Annual Report of the Killam Trustees

Building Canada’s future through advanced study.
Contribuer à l'avenir du Canada par le biais des études supérieures.
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To provide scholarships, fellowships, prizes and other funding to scholars who contribute to building Canada’s future and increasing the scientific attainment of Canadians through research excellence.
Numbers speak volumes.

To date, more than 7,500 scholarships, fellowships, awards & prizes have been awarded to graduate and post-graduate students, faculty and groundbreaking researchers.

Since inception, the Killam Trusts have provided more than $1 billion of funding to higher education in Canada. No other private philanthropic effort has contributed this level of funding to higher education in Canada.

2020

In addition to many renewed Killam scholarships and fellowships, more than 200 scholars received support from Killam Trusts in 2020. Congratulations to all.

The new Killam laureates are listed at the end of this report. They are ready, productive, diverse, innovative and globally-aware, and they will honour Dorothy J. Killam’s transformative vision to fund people’s minds – to fund the future.

Our Values

| Research Excellence | Innovation | Humanity | Multidisciplinary Collaboration |
|---------------------|------------|---------|---------------------------------
| Superior, ground-breaking, best-in-class work. | Original, future-focused generation of new knowledge and technology that will change the way we live. | Compassion, inclusion and understanding of people, cultures and needs with participation among all economic, social and cultural backgrounds. | Thoughtful cooperation among scholars, disciplines and institutions. |
“A society is a cooperative venture for mutual advantage.”

– JOHN RAWLS, PHILOSOPHER (1921-2002)
The Killam Trusts and Intergenerational Fairness

Dorothy Johnson Killam cared about intergenerational fairness. She exhibited this compassion and concern by creating a perpetual trust to build Canada’s future through advanced research and study. Since 1967, all generations of scholars and researchers, from across Canada and around the world, have received more than $1 billion in support from the Killam Trusts.

Dorothy and her husband, Isaac Walton Killam of Nova Scotia, lived through the last global pandemic (the Spanish flu), two world wars, and the social, economic and geopolitical changes of the post-war period. She created the Killam Trusts toward the end of her long life, after experiencing these history-changing events. Her exceptional bequest showed that, despite the global tumult of her lifetime, she remained optimistic about the future and had a foundational confidence in the power of research and scholarship. She foresaw the innovation economy and the need for investment in advanced research for integrated economic, environmental and social well-being.

The COVID-19 pandemic is the most significant global event of this century. In addition to bringing change, the pandemic has accelerated pre-existing shifts, and, the ensuing transformation of society may be greater than what was experienced during the Killams’ lifetimes. The right response to change is to evaluate each possibility, accept that which cannot be altered, and change that which can – to ensure the improvements reflect the aspirations, values and goals of our society. The Killam Trusts continue, many generations after their formation, to “help in the building of Canada’s future by encouraging advanced study.”

As Trustees of the Killam Trusts, one of our responsibilities is to ensure intergenerational fairness. This has an obvious financial component, but what is becoming increasingly evident is that intergenerational fairness also must promote environmental and social sustainability. The research and scholarship funded by the Killam Trusts inform all of us about how we can build a better society. As John Rawls said, “a society is a cooperative venture for mutual advantage.”

As we strive for research excellence and a future that ensures equity, diversity, inclusion and sustainability for generations to come, there is clearly work to be done. Thank goodness Mrs. Killam cared enough about intergenerational fairness to create the Killam Trusts.

We are honoured to be the guardians of the Killam mission, and we hope you enjoy this Annual Report.

Bernie Miller
“My purpose in establishing the Killam Trusts is to help in the building of Canada’s future by encouraging advanced study.”

— FROM THE WILL OF DOROTHY J. KILLAM, 1965
Establishment of the Killam Trusts

Both Izaak Walton Killam and Dorothy Johnston Killam believed in the power of education and research. So when Mrs. Killam died, she created the Trusts in honour of her husband and left their combined estates to specific educational purposes and institutions.

The Killam Trusts were established in 1965 for the benefit of scholars at Dalhousie University, the Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital of McGill University (now The Neuro), the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of British Columbia, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

As the Trusts were created by Mrs. Killam in honour of her late husband, she chose institutions based upon the geographic regions where Mr. Killam held business interests during his lifetime. The Canada Council received Killam funding as it was originally founded from the estate duties of Mr. Killam, along with those of Sir James Dunn. The Neuro was selected because it had provided excellent medical care to a relative of Mrs. Killam. Mrs. Killam’s personal nurses were often sourced from there as well. This chart depicts the share each institution received from the original $75 million, back in 1967.

Original Testamentary Bequests
(Not including Anonymous Donor’s Fund)
Our sincere appreciation to the senior administration, faculty and staff at the six Killam institutions for their invaluable collaboration in making the Killam Trusts a great success.
In the News

Highlights of people, research projects and accomplishments that made waves in 2020.
In January of 2020, Dalhousie University officially welcomed Dr. Deep Saini as he began his term as Dalhousie’s 12th President. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Saini served as vice-chancellor and president of the University of Canberra in Australia, and he also had worked at four of Canada’s U15 universities.

In June of 2020, we said goodbye to David Turpin as he concluded a five-year term as the president of the University of Alberta. We thank Dr. Turpin for his constant support of the Killam program during his tenure at the U of A and wish him all the best.

Consequently, in September of 2020, the University of Alberta officially installed its 14th president, Bill Flanagan. Prior to his appointment, Professor Flanagan served as the dean of law at Queen’s University for 14 years. In addition, Professor Flanagan has an extensive record of leadership and engagement at Queen’s University and in the broader community.

The Trustees had the opportunity to meet Dr. Saini and Professor Flanagan virtually and they look forward to a continued collaboration with both Dalhousie and the U of A’s new president.

Virtual Killam

The regional tour of the Killam Institutions took place virtually this year. We sincerely appreciate the time and efforts each location dedicated to the annual meetings with the Trustees. The University of Calgary and the University of British Columbia held virtual celebrations of the 2020 Killam Laureates, and you can view them on their respective websites.

In a year like no other for everyone – including those working in academia – universities received COVID-19 related research funding at notable levels. All of these research achievements should be highlighted, as should those in the rare but important field of non-pandemic research. With this volume of outstanding examples, only a fraction could be noted in this publication.
Research Excellence

• **Virology**: Dr. Michael Houghton, Professor of Virology at the Li Ka Shing Applied Virology Institute, University of Alberta, was jointly named the 2020 Nobel Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine in recognition of the discovery of the hepatitis C (HCV) virus. Tune in to An Evening with Nobel Laureate Michael Houghton to learn more about his accomplishments.

• **Engineering**: Dr. Molly Shoichet, 2017 Canada Council Killam Prize (Engineering), was awarded the $1M Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) “in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments and discoveries, and for her advancement of scientific knowledge and innovation.”

• **COVID-19**: Dr. Brett Finlay, UBC biochemist and 2006 Killam Prize (Health Sciences), is part of a committee to advise the province on COVID-19 research priorities. Here are some Q&A on vaccine development.

• **Lymphoma**: Cancer drug developed at University of Alberta. Research sets the stage for imminent human trials of B-cell lymphoma treatment. Combining public and private support helped to accelerate innovation.

• **Alzheimer’s**: Blood test accurately detects Alzheimer’s disease. “This is a game changer”, said study co-author and Killam Laureate Dr. Serge Gauthier, Professor in the Departments of Neurology & Neurosurgery, Psychiatry, and Medicine at McGill.

• **Vaccines**: Researchers at Dalhousie University are to lead the first Canadian clinical trials for a possible COVID-19 vaccine. The team includes research assistants, data managers, lab personnel, nurses and physician investigators.

• **Autism**: UCalgary researchers discover breakthrough toward treatment of Fragile X syndrome – the leading genetic cause of autism.

Innovation

• **Type 1 Diabetes**: A possible cure for Type 1 diabetes? University of Alberta researchers are reprogramming blood cells into insulin-producing cells to overcome the challenges of islet transplantation. The project to develop a next-generation diabetes therapy will lead to a far better quality of life.

• **Cutting-Edge Research**: Eight scholars at the University of Calgary received federal grants for pursuing cutting-edge research in engineering, science, and medicine.

• **Ventilators**: UBC students design low-cost ventilator for COVID-19, aligning cutting-edge research capability with positive societal impact.

• **Lab2Market**: A new national program called Lab2Market-Health (L2M-H) was officially launched at Dalhousie University. It has been designed to support researchers solving pressing problems in the health-care industry and helping them to move their research from bench-to-bedside.
Humanity

• Helping Hand: A team of chemical engineers from UCalgary spinoff was looking for a way to help that would have an immediate impact on the community. Looking at their skills and resources, they decided to make hand sanitizer to donate to community groups.

• Women in Science: “Diversity in STEM can be improved through meaningful mentorships for underrepresented groups.,” says Malabika Pramanik, UBC mathematician and #KillamLaureate. This is the idea behind Diversity in Mathematics, a summer program held at UBC that brings together underrepresented high school and university students with an interest in STEM careers.

• LGBTQ2S+ issues matter: A first-of-its-kind queer STEM conference in Halifax was held to connect and highlight queer voices in the math and science field in Atlantic Canada. “I can use my own identity and my own position to help people feel comfortable,” Landon Getz, Conference organizer, #KillamLaureate, a PhD candidate in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie University.

• Health Champion: Ingrid Waldron, an associate professor in the Faculty of Health at Dalhousie receives Research Canada’s 2020 Leadership Advocacy Award for being an exceptional champion of health research and health innovation.

• Health Workers: The Neuro family helping out our frontline. The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for hospital staff around the world, and The Neuro was no exception.

Multidisciplinary Collaboration

• International Collaboration: Dr. Arthur B. McDonald, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist and #KillamLaureate, led a team of Canadian scientists, engineers, doctors and manufacturers regarding an international collaboration to develop a simple-but-powerful ventilator to help in the treatment of COVID-19, one that could be easily mass-produced with readily available parts. The group included teams working at laboratories, institutes, universities, and companies across Italy, Canada and the United States.

• Open Science: Dr. Guy Rouleau, Director of The Neuro, received the Canada Gairdner Wightman Award, which recognizes his extraordinary leadership paired with exceptional science. Dr. Rouleau played a pioneering role in the practice of Open Science, transforming the Neuro into the first Open Science institution in the world.

• Concussion Network: The University of Calgary leads in the formation of a national network established to get cutting edge research on concussion to Canadians, faster. The network will promote data sharing and the implementation of protocols so that data can be more easily combined across various studies.

• Alliance: Interdisciplinary group including researchers of The Neuro will be investigating a new aspect of Parkinson’s disease with the help of a major funding announcement of $12.5 million.
Killam Trusts is proud to introduce our 2020 scholarship, fellowship and other award recipients.
Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship
Jonathan Dubue Educational Psychology
Rezvaneh Erfani Hossein Pour Sociology
Ahmed Essa Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Cole Gross Renewable Resources
Kim Ho Pediatrics
Rylan Kafara Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
Lisa Martin English and Film Studies
Valentin Mocanu Surgery
Oghenevwarho Ojakovo Music
Albert Remus Rosana Chemistry
Conor Ruzycki Mechanical Engineering
Amanda Spallacci English and Film Studies
Jagdeesh Uppal Laboratory Medicine and Pathology
Cassandra Wilkinson Psychology

Dorothy J. Killam Memorial Graduate Prize
Rezvaneh Erfani Hossein Pour Sociology
Albert Remus Rosana Chemistry
Cassandra Wilkinson Psychology

Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellowship
Keith Cherry Law
Landon Elkind Philosophy
Emma McKenna English and Film Studies

Dorothy J. Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellowship
Landon Elkind Philosophy

Killam Accelerator Research Award
Rob McMahon Dept. of Political Science, and Media and Technology Studies Unit
Martha White Computing Science

Killam Annual Professorship
Lingyun Chen Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Sciences
Nadir Erbilgin Renewable Resources
George K. Georgiou Educational Psychology
Glen Hvenegaard Environmental Science
Amy Kaler Sociology
Yang Liu Civil and Environmental Engineering

Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring
Feral Temelli Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Sciences

Killam Memorial Chair
Valeri Frolov Professor of Physics
Yingfei Yi Professor of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Doctoral Scholarship
Morgan Alford  Microbiology
Rachel Cederberg  Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Amanda Cheung  Neuroscience
Reed Clements  English
Gaylean Davies  Resources, Environment and Sustainability
Jonathan Doucette  Physics
Julia Goldman-Hasbun  Sociology
Ilija Hristovski  Electrical Engineering
Megumi Iyar  Psychology
Eric Lees  Chemical and Biological Engineering
Cole Lord-May  Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences
Katherine McCloskey  Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education
Benjamin Nadeau  Chemistry
Roland Nadler  Law
Leah Shipton  Political Science
Shoshana Schwebel  Germanic Studies
Michelle St. Pierre (Thiessen)  Psychology
Jacob Stubbs  Experimental Medicine
Gordon Tao  Rehabilitation Sciences
Karen Thulasi Devendrakumar  Botany
Kelsey Timler  Interdisciplinary Studies
Seth Trease Oliver Watt  Zoology
Walker Williams  Music
Ma Zhu  Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education

Killam-Donald N. Byers Memorial Prize
Roland Nadler  Law, Peter A. Allard School of Law

Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
Lukas Tobias Hergt  Physics and Astronomy
Jennifer Hinell  English Language and Literatures
Julia Margaret Kreiner  Botany
Steve Renette  Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies
Nicholas Alexander James Taylor  Public Policy and Global Affairs
Vivitskaia Tulloch-McShane  Forest and Conservation Science

Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
Corliss Bean  Health and Exercise Sciences, UBC Okanagan
Guillaume Peterson St. Laurent  Forest Resources Management

Killam Faculty Research Fellowship
Vanessa Andreotti  Educational Studies
Nick Bansback  School of Population and Public Health
Lara Boyd  Physical Therapy – Senior Category
Frances Chen  Psychology
William Cheung  Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries
Gwynn Elfring  Mechanical Engineering
Kristin Laurin  Psychology
Miriam Spering  Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Jennifer Williams  Geography
Hannah Wittman  Land and Food Systems and Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability
Killam Faculty Research Prize – Arts & Humanities

Senior Category:
Mona Gleason  Educational Studies
Stephen Guy-Bray  English Language and Literatures
Daniel Skarlicki  Marketing and Behavioural Sciences

Junior Category:
Giovanni Gallipoli  Vancouver School of Economics
Allison Hargreaves  English and Cultural Studies, UBC Okanagan

Killam Faculty Research Prize – Applied Science, Medicine, Sciences

Senior Category:
Ian Frigaard  Mechanical Engineering
Andrew David Krahn  Medicine – Cardiology
Patricia Schulte  Zoology
Alia Sheffer  Computer Science

Junior Category:
Ali Mesbah  Electrical and Computer Engineering

Killam Teaching Prize for Graduate Instruction

Deborah Butler  Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education
Veta Chitnev  Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies
Mary Chong  Accounting and Information Systems
Agnes d’Entremont  Mechanical Engineering
Stan Floresco  Psychology
Isabel Grant  Peter A. Allard School of Law
Alison Greig  Physical Therapy
Kerry Greer  Sociology
Stephen Gustafson  Mathematics
Cinda Heeren  Computer Science
Saul Isserow  Medicine
Pamela Kalas  Botany
Ramon Lawrence  Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics and Statistics

Erin Lindenber  Chemistry
Gregory Mackie  English Language and Literatures
Sean Maurice  Northern Medical Program
Thibault Mayor  Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Cheryl Segaric  Nursing
Judith Walker  Educational Studies
Kirsten Walker  Faculty of Land and Food Systems
Qian Wang  Asian Studies
Eugenia Yu  Statistics
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<th>Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award</th>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Bulk</td>
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<td>Kathleen Coupland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse Couture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jill Dosso</td>
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<td>Colin Dring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yulia Egorova</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deborah Good</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonja Isberg</td>
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<td>Katelyn Janzen</td>
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<td>Mahsa Khalili</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Lai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masoud Malakoutian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanie Malone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Stensrud</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Truong Cheung</td>
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<td>Jens Vent-Schmidt</td>
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Izaak Walton Killam Predoctoral Scholarship
Mohammadali Ahmadi Chemical and Petroleum Engineering
Milad Ahmadi Khoshooei Chemical and Petroleum Engineering
Galina Belolyubskaya Anthropology
Kathryn Marie Blair Computational Media Design
Pablo Danilo Borja Padilla Geography
Kirsty Brown Medicine, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
James Bull Biological Sciences
Crystal Chokshi Communication and Media Studies
Meagan Cloutier Political Science
Ali Fatehi Hassanabad Medicine, Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences
Kaltrina Kusari Social Work
Chelsea Moran Clinical Psychology
Emiko Joanne Muraki Psychology
Dusan Nikolic Linguistics
Oluwatomiwa Adedamola Osin Chemistry
Britney Paris Educational Research
Kelsey Ann Pennanen Archaeology
Abdullah Sarhan Computer Science
Mason Stothart Veterinary Medical Sciences
Carieta Thomas Sociology
Leah Van Dyk English
Jared Voris Geoscience

The Donald N. Byers Memorial Killam Prize
Galina Belolyubskaya Anthropology

Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship
Abhijeet Alase Physics and Astronomy

Killam Research & Teaching Award
Fabiola Aparicio-Ting Killam Award in Undergraduate Mentorship
Marie-Claire Arrieta Killam Emerging Research Leader Award and Grant (CIHR)
Julie Drolet Killam Research Excellence Award
Reed Ferber McCaig-Killam Teaching Award
Adam Kirton Killam Graduate Supervision and Mentorship Award
Melanie Noel Killam Emerging Research Leader Award and Grant (SSHRC)
Tricia Stadnyk Killam Emerging Research Leader Award and Grant (NSERC)

Killam Annual Professorship
Zhangxing (John) Chen Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, Schulich School of Engineering
Keith Dobson Psychology, Faculty of Arts
Deborah Marshall Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine
Raylene Reimer Faculty of Kinesiology
Anitha Van Herk English, Faculty of Arts

Killam Visiting Scholar
Donald Anderson Faculty of Kinesiology

Killam Memorial Chair
Walter Herzog* Faculty of Kinesiology

* 2018 Canada Council Killam Prize, Engineering
2020 Killam Prize Winners
These prizes are among Canada’s most prestigious prizes for careers in research. Five Killam Prizes of $100,000 each are awarded every year (one prize in each of the fields listed below).

Cecilia Benoit, University of Victoria
Social Sciences

Sarah Carter, University of Alberta
Humanities

Alan Evans, The Neuro
Health Sciences

Ted Sargent, University of Toronto
Engineering

Barbara Sherwood Lollar, University of Toronto
Natural Sciences

2020 Killam Research Fellowship
This fellowship provides two years to pursue groundbreaking research and is valued at $70,000 per year.

Eric Brown
Natural Sciences (Biochemistry and Biomedical Science), McMaster University

Jennifer Clapp
Natural Sciences (Economics), University of Waterloo

Myriam Denov
Social Sciences (Sociology; Anthropology), McGill University

Joseph Heath
Humanities/Social Sciences (Philosophy), University of Toronto

Milica Radisic
Engineering/Health Sciences (Biochemical and Biomedical Engineering), University of Toronto

Nathalie Tufenkji
Engineering/Natural Sciences (Chemical Engineering), McGill University

Thank you to Nahlah Ayedin, host of CBC Radio IDEAS, and to Florent Thévenin at TheFutureEconomy.ca for their interviews with the five winners, who have distinguished themselves through sustained excellence, making a significant impact in their respective fields.
Killam Predoctoral Scholarship (Masters)
Broderick Badcock-Parks  Psychology and Neuroscience
Nicole Blinn  Health and Human Performance
Rebecca Foster  English
Charlotte Harrison  Philosophy
Aidan Ingalls  Classics
Mitchell Kane  Computer Science
Joshua MacMillan*  Chemistry
Ryan Threndyle  Civil and Resource Engineering
Abby Yashayaeva  Physics
Olufolakemi Akpan  Physiotherapy
Casey Doucet  Civil and Resource Engineering

Killam Predoctoral Scholarship (Phd)
Tari Ajadi  Political Science
Kyle Bryenton  Physics
Ahmed Eldesoky  Chemistry
Carolyn Gaspar  Health
Michael Giacomantonio  Pathology
Patrick Giesbrecht  Chemistry
Kelsey Gsell  Biomedical Engineering
Morteza Hajati  Electrical and Computer Engineering
Kayla Hamelin  Biology
Lauren MacEachern  Process Engineering and Applied Science
Craig MacEachern  Agriculture
Colin MacKay  Interdisciplinary PhD
Adebayo Majekolabge  Law
Sabateeshan Mathavarajah*  Pathology
Mustafa Nadi  Medical Neuroscience
Sarah Nersesian  Microbiology and Immunology
Victoria Patterson  Psychology and Neuroscience
Helen Pinsent  English
Kaitlin Sibbald  Health
Kathleen Vergunst  Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Sophie Watts  Agriculture

Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship
Leyla Amiri  Civil and Resource Engineering
Rahil Changotra  Engineering, Agriculture
Tahnee Prior  Law
Surendra Verma  Biomedical Engineering

Faculty of Science Killam Professorship
Penny Corkum  Department of Psychology & Neuroscience

Faculty of Science Killam Prize
Erin Bertrand  Department of Biology

Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Chair
Roy Duncan  Virology
Jeffrey Hutchings  Fish, Fisheries and Oceans
Vasantha Rupasinghe  Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals

*Recipient of a George Cooper Killam Prize
2017-2022 Killam Scholarship – Neurological Sciences
Gary Armstrong
Boris Bernhardt
Simon Ducharme
Richard Hoge
Jason Karamchandani
Austen Milnerwood
Bratislav Misic
Adrien Peyrache
Madelaine Sharp

Dorothy J. Killam Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery
Brenda Milner

Izaak Walton Killam Chair
Eric Shoubridge

Killam Fellowship Prize
Dr. Solon Schur
Stay connected.

Killam Laureates, we want to hear from you.

Do you have an important accomplishment we can share on our social media?

Did your name or other details change? If so, we are pleased to update our confidential database.

Direct all requests by email to:
Chantal Dupuis, Administrator of the Killam Trusts
administrator@killamlaureates.ca

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