunswick Teachers' Association

Hosted By / Accueilli par:

Nova Scotia Teachers Union



CONTACT 2016

This year's **CONTACT** theme is “**Teach Like a Jedi-The Force Is with You**”. We welcome you to our “galaxy far far away” (otherwise known as Antigonish, Nova Scotia) and we look forward to uniting our “forces” to further our “Jedi Teacher Training”.

CONTACT is a regional conference sponsored by the Atlantic Provinces’ teacher organizations – the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers’ Association, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, the Prince Edward Island Teachers’ Federation and the New Brunswick Teachers’ Association.

This year **CONTACT** is hosted by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and will once again provide an opportunity for teachers from Atlantic Canada to come together to share ideas, to reflect on experiences and celebrate all that is best about teaching.

Both the interprovincial committee and the local planning committee are extremely proud of this year’s **CONTACT** agenda.

CONTACT Local Planning Committee:

Stacy Samson
Sue Larivière-Jenkins
Dean Marchand
Amanda Marchand
Chris Demers

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

2:00 pm	Check-in Governors Hall
4:30 – 6:30 pm	CONTACT Registration Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
7:00 – 8:15 pm	Plenary Session: Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre Balancing the Force in the “Eduverse” Performed by: The Jedi Council of Nova Scotia <i>Meg Ferguson, Grant Frost, Jon Grady, Dave Zinck</i>
8:30 pm	Welcome Reception: Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
9:00 – 11:45 am	Plenary Session: Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre Awaken the Force! Innovative Teaching from a Multicultural Perspective <i>Holly Shaffner & Leah Matheson</i>
12 noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
1:00 – 3:45 pm	Concurrent Sessions
5:30 pm	Dinner Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
8:00 pm	Festival Antigoinish Production of <i>DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME</i> Bauer Theatre

Thursday, August 4, 2016

7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
9:00 – 11:45 am	Concurrent Sessions Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
12 noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
1:00 – 3:45 pm	Concurrent Sessions Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
6:30 pm	Banquet Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
8:30 pm	Dance Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre

Friday, August 5, 2016

7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
9:00 – 10:30 am	Plenary Session: Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre Mindful Practice for Teachers <i>Adela Njie</i>
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 am	Summary/Wrap-up/Evaluations

Wednesday Morning Plenary Session

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

9:00 – 11:45 am

Awaken the Force! Innovative Teaching from a Multicultural Perspective
Holly Shaffner & Leah Matheson

This *plenary session* welcomes *all attendees* to share in the innovative and intercultural practices of teaching with a multicultural perspective. This is an excellent opportunity to gain insight and ideas on how to teach to our *diverse communities*, in particular to our most recent *Syrian Refugees*. Teachers will get an inside look at a Nova Scotia school that has most recently reached a population of close to 50% English as Additional Language Learners. This session includes a visual presentation, a hands on look at multicultural teaching resources and materials, and a question period to address the sharing of ideas and queries in regards to our English as Additional Language Learners.

Concurrent Sessions

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

1:00 – 3:45 pm

- CS-A **Supporting Youth: A look at Student Mental and Emotional Health in our K-12 Classrooms – *Joanne Williams***
- CS-B **Check in; Check out; Check-up: Principles of Restorative Practice for Schools**
Krista Vokey
- CS-E **L'apprentissage actif! J'apprends en bougeant**
Christian Demers

Thursday, August 4, 2016

9:00 – 11:45 am

- CS-B **Check in; Check out; Check-up: Principles of Restorative Practice for Schools**
Krista Vokey
- CS-C **“My Ally Is the Force, and a Powerful Ally It Is.” – Yoda**
“Be the Ally, You Will” – *Serena Matheson*
- CS-D **Inside Their Heads: Teaching with Purpose in a High School Classroom**
Ian Coffin

1:00 – 3:45 pm

- CS-A **Supporting Youth: A look at Student Mental and Emotional Health in our K-12 Classrooms – *Joanne Williams***
- CS-C **“My Ally Is the Force, and a Powerful Ally It Is.” – Yoda**
“Be the Ally, You Will” – *Serena Matheson*
- CS-D **Inside Their Heads: Teaching with Purpose in a High School Classroom**
Ian Coffin

Friday Morning Plenary Session

Friday, August 5, 2016

9:00 – 10:30 am

Mindful Practice for Teachers

Adela Njie

The session will share information on how to understand ourselves so we can better understand our colleagues, family members, and others.

The focus will be on the individual and the impact of social and emotional intelligence on self and collaborative teams. Reference will be made to the various components from Neuroscience and Group Process and their effects on social interaction and emotional regulation. Participants will take part in activities that allow them to observe their emotions and how these emotions influence behaviour. This session also offers information that is practical both inside and outside the classroom.

Plenary Presenters' Biographies

The Jedi Council of Nova Scotia

The Jedi council of Nova Scotia was founded on the hidden planet called *Hope*, a long, long time ago in a galaxy far, far away. This brave group of (*eh hem*) young freedom fighters uses humour and wit to entertain and engage friend and foe alike. Using music, improv, theatre and the occasional Jedi mind trick they have set about to expose “The Evil Empire” and restore freedom, peace and good teaching practice to the “Eduverse”.

The Jedi Council is made up of:

Meg Ferguson is returning to public education after four years looking after the 2,000+ Jedi knights of Halifax County Local NSTU. She will be jumping back into the Auburn Drive High School music program of band, vocal music and drumline. Meg has recharged her teaching batteries and will be bringing a fresh perspective to her school and her students.

Grant Frost is a well-known educational commentator and writer whose work is often featured in newspapers and online around Nova Scotia. He has written about a wide variety of initiatives from merit pay for teachers to GERM to decreasing teacher autonomy. He has worked as a drama teacher for over twenty years, and has presented at dozens of teacher events around the Province.

Jon Grady is a passionate and energetic educator who has had the wonderful privilege of teaching drama for most of his career. In his spare time, he is also the president of the Educational Drama Association of Nova Scotia (EDANS). He spends his days practicing Jedi mind tricks which include encouraging teenagers in his drama classes to “hang up their cool” and to remember not only how to play again, but why play is so important.

Dave Zinck is a Dartmouth born and Dartmouth proud arts educator. In his professional practice, he is a drama and dance teacher as well as a student leadership advisor. David has been involved in organizing the annual conference for the Educational Drama Association of Nova Scotia (EDANS) for many years. He is a three time Halifax Slam Poetry team member and a former Halifax Slam Master for both the Youth and Adult competitions. David can still do a cartwheel with no hands thanks to over 20 years of Capoeira experience and a childlike sense of wonder that never went away.

Holly Shaffner is currently the Early Literacy Support Teacher at Duc d’Anville Elementary School in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has been a teacher since 1984. She holds an Associate of Education from Nova Scotia Teachers College, a B.Ed. from Mount Saint Vincent University and a M. Ed. Inclusive Education from Acadia University. Her positions have included Elementary Classroom Teaching, Learning Center, Reading Recovery, Elementary Resource and Comprehensive Early Literacy Support. She has worked both as a teacher and entrepreneur and is the mother to two adult children who share her enthusiasm for education and public service.

Leah Matheson is currently a Grade One teacher at Duc d’Anville Elementary School in Halifax, NS. She has been working as an educator for seven years. Her positions have included teaching both lower and upper elementary as well as resource. She holds a Masters from Mount Saint Vincent University in Supporting Learners with Diverse Needs and Exceptionalities as well an Integrated Degree Program with a focus on differentiation from Acadia. Her interest in multicultural education began when she started working at Duc d’Anville which is known for its highly diverse cultural make up. Through various initiatives, Leah has worked towards educating colleagues about intercultural competences and creating special projects that support multicultural education.

Adela Njie has been teaching in Nova Scotia since 1994. Of Gambian origin, she obtained her B.A. / B.Ed. at l’Université Sainte-Anne. She has taught at the elementary and secondary levels and has worked as a part-time instructor for St. FX University. She has also worked as a Student Services Consultant with the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial in the central region office. She is currently serving as a Staff Officer with the NSTU in Professional Development. She has facilitated various workshops for teachers and administrators on topics such as classroom management, responding to diversity in the classroom, the program planning process, mindful practice for teachers and other areas in education.

Send registration form and fee to your professional teachers' association as follows:

New Brunswick Teachers' Association

Ardith Shirley, Director of PD

PO Box 752

Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6

Phone: (506) 452-1740 Fax: (506) 453-9795

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

Bev Park, Administrative Officer, PD Division

3 Kenmount Rd.

St. John's, NF A1B 1W1

Phone: (709) 726-3223 Fax: (709) 726-4302

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Stacy Samson, Executive Staff Officer

3106 Joseph Howe Drive

Halifax, NS B3L 4L7

Phone: (902) 477-5621 Fax: (902) 477-3517

Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation

Chad Gallant, Executive Assistant of PD

24 Glen Stewart Drive

Charlottetown, PE C1A 8B4

Phone: (902) 569-4157 Fax: (902) 569-3682

Concurrent Sessions

Wednesday, August 3rd & Thursday, August 4th, 2016

There will be four English-language concurrent sessions and one French-language concurrent session offered. The English-language sessions will each be offered twice and the French-language session will be offered once. Registration will take place on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

CS-A Supporting Youth: A look at Student Mental and Emotional Health in our K-12 Classrooms – *Joanne Williams*

Teachers play a paramount role in promoting positive mental health in the school by ensuring their classrooms are safe and healthy learning environments for all students. As the first point of contact, teachers are often the first to notice students struggling. This session will address classroom strategies to support students struggling with mental health issues and empower teachers to take the next step in seeking help for the student.

Over the past 25 years, *Joanne* has worked as a school counsellor in elementary, middle and high schools throughout the province of New Brunswick. She has served as the president of the school counsellors' chapter of the CCPA, Provincial Consultant for Guidance with the NB Department of Early Childhood and Education and as a district guidance lead. She is currently working as the lead teacher (SPR) of the Guidance Department at Fredericton High School.

CS-B Check in; Check out; Check-up: Principles of Restorative Practice for Schools – *Krista Vokey*

This introductory session will focus on unpacking what restorative practice is, and how talking circles may be used in the classroom to create a more relational and caring culture. Teachers will have an opportunity to participate in a check in circle, a check-up circle and a check out circle, while reflecting upon the paradigms of restorative practices. The session will be interactive allowing participants to learn about and experience strategies and activities throughout.

Krista is currently the principal of a senior high school in St. John's, NL and a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association. She has been working as an educator for 25 years. Her positions have included assistant principal, program specialist roles at provincial and district levels and department head. Her interest in restorative practices began in 2011 as a member of her school study group and has continued to grow over the years. Krista currently serves as a member on the Restorative Justice in Education Consortium NL and provides professional development on building relational cultures through that group.

CS-C “My Ally Is the Force, and a Powerful Ally It Is.” – Yoda “Be the Ally, You Will” – *Serena Matheson*

Creating a classroom climate that truly reflects the cultural experiences of our students can be challenging. With new buzz words such as “Culturally Proficient” and “Culturally Responsive” how exactly do we, as educators, incorporate culture into our classrooms while still teaching our curriculum outcomes? Research has shown that many LGBTQI+ students feel like their lived experiences are not reflected in their classrooms or their school communities. With recent media attention about Transgender Bills being passed in the United States and concern from groups here in Canada, our Queer youth are feeling especially vulnerable. This workshop will be an interactive session where we will focus on how to incorporate LGBTQI+ issues into our classroom lessons and promote “Culturally Responsive Teaching” in our school communities. Participants will leave with lesson plans and activities to incorporate in their own classrooms.

Serena began her teaching career in North Carolina but moved home to Cape Breton in 2005 to teach in the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board (CBVRSB). It was at this time that she reconnected with her junior high sweetheart, 28 years after their first date. Serena currently teaches Grade 3 but has spent the last nine years teaching high school. She has been the teacher facilitator for her school’s Gender Sexuality Alliance Group for the last nine years. Serena is passionate about equity as is evidenced by her work as a lead team member for the Race Relations, Cross-Cultural Understanding, and Human Rights Committee for the CBVRSB, her work as Chair and Co-chair of Pride Cape Breton Society, and her commitment to the creation of positive spaces for all youth and adults in Cape Breton. She actively promotes youth leadership through her work with GSA’s and Kiwanis K-Kids and since 2011, she has organized a yearly GSA Youth Leadership Conference for all students and educators across Cape Breton. Serena has a Master’s in Education in Administration and Leadership and a Master’s in Education in Information Technology.

CS-D Inside Their Heads: Teaching with Purpose in a High School Classroom – *Ian Coffin*

There isn’t any kind of roadmap to achieving success in today’s secondary classroom. Often, we face barriers to that success (sometimes from the students; sometimes from ourselves). Being responsive to the needs and abilities of our students with instruction and assessment means we celebrate their strengths and their differences. It means getting inside the heads of our teenagers. It also means sometimes getting out of their way. It’s not as scary as it sounds.

Ian has been an educator for close to twenty years, including stops in the Dominican Republic and as a Consultant for PEI’s English Language School Board. He currently teaches English, Drama, and Social Studies in a rural Island school of approximately 200. Throughout his career, he has been very active in curriculum and professional development in his district and across the Island.

Concurrent Sessions

CS-E L'apprentissage actif! J'apprends en bougeant

Christian Demers

Plusieurs activités à l'extérieur seront suggérées dans plusieurs types d'environnements. Certaines auront pour but d'oxygéner le cerveau, d'autres ouvriront la porte à l'écriture, à la lecture, aux sciences et aux mathématiques, sans oublier les arts plastiques! Venez vêtus pour l'extérieur!!! Pour penser à l'extérieur de la boîte, il faut sortir de celle-ci.

Christian est un enseignant à l'École Acadienne de Pomquet en Nouvelle-Écosse depuis 16 ans. Il est un spécialiste en éducation physique et en plein air. Ses élèves participent à des activités de lecture, d'écriture, de sciences et de mathématiques en forêt. La marche, le canoë, la bicyclette et la trottinette de neige sont utilisés pour s'y rendre. Il cherche toujours des moyens pour aider la communauté à être active. La cultivation d'un jardin communautaire, la construction d'abris extérieurs et la construction d'un sentier, n'en sont que quelques exemples. Il veut encourager ses élèves à penser à l'extérieur de la boîte en allant dehors.

Getting Here, Accommodation & Meals on Site

CONTACT 2016 will be held at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

How to Get Here

Take Highway 104 – Exit 32, right at first set of lights.

Accommodations

Residence Fees:

Single room: \$213.00 plus HST (\$244.95 inc. HST) for three nights

Double room: \$ 300.00 plus HST (\$345.00 inc. HST) for three nights

Off Campus

Delegates who wish to stay off campus are responsible for arranging their own accommodations. Many options exist, but you should book early to ensure availability. You may wish to contact Tourism Nova Scotia at www.tourismnovascotia.ca.

Extended Stay

Extended stay on campus either before or following CONTACT 2016 is possible. To arrange your extended stay, contact Debbie Alberti at (902) 867-3890.

Meals

A meal plan for the conference, including all meals from Tuesday dinner through Friday breakfast and the banquet, cost is \$160.00, tax included. If a meal plan is not purchased you must pay for the Banquet.

Off-campus delegates may also purchase meal plans and banquet tickets.

Fitness Centre

The fitness centre is available to all CONTACT delegates and is free of charge. You will need to show your room key and one piece of photo identification to access the fitness centre. Dress is casual.

Theatre Antigonish – Bauer Theatre – \$27.00

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME by Patrick Cargill:

“Hilarious misunderstandings abound in this witty English comedy. After an impulsive extra-marital liaison on a trip to New York, Charles happily married to Marjorie, is horrified when Jaynie turns up on his doorstep sparking a frantic spiral of desperate deceptions.”

Emergency contact numbers:

Governors Hall 1-902-867-2855

Security (24 hours) 1-902-867-3981

Registration please complete and forward the enclosed registration form to your teacher organization.

Registration deadline: July 6, 2016.

Campus Map



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY
 PO BOX 5000
 ANTIGONISH, NS B2G 2W5

1-877-STAY-AT-X (BOOKINGS) | 902-867-2855 (PH) | 902-867-3984 (FAX) | STFX@STFX.CA | WWW.STFX.CA

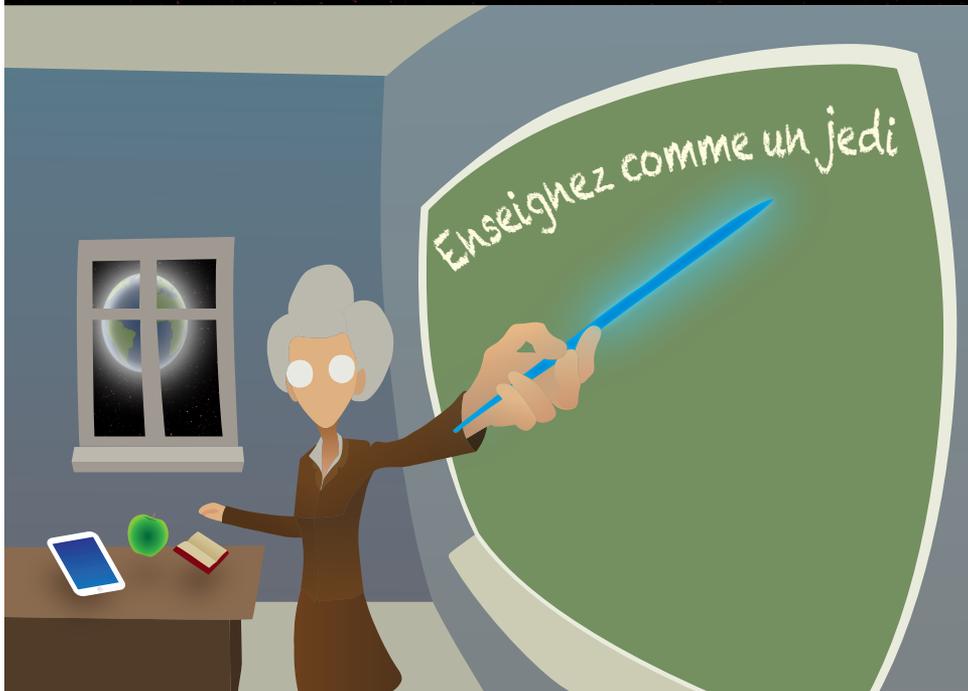
- 1. Xavier Hall
- 2. Schwartz School (north ent.)
- 3. Schwartz School (south ent.)
- 4. St. Nicholas Chapel
- 5. St. Nicholas Chapel
- 6. Angus L. Macdonald Library
- 7. Mount Saint Bernard
 - a) Immaculata Hall
 - b) Camden Hall
 - c) Marguerite Hall
 - d) Gilmora Hall
- 8. Nicholson Hall
 - (Classroom section)
 - 9. Nicholson tower
 - 10. Annie Hall
 - 11. L. B. Brown Hall
 - 12. L. B. Brown Hall
 - 13. Bloomfield Centre
 - 14. MacIsaac Hall
 - 15. MacDonald Hall
 - 16. MacNeil Hall
 - 17. Alumni Aquatic Centre
- 18. Oland Centre
- 19. Charles V. Keating Millennium Centre
- 20. Governors Hall
- 21. Coady International House
- 22. Coady International House
- 23. Power Hall
- 24. Municipal Building
- 25. West Street Apartments
- 26. Bishops Hall
 - a) Plessis House
 - b) Fraser House
 - c) Burke House
- 27. University Chapel
- 28. MacKinnon Hall
 - a) Clushroom House
 - b) MacNeil House
 - c) MacNeil House
- 29. Bauer Theatre
- 30. Physical Sciences Centre
- 31. Physical Plant
- 32. Morrison Hall
- 33. Cameron Hall
 - a) MacPherson House
 - b) Thompson House
 - c) Plessis House
 - d) MacDonald House
- 34. Meckler House
- 35. Aberlard House
- 36. Coady International Institute

The tour

To arrange a tour
 call 1-877-867-STFX(7839)
 or email visit@stfx.ca

- 33. Cameron Hall
 - a) MacPherson House
 - b) Thompson House
 - c) Plessis House
 - d) MacDonald House
- 34. Meckler House
- 35. Aberlard House
- 36. Coady International Institute

CONTACT 2016



Pour plus de renseignements,
veuillez contacter votre association



Du mardi 2 août au vendredi 5 août 2016
L'Université St.-François-Xavier, Antigonish, N.-É.