

What to Expect – Day of the Thunder Bay Convocation Ceremony

Before You Arrive:

- Ensure you and your guests have your tickets ready. All guests will need a ticket to gain entry to the venue.
- Have your gown and hood prepared.
- Gowns can get warm when wearing them for extended periods of time so please be mindful of this when choosing an outfit for the day.
- Leave all valuables and personal belongings with your family/supporters as you will not be able to leave anything at your seat.

Once You Arrive:

- Graduands, please go to the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium (1 Paul Shaffer Drive) Parking will be available at the venue.
- **You are expected to arrive at 2:30 PM sharp!** Family and supporters will be invited in at 3:30 PM.
- Once you arrive, check in at the welcome table and be sure to have your gown and hood with you.
- After you have checked in, you will be sent directly to your marshall who will guide you to your marshalling area and go over the protocol with you for when you cross the stage, this way you know what to do when it comes time for your name to be called.

Procession:

- After being lined up with your fellow graduands, the student marshall will bring you to the marshaling area with the remainder of the procession where everyone will await the drumming signaling the start of the procession.
- Please keep in mind that the ceremony will be recorded and live streamed so smile for the camera!

Convocation Ceremony:

- The ceremony will begin with the procession at 4:00 PM.

- When we get to the “Conferral of Degrees” portion of the event, this is when your name will be called.
- You will stand up from your seat and make your way to the center of the stage to be hooded by your selected hooder if you chose one, or Dr. Toner if you did not. You will then move on to receive your degree from the Chancellor and pause for a photo.
- You will then continue to exit off stage left where you will remove your gown and hood and will be given your medical coat. You will then make your way around the back of the stage and will return to your seat. Marshalls will be there to guide you backstage.
- Once at your seat, remain seated and do not put your medical coat on until instructed to do so.

Recession:

- Once the ceremony has concluded, graduates and other platform party members will be led out of the auditorium while music plays in the background.

Reception:

- Graduands, friends, family, and supporters will be welcomed into the reception area for light refreshments and mingling.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at graduation@nosm.ca.