



As the fall semester begins, we would like to extend a warm welcome back to everyone!



At the Office of the Ombudsperson, we are here to provide support to all members of the SAIT community when it comes to academic and non-academic matters. The Ombudsperson can provide:

- A confidential place to discuss concerns and policy options for issues such as academic and non-academic misconduct, grade appeals, etc.;
- Informal concern resolution and review of systemic issues; and
- Workshops and information sessions for staff on issues related to administrative fairness.

Any member of the SAIT community can book an appointment by visiting our [page](#). Drop in hours are posted on the page as well as outside our Office (Stan Grad MC201).



Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any inquiries and to learn more about the Office.

Thank you for all your support and best wishes for a good fall semester!

Introducing the Intercultural Support Strategy (ISS)

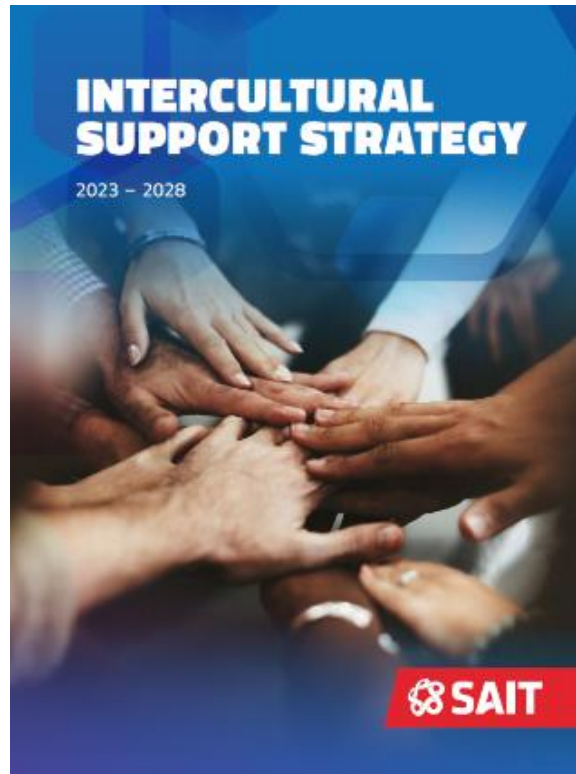
Building a more equitable campus experience for our increasing international and newcomer students.

SAIT's diverse student body contributes to a rich and vibrant campus culture that fosters global connection. Over the past few years, we've seen a significant increase in the number of students joining us from around the world. This trend aligns with shifting demographics in Canada.

Our increasingly diverse student population presents an enormous opportunity. By exposing all students to different perspectives, languages and cultures, we empower them to become global citizens, ready to tackle the challenges of the interconnected world.

We're proud to introduce our [2023 – 2028 Intercultural Support Strategy \(ISS\)](#) — an initiative aimed at providing an enriched and cohesive intercultural student experience.

The journey of international and newcomer students is unique. The ISS focuses on meeting their personal, academic and employment needs, while building intercultural competence across the entire institution. Check out the ISS to learn more.



Updates To Preferred Name Changes

ICYMI - we have updated our current process for providing Preferred Name Changes for students and employees.

A preferred name is the name an individual wants or has elected to be called, which might be different than their legal name. Preferred names are important to a wide population of students and employees who may choose to go by a different name for reasons such as their cultural background or marital status. For transgender and non-binary people, preferred names (sometimes called “chosen names”) are especially important to affirm their gender identity.

Please share these instructions as needed:

- Students
An outline of the name change process is now available in the Office of the Registrar's [Preferred Name Change article](#). Students should submit the [Change Name Form](#) to inquiry@sait.ca to start the process.
- Employees
[HR.5.1.5 Identification Credentials](#) now includes the provision for employees to request a physical ID card featuring their preferred name. Employees should email employee.questions@sait.ca to start the process.

*Please note mobile IDs cannot display preferred names at this time. The technical system solution to enable the self-serve option for students and employees to use their preferred names is under development. More details will be released later in the academic year. However, students and employees are able to get new physical IDs with their preferred name.

Employee and Student Resource Groups

An employee or student resource group is a voluntary opportunity for like-minded individuals with similar interests and experiences to come together and advance the cause of an equity-deserving group. These grassroots initiatives are an excellent way to network with employees from across the institution and contribute to an inclusive campus culture overall. We currently have six active groups on campus at SAIT—consider joining one today!

Black Empowerment and Excellence at SAIT

The [Black Empowerment and Excellence at SAIT \(BEES\)](#) is a voluntary group, composed of Black students/employees and allies, who work to support Black people on campus and combat anti-Black racism at SAIT. The BEES mission is to foster and advance an inclusive campus environment for Black students and employees through mentorship networks as well as educational and career development. The group will support and advocate in ways that address anti-Black racism and enables access to opportunities that enhance life skills for the Black community at SAIT.

Email bees@sait.ca if you are interested in joining.

EMBRACE

[EMBRACE](#) is an employee resource group where all humans are welcome to join the mission of achieving equity for women by empowering matriarchal beliefs through reflection, awe, connection and education. The vision of the group is to co-create spaces for women to realize their full selves at work.

Complete the [registration form](#) to join the group and gain access to the MS Team.

Indigenous Employee Resource Group

The goal of SAIT's Indigenous Employee Group (IEG) is to hold the space for Indigenous employees to gather and support one another. In doing so, it will focus on the retention, succession, and advancement of Indigenous employees, as well as offer the opportunity to network with colleagues across the institution. The group meets regularly in Natoysoyoiis, meaning "Holy Wind Lodge" in Blackfoot, to:

- Smudge and hold Ceremony
- Celebrate culture through food, music and dance
- Brainstorm resources and supports
- Share community calendar and attend events as a group

Email inclusion@sait.ca if you are interested in joining.

Neurodiversity Alliance

The [Neurodiversity Alliance](#) contributes to the development and implementation of community education, training, resources and groups to support students that identify as neurodivergent. The committee will work to build capacity in SAIT schools, programs and instructors to better support neurodivergent students. The committee is also committed to building relationships with community partners to access their expertise and bring that information into the SAIT community.

Email neurodiversity@sait.ca if you are interested in joining.

Pride at SAIT

[Pride at SAIT's](#) mission is to support and advocate for the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Plus (2SLGBTQ+) community and their allies at SAIT by fostering and advancing an inclusive campus community for students, faculty and staff. In striving to create a welcoming and safe environment, the committee will support 2SLGBTQ+ employees and students through community programming, outreach, education, training, and advocacy.

Email pride@sait.ca if you are interested in joining.

Women in Trades and Technology

SAIT's [Women in Trades and Technology \(WITT\) Committee](#) wants to encourage, promote and retain gender diversity and inclusion in the trade and technology industries and provide individuals with the tools and opportunities they need to meet their goals. In 2015, WITT was formed by three SAIT School of Construction instructors to support women entering less-traditional career paths. Today, it comprises over 100 industry professionals and SAIT community members who are committed inclusion champions. WITT works with students, faculty and industry partners to create resources and opportunities for one another.

Complete the [registration form](#) to join the group.

Recap of the Spectacular SAIT Parade Event



Hello there, SAIT Community!

We are delighted to present you a recap of the SAIT Parade Event, which took place on September 3, 2023. It was an exciting, creative, and community-spirited day, and we are thrilled to share the highlights with you.

The SAIT Parade Event highlighted our community's resilience and unity. The campus came to life with colorful flags, active participants, and a real sense of community.

Thank you to everyone who took part in and came to the event. Your enthusiasm and support made it a memorable day.



Stay tuned for details surrounding SAIT's Pride Week activities October 10-13. Let us continue to celebrate the SAIT Parade Event's success and look forward to a bright future!

PERS 148: Introduction to Effective Intercultural Communication

Exciting Announcement: Enhancements to PERS 148 Course Content & Registration Now Open!

We are thrilled to inform you that the PERS 148 course has undergone a comprehensive content revision, resulting in a fresh and user-friendly interface on Brightspace. If you have not yet enrolled, now is the time to seize the opportunity! Registration for the PERS 148 2023-2024 course schedule is officially open.

Join us on an enriching journey commencing in the Fall, with daytime sessions scheduled from September 20th to October 25th, running from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Reserve your spot today by clicking the registration link [here](#).

PERS 148 offers a transformative six-week online synchronous learning experience, designed for both students and employees seeking to enhance their intercultural understanding, communication skills, and overall competency by fostering self-awareness.

The best part? We are pleased to announce that; this course is available to you absolutely free of charge. Don't let this incredible opportunity pass you by. Take advantage of this chance to expand your horizons and develop essential skills.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a valuable micro-credential badge, a testament to their newfound knowledge and capabilities.

Secure your place today and embark on a journey of personal and professional growth with PERS 148!