

## Convocation 2021 | Family & Community Social Services\_MASTER

**Olivia Boukydis** [00:00:17] To the graduating class of 2021, a heartfelt congratulations to all of you for completing your degree and for officially becoming graduates of the University of Guelph-Humber. I am sorry that we are unable to celebrate together in person, but I hope you know that I am with you in spirit. I am sure it feels like just yesterday you were wandering the halls at Guelph-Humber trying to figure out where your classes were and trying to make sense of this journey that you were about to embark on. And now, of course, you fast forward to graduation day and you can reflect back on all that you have done and all that you have experienced. Whether you have a pretty good idea of what it is your next steps are going to be, or you're still trying to figure out exactly what your place in the world is going to be. Whatever it is, I hope that you are proud of all that you have accomplished. It is no easy feat to get a university degree, especially during such challenging and uncertain times. It has been such a pleasure to work with you and to know you, and I feel so proud to be in your company. So to quote my favorite, Dr. Seuss, "You're off to great places. Today is your day. Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way." Congratulations.

**John Irwin** [00:01:38] Here we are your last day. Well, your last day with me I guess for all of you. I wish you all well that at the end of the day, that's what I wish for you. I wish you will all go on you what? Some of you will go on in education. You'll get the equivalent degree, you'll get a higher degree. You add your life experience to it. You will surpass me in anything I've ever done. The beauty of being where I am in life and watching you is remembering when I was in the place that you are and that looking forward, the hope of what will come, the uncertainty of what will be. You will all get there somehow. I did the others from today did as well, but you will. And we can look back and we can know that you will because we can look back. And that is probably the greatest claim I can make from the role I played in a small part in your life is that I had some small piece in the future that all of you will take. And that is the greatest reward is to know what will go on beyond me. So today is simply your day. I'm not going to go on, as you know, in my class or I can go on way too long sometimes. We'll keep it to the point and say, go on, be well, do well, be well, always. You are important. You are important. You are the centre of your world and make that world a big, beautiful one.

**Mythili Kaneshalingam** [00:03:05] Congratulations on your well-deserved success. This is an amazing accomplishment. So happy to share in the excitement of your graduation and so very proud of you too. Best wishes for your next adventure. I'm sure your graduation will be the first of many proud, successful moments for you. Your journey in the community and social service field as a professional is officially launching. Remember to uphold your passion and dedication for helping others.

**Alyson Green** [00:03:27] Hello Family and Community Social Services online and hybrid students. Congratulations. You are done. It's official. You are done. I know the last couple of years were difficult. They were time consuming and you made a lot of sacrifices. But I see this as being an investment and I would say this is probably one of the best investments that you've made in yourself. And I hope you'll go on to continue and do amazing things. It's official. You're part of the Guelph-Humber community in terms of alumni, and I hope you go up there, represent us proudly. Congratulations.

**Marie Narsoo** [00:04:00] Congratulations, Family and Community Social Services graduates on your well-deserved success. I wish all of you the best on your next step and make sure to come back and visit us at Guelph-Humber.

**Joanne Shenfeld** [00:04:12] This is Joanne Shenfeld, I want to say congratulations to the FCSS class of 2021, you made it. Good luck in your future careers. Bye bye.

**Nitin Deckha** [00:04:21] Dear graduates. Congratulations on the completion of your Guelph-Humber journey. I wish you the very best as your next journey begins. I caution you that it will be bumpy. Have detours take you through some scenic vistas as well, at times it'll be flat and uneventful. But the journey is yours to create and curate. It doesn't have to be Instagrammable. It should speak to your values, your goals, your vision, and be full of your curiosity and hard work. It won't be an easy journey, but I'm rooting for you. Bon courage a bon voyage.

**Lindsay Van Dekerkhove** [00:05:04] Congratulations, graduates in Family and Community Social Services program and the class of 2021. I hope you're all enjoying your summer break and I hope that you are taking some much deserved time to relax. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Keep in touch and congratulations yet again.

**Liana Acri-Rosa** [00:05:24] Congratulations. Class of 2021. As a proud alumna and staff member at the University Guelph-Humber, I'm excited to welcome you to our alumni family. I can't wait to hear all of the amazing things you're going to do as graduates of the university to make us proud and have fun celebrating.

**Cynthia Mckeich** [00:05:40] Hello graduates. On behalf of Library Services, I'd like to extend our heartfelt congratulations and a great big woohoo on your accomplishments.

**Julia Ciampa** [00:05:51] Hello graduating class of 2021. My name is Julia Ciampa and I am your Guelph-Humber student engagement coordinator, over at IGNITE . And I, along with the rest of the team, want to congratulate you on achieving this incredible milestone. We know that this journey hasn't always been easy. And to be honest, it's probably quite different from what you had imagined when you first stepped foot on campus. Many of you experienced the Ontario College strike in your first year of studies, the Student Choice Initiative, plus the transition to online learning due to the covid-19 pandemic. Talk about resiliency. These may not have been the things that you have envisioned, nor were they the things that you could have planned for. But the truth is, you cannot plan for life because you don't know everything that it has planned for you. And that's a part of the beauty of it. Your time here at the University of Guelph-Humber has showed how resilient, adaptable and strong willed you are and that you are capable of anything. We hope you keep from doubting yourself, because not only have you succeeded during very difficult circumstances, but you have also excelled. Your journey is just beginning and we are so happy to be able to be a part of it. Congratulations grads.