



To the Brescia community,

As we make our way through the Fall term I continue to be inspired by the determination and positivity exhibited by students, faculty and staff both on campus and in our virtual environments. Your energy and courageous spirit keep us moving forward and contributes to our shared success.

Today, I am writing to let you know that Brescia's winter term will continue as planned, following our current model of a combination of online, blended and in-person courses. Students will continue to live in the comfort of Clare Hall, and the Mercato and other student-facing services will function as they are. Brescia staff and faculty are doing our best to follow our student-centred approach and take the best possible care of our students.

Brescia is known for delivering an outstanding student experience, and we know the value of in-person instruction and interaction. We have heard many positive messages from both students and faculty about their classroom and on-campus experiences this fall. Brescia has implemented many additional health and safety precautions in our classrooms and shared spaces. We will continue to maintain our exceptional cleaning protocols and offer in-person and blended courses in a safe, effective manner.

Of course, we all must understand some things remain unknown. Health officials have indicated a second wave of COVID-19 is upon us in Ontario. We will remain flexible and continue to follow local and provincial health authorities, and are in a position to adapt our plans should health directives change. The health, safety and well-being of our students and community is our top priority. To date, there have been zero known positive cases in the Brescia community. Part of this can be attributed to the diligence of our collective mask wearing, physical distancing and responsible socialization practices.

Now, as Thanksgiving weekend approaches, the desire to visit family and friends has us wanting to travel to various locales across our region. I urge our community to follow the advice of local health authorities and limit your social interactions. It is our shared responsibility to keep Brescia safe and healthy, but also to keep those closest to us—family and friends—healthy and safe as well.

Our community has much to be thankful for. I want to thank each of you for your contributions to our shared well-being, and for your hard work thus far into our semester. Please take a moment this weekend to enjoy a well-deserved break. Your energy and optimism will continue to support our community as we work together through the rest of this term.

Wishing you a wonderful Thanksgiving,

Dr. John Mitchell

Acting Principal
Brescia University College