Greetings Stratford Faculty and Staff,

It is hard to believe that just 10 weeks ago we made the shift to working, teaching and learning in the remote environment. Many of us had to quickly adapt to learning how to function in the Moodle and Zoom platforms. We are very impressed and proud of how well the Stratford Community seamlessly transformed into a remote learning and working environment and want to say thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

As we move into T3 2020 it is time to begin conversations about the plan for eventually returning to our campuses. The University is continuously monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic, and we have taken, and will continue to take, every precaution to ensure the health and well-being of our Stratford family as we begin the planning phase for the safe return to our campuses. As a reminder, access to our campuses are closed to students and visitors and currently limited to a small number of essential campus employees. Stratford will continue to operate in this capacity for several more weeks.

Through collective knowledge and a collaborative approach by the University’s Leadership Team, we have devised and will be implementing a new plan for the return to our campuses and normal operations. Stratford will provide the return protocol plan in a couple of weeks and will conduct mandatory training sessions for employers prior to the campuses reopening. We communicated last month the plan to tentatively open on June 15, 2020. However, due to the delay in Northern Virginia and Maryland moving through their state’s phased reopening initiatives we made the decision to delay the opening of our campuses. We currently plan to operate in the remote/virtual environment through mid-summer with all Stratford University campuses remaining closed until at least June 29, 2020.

This is the current plan for Term 3 2020.

- All lecture and virtual lab courses will remain in the distance education platform in Moodle and Zoom through the end of Term 3, 2020 (August 2, 2020).
- The only classes to be instructed at the ground campuses for Term 3 will be the recovery lab courses carried over from Term 2 and any required Term 3 lab courses. All Term 2 2020 in-person required lab courses are tentatively scheduled to begin recovery lab sessions the week of June 29, 2020, and will continue through the end of T3 2020, to ensure all contact credit hours are provided to students to successfully complete and close-out Term 2 2020. This plan will require students enrolled in these specific classes to carry a grade of Incomplete into Term 3 2020 until students have completed the required lab classes. Lab classes are for Baking & Pastry, Culinary Arts, and a select few for Health Sciences and Nursing. All other non-lab classes will be taught via remote distance learning for T3 2020.
- When we return to our campuses, June 29 through August 2, 2020 we will implement social distancing and other safety measures for a smooth and safe return to day-to-day business operations.
  - Each campus will operate on reduced hours of operations and flex schedule for all departments from June 29 – August 2, 2020, to accommodate the needs of teaching the required lab courses.
Information on the flex schedule will be forthcoming as we finalize the University’s return protocol plan.

- Plans for Term 4 2020 (August 3, 2020) are currently being reviewed and will be communicated late June or early July.
- The University Leadership is currently reviewing plans for the schedule August 22, 2020 Stratford University Graduation Ceremony. Updated communication about the graduation ceremony will be communicated within the next couple of weeks.

We miss being on campus and interacting with our students, staff, and faculty. Although we miss everyone, we must continue to operate in a remote environment for a while longer. We look forward to being back on our campuses later this summer.

Again, thank you for your resilience, determination and dedication to the success of our students and University.

Sincerely,
Dr. Dutchie Reid
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Stratford University