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Community Correspondent

## Teacher integrates high school into MITT



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According to C. S. Lewis, the great English writer: "The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts."

Please meet Rory McIntyre, the new (and first) Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology high school teacher, who is busy irrigating deserts, integrating MITT's new high school program within a college environment in south Winnipeg.

Rory has taught math, English, health and physical education for eight years at MITT/WTC. His students come from Fort Richmond and nearby neighbourhoods, as well as communities from across Manitoba. Rory has worked with students from all backgrounds, and strives to make his classroom an inclusive and engaging place where students can find success. Before this, he did his practicum and subbed at St. Norbert Collegiate.



Rory McIntyre in the high school program classroom at MITT.

At MITT High School, Rory teaches the required academic courses, including Grade 11 math, English and physical education/health education. His students can also earn elective credits online, such as history, accounting, other math and English courses, plus sciences and computer animation.

"One of the benefits of being on our campus is that students can also explore options in high-demand trades" Rory said. "We also have international students here, so that's great too. We're big enough to provide a cosmopolitan experience, but small enough to provide personal attention."

Because of MITT's small class sizes, Rory can work closely with students, giving them more attention than they may have previously received elsewhere.

In his spare time, Rory is a nationally certified sprints and hurdles coach at the University of Manitoba, and was named Athletics Manitoba's elite coach of the year in 2011, 2013 and 2014.

Rory says he loves being a part of MITT and believes that "skilled trades are a great option as a rewarding career choice." He says "the best part of my job is when students come back after they graduate to thank me. That's the best reward I can think of."

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