Inspired by Dorothy Killam

Dorothy Killam cared about the future. She had a vision of building Canada’s future through advanced study. Through her will, Dorothy Killam established a perpetual trust to realize that vision and to fund generations of scholars in Canada. This newsletter will provide insight into the path forward for the National Killam Program.

New administration and program redesign

Beginning in April 2022, administration and delivery of the National Killam Program, which includes the Killam Prizes and Fellowships, will transfer from the Canada Council for the Arts (CCA) to the National Research Council of Canada (NRC). The NRC is pleased to administer the program alongside the Killam Trusts to uphold the will of Dorothy Killam and her vision for the Killam Trusts.

With guidance from the National Killam Program Advisory Board and the broader research community, the Killam Research Fellowships have been renamed the Dorothy Killam Fellowships. The Dorothy Killam Fellowships are funded through the Killam Trusts, Dorothy Killam’s very substantial 1965 testamentary bequest, the largest philanthropic gift to Canada intended to recognize each scholar’s special distinction of intellect and increase the scientific and scholastic attainment of all Canadians. As such, the redesign of the fellowships is founded on the principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and includes key considerations around the nomination process and knowledge mobilization.

We invite you to contact the National Killam Program Office if you are interested in serving as a peer reviewer for the selection process: KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

News and deadlines

April 26, 2022 - Opening of the 2023 National Killam Program cycle and Design Reveal

June 17, 2022 – Dorothy Killam Fellowship application deadline

June 30, 2022 – Killam Prize nomination deadline

Achieving excellence

In her 1965 will, Dorothy Killam was clear that no person should be qualified or disqualified as a Killam scholar because of their identity. It is with that in mind that the National Killam Program has built equity, diversity and inclusion into its new Dorothy Killam Fellowships.