

January 14, 2022

Dear Brescia community,

The last few weeks have presented us with unique challenges as the Omicron variant spread rapidly across the province. I appreciate the strength and dedication of our community, while we responded to the evolving situation and began our term online.

You may have received [communication from Western](#) regarding plans around returning to campus. Brescia, along with the other affiliates, plans to welcome **all students** (in every year of study) back to campus on Monday, January 31.

Of course, we must prioritize the continued health and safety of all students and employees. If you are feeling unwell, or even experiencing minor cold symptoms, please stay home and follow the [Middlesex-London Health Unit isolation guidelines](#).

It is important to remember that anyone accessing campus **[must complete the provincial COVID-19 screening](#)** tool. By completing this assessment, you confirm you are well enough to visit campus. We are a compassionate community and will ensure that appropriate accommodations are made for any academic or work-related absences due to illness or isolation requirements.

With the return to in-person learning, you can expect the following updates to services:

- The Hive will reopen for in-person visits on Monday, January 31.
- The Student Life Centre and some of their on-campus programming will resume Monday, January 31.
- Clare Hall residents who have not yet returned to residence are welcome back anytime. Clare Hall has been fully functioning with student support services in place since reopening after the holiday break on January 2.
- Beryl Ivey Library will continue to provide access to library materials and study spaces. Please check [their website](#) for updated hours.

Three-layer non-medical disposable masks are required indoors. Community members are welcome to wear N-95, KN-95 or equivalents. Brescia has a supply of ASTM-level 3 disposable medical masks and additional PPE for community members upon request.

With the return of our students, employees can expect to return to campus on January 31, 2022. As a student-centred university community, faculty and staff play a significant role in supporting a vibrant, engaged, in-person experience. More information will be shared with employees in the coming days.



Brescia is fortunate to have a high vaccination rate. I encourage members of our community to receive their booster shot when eligible, prior to returning to campus. The Western vaccination and testing clinic is open to members of the Brescia community, please [visit their website](#) for details and to book online or, alternatively, you may consult with clinics in your local area.

I recognize our community continues to display a high degree of flexibility as we keep prioritizing our shared health and safety. As plans continue to be finalized and we prepare to return to campus, please don't hesitate to connect with members of our community, including myself, who are here to support you:

[The Hive](#): Student registration, accommodations, advising appointments and general questions

[The Student Life Centre](#): Mental Health & Wellness supports, Peer Wellness Program

[Brescia's Human Resources](#): EAP and employee resources

[Office of the President](#)

I want to thank each of our students, faculty and staff for all you do to keep our community safe. I know it will take some time to transition back to campus. We all must remain flexible should public health guidelines change, and we need to adjust our plans accordingly. We care about your ongoing well-being, so you can expect opportunities to share your opinions and suggest ways we can contribute to providing the best student experience.

This decision to return to campus was made with much optimism for a renewed, invigorating experience and a safe, successful winter term. I look forward to seeing many of you on campus in a few weeks.

Yours truly,  
Lauretta Frederking, Ph.D.  
President