

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Dean's Remarks

Welcome to the 2021-22 Dean's Circle Annual Report!

Friends, colleagues and supporters. You continue to provide a promising platform of achievement for this generation of Edwards School of Business talent. I acknowledge your contributions of time, talent and resources in helping our school realize its vision of transformative experiences for our students. Thank you for enabling the success of so many. I am thrilled to provide this update on the inspiring support provided by you, our stellar Dean's Circle members. The impact of your genuine generosity is impressive and remarkable.

We are delighted that in-person activities have returned to the University of Saskatchewan. After nearly two years of silence in the school, it is exciting to see commotion in the corridors! Student life is largely back to pre-pandemic circumstances. The buzz is palpable. We have enjoyed in-person Dean's Circle events in Calgary and Saskatoon this past year. For those of you who we haven't seen face to face, we hope to do so very soon.

Speaking of in-person opportunities, I am pleased to convey that our school is hosting this year's JDC West event, western Canada's largest business case competition. Student teams from a dozen schools compete in various academic disciplines. Social, sport, community engagement/ philanthropy are other important pillars of the competition. This marks the first time in over 1,000 days that the event will be exclusively held in-person. Your Dean's Circle support provides valuable funding for the event.

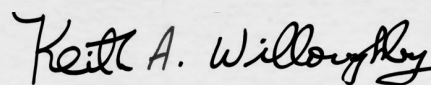
Truly, Dean's Circle members offer considerable assistance in a variety of venues. Your dollars provide support for student crisis aid, MPAcc recruitment awards, and International student entrance awards. Moreover, you enable us to supply important co-curricular funding for undergraduate students.

New allocations for Dean's Circle funds in this most recent academic year include student recruitment for our thesis-based college-wide MSc program. We deployed Dean's Circle dollars to enhance Indigenous involvement in our Executive Education programming. In addition, you offered indispensable support for the Unibuddy program, a new opportunity that improves accessibility by enabling our student advisors to reach international students efficiently.

Thank you, Dean's Circle supporters! You are providing a series of outstanding opportunities for current and future students.

I am honoured to be considered your friend and fellow Dean's Circle member!

"Nikanitan Manacihitowinihk" ("let us lead with respect").



Keith A. Willoughby, Ph.D.
Dean and Dean's Circle Member



Donors

\$50,000

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Greg Yuel

Student and Experiential Impact



"I would not have been able to attend the conference without the funding received from the Dean's circle co-curricular funding. The cost of flights and the delegate fee of the conference is not something that myself or team members would have been able to afford in the midst of our studies. The funding is important for future students to be able to gain the same experiences and knowledge."

Kamryn Kay

Received funding to attend the ACHIEVE Case Competition in Toronto



"Dean's Circle Donors, thank you for funding the Dean's Circle International Student Award. The funding will provide financial relief for me and my family. It will ease up bills such as utilities and rent, furnish my children's bedrooms, and pay for textbooks while I'm at the University of Saskatchewan. I'll be able to afford going to my northern community of Sandy Bay, visit my family and deliver care packages."

Alumni with good grades often receive prestigious awards, but the commitment, passion, and stories of triumph that came with the recommendations from professors are just as important. Future generations need someone like themselves to look up to and follow in their footsteps."

Emerson Bear

Recipient of the Dean's Circle International Student Award



"As an international student, I have had to navigate university life including my academic, work, and social life amidst a pandemic. I'm from Jamaica and though I do love my country, I decided to pursue a degree abroad to give myself the opportunity to take my career across geographical borders.

I remember how elated I was getting the acceptance letter from Edwards, my first choice for college. It took a lot of hard work to get here, I have always been consistent in my academics and have done my best to ensure that my education is prioritized above all else. I did not fully expect the financial difficulty of attending school, having been

restricted to 20 hours a week to work until recent, being responsible for living expenses and tuition is very hard. I had to rely on support from family, which is limited given Jamaica's much weaker currency.

When I arrived in Canada, I worked two full time jobs to help with my tuition and have taken pride in keeping a similar work ethic since then. I learned my hard work doesn't go unnoticed with The Edward's Dean's Circle Funding. I would not be here without the generosity of donors like you.

Today, I'm an Accounting co-op student that is grateful for the opportunity to enter the work force. I see every day as a blessing because there were many times my situation brought me close to going back home without completing my education goal. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Dean's Circle donors. You are making an enormous impact on me and my classmates by providing us with financial relief and the encouragement we need to continue to work hard. One day I hope to repay the kindness you have shown me and other students each year and may the blessing come back to you."

Daynah Smith

Recipient of the Dean's Circle Funding

Financials

	Actual 2020-2021	Actual 2021-2022
Commitments		
Student Awards, Prizes & Bursaries	\$ 114,000	\$ 195,500
Student Experiential Learning & Professional Development	\$ 27,044	\$ 65,254
Edwards Network	\$ 17,137	\$ -
Competition Support	\$ 93	\$ 6,038
Rapid Response Fund	\$ 70,000	\$ -
	\$ 228,274	\$ 266,792

Approved Spending for 2022-2023	
Student Awards, Prizes & Bursaries	\$ 233,500
Student Experiential Learning & Professional Development	\$ 110,600
Competition Support	\$ 8,000
New Initiatives	\$ 28,000
Rapid Response Fund	\$ -
Total 2022-2023 expenditures	\$ 380,100

Thank you to Shelley and Scott

We would like to recognize Shelley Brown and Scott McCreath for continuing to serve on the Dean's Circle Approval Committee.



Shelley Brown

Partner (Retired),
Deloitte LLP

R. Scott McCreath

Senior Investment Advisor, BMO Nesbitt Burns
Edwards Executive in Residence

Dean's Circle Funding



Donors of the Dean's Circle Fund,

I am beyond proud and grateful to have been one of the recipients of the Edwards Dean's Circle Enhance and Innovate Award this year.

I grew up in a middle-class family in a small town in Vietnam, since I was thirteen, my younger sister and I have been raised and educated by a strong and hard-working single mother, who has continuously made sacrifices for us. She supported my education so that one day I would have a life she never had. I have always understood that my academic journey in Canada is all my mom's hopes and dreams and that I have a responsibility to succeed and take care of my sister.

This has not been an easy journey, and one of my biggest sources of anxiety and stress is financial

insecurity. As an international student, not only am I restricted to work 20 hours a week, but the increased study time due to language barriers also reduces my capacity to work. As a result, during my first few years in Canada, I relied heavily on my mom to pay for the high and fast-increasing tuition fees, while she was working in part-time, minimum-wage jobs to provide for us. I remember times when I skipped meals after converting Canadian dollars into Vietnamese Dong to see what a supper would cost me.

The Dean's Circle has been one of the most generous and stable donors to students. These scholarships mean a lot more than "just money." They are a source of motivation and encouragement, a reassurance that I am walking the right path, doing the right things, and spending the right efforts. For many students in need, the funding assures food on the table, more time off work to study, or a little relief for their family who are making sacrifices to support their education. Under the current economy, with rising inflation and costs of living, there is no doubt that the impact of your support will become even more meaningful to current and future hard-working students, dreamers, and future nation-builders.

I am about to conclude a successful 12-month co-op work term and enter my final year in university. I feel inspired, hopeful, and confident and I am excited to finish my academic journey next year with valuable knowledge and experience. Please know that your generous financial support has helped me immensely through all these years.

From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of the recipients of Dean's Circle's support, thank you.

-Huy Hieu (Jake) Ho

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TOGETHER



**UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN**