



COLLEGE OF
MOUNT SAINT VINCENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 18, 2021

Dear Mount Saint Vincent Community,

Yesterday, President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, establishing June 19 as a federal holiday. Such a momentous occasion reflects the great significance of Juneteenth in our nation's history.

In the context of the growing national discourse about systemic racism across various American institutions and systems, we intend for this to be an opportunity to reflect on progress we have made on issues of equity, inclusion, and community, while also re-energizing our personal and collective commitments to doing ever more effective anti-racism work in the future. In addition to advancing initiatives to create a more inclusive campus culture, Mount Saint Vincent has established a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, who has begun to meet to plan for the work to be done in the coming year. With representation from students, faculty, staff, and administration, the Committee will lead the College in meeting its objectives to build an inclusive and equitable learning community. I look forward to sharing their work.

At the College of Mount Saint Vincent, we are always working to help our mission manifest in new, essential ways. I encourage all students, faculty, and staff to reflect on our values and give life to them in our hearts and in responding to the call to always seek justice, together. From our founding by the Sisters of Charity of New York, the Mount community has, and will, continue to serve as a model of authentic inclusivity and commitment to the common good. May we be united in that spirit of love to learn and act for justice and equality.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Burns, Ph.D.

President