



# **Annual Report of the Killam Trustees**

## **2025**

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*Building Canada's future through advanced study*





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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.*

## Mission



## Numbers speak volumes.

In 2025, a total of 210 scholars benefited from the support of the Killam programs offered by Dalhousie University, the Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital), the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of British Columbia, and the National Killam Program of the National Research Council Canada. This is in addition to multiple Killam scholarships and fellowships renewed during 2025.

To date, 8,685 graduate and post-graduate students, faculty and groundbreaking researchers have received a Killam award in some form or another, and all of them are contributing to building Canada’s future through advanced study and research excellence.

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.

We offer our sincere congratulations to the 2025 recipients of a Killam award who are listed in the “2025 Killam Laureates” section of this report.

### Killam Programs

National Research Council Canada  
Dalhousie University  
University of Alberta  
The University of British Columbia  
The Neuro  
University of Calgary



**8,685**  
Killam Laureates worldwide

**\$500M**  
Killam endowments

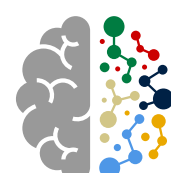
**\$100K**  
Award for each Killam Prize

## Our Values



### Research Excellence

Superior, ground-breaking, best-in-class work.



### Innovation

Original, future-focused generation of new knowledge and technology that will change the way we live.



### Humanity

Compassion, inclusion and understanding of people, cultures and needs with participation among all economic, social and cultural backgrounds.



### Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Thoughtful cooperation among scholars, disciplines and institutions.

*“Fight for the things you care about.  
But do it in a way that will lead others to  
join you.”*

— RUTH BADER GINSBURG

## Message from the Trustees



## Building Canada's Future: Unprecedented Challenges and New Relationships.



### What is science philanthropy?

Science philanthropy is charitable giving from individuals, trusts or foundations to support scientific research, often focusing on high-risk, long-term, or uncharted areas that do not readily attract government and industry funding. In doing so, it aims to drive breakthrough discoveries and address complex societal challenges.

In Canada, Dorothy Killam was a true pioneer of science philanthropy. In 1965, she created the Killam Trusts for the express purpose of helping to build Canada's future. She believed the expansion of knowledge through research, development, and technological change is at the foundation of all progress. By encouraging advanced postgraduate

study and research, she sought to contribute to the prosperity and well-being of Canadians from coast to coast.

Mrs. Killam wanted to resist the "brain drain" to the United States (her country of birth) by funding scholarships and fellowships for doctoral and postdoctoral students, as well as research chairs for established scholars who chose to come to Canada - or to remain here - to pursue advanced study at leading research-intensive universities across Canada.

To that end, she left over \$110M (nearing \$1B today) in a perpetual trust, now known as the Killam Trusts. She did not do this to benefit universities, but to benefit Canada and Canadians.

Today, with the post-war world order fragmenting and profound geopolitical shifts underway, the conditions required for Canadian prosperity and citizen well-being are very different from those of 1965. While Canada has developed considerable strength in basic research, it has struggled to translate that strength into sustained innovation and productivity gains. Too often, discoveries made in Canadian laboratories fail to evolve into practical, real-world solutions, or are exported to the United States where they are further developed, commercialized, and deployed.

Over the past year, the Killam Trusts, along with the Azrieli Foundation, have convened a national conversation among several foundations engaged in science philanthropy. Through these discussions, a shared ambition has emerged: to build a community that collaborates more deeply to find more effective ways to drive innovation, productivity, and impact. This desire to generate greater societal and economic benefits is a unifying principle among participants.

Like the Killams, the founders of many Canadian foundations active in science philanthropy built their wealth through private enterprise. Reflecting these shared origins, we have found a growing appetite among science philanthropists to learn from one another, collaborate more intentionally, and take a more active role in advancing innovation in Canada. In doing so, they acknowledge the need to assume greater risk than government and to encourage the application of emerging technologies to address complex societal challenges.

In 2026, we intend to continue to engage with like-minded foundations to help build Canada’s future, acting as a force multiplier of Mrs. Killam’s testamentary vision. New relationships among philanthropic organizations can bring fresh perspectives and novel approaches to long-standing challenges. Now, more than ever, a coalition of Canadian trusts and foundations committed to science philanthropy is both timely and essential, as Canada looks to all sectors to contribute to the building of its future.

### Retirement of Kevin Lynch and Appointment of Iain Stewart.

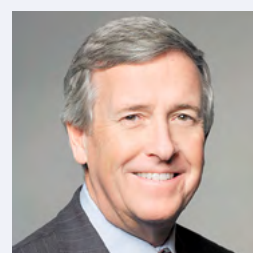
The Honorable Kevin Lynch, Killam Trustee since January 2013, retired on September 1, 2025. We extend our sincere gratitude to Kevin for his many years of dedicated service to the people of Canada and to the Killam Trusts. His steadfast leadership and commitment have been pivotal in advancing the Trusts’ mission and strengthening the impact of research excellence and innovation across the country.

Mr. Iain Stewart was appointed upon Mr. Lynch’s retirement. Iain’s broad experience across government, academia, and science policy has equipped him with a deep understanding of the opportunities that lie ahead for Canadian research. The Trustees are confident that Iain will continue to build on the strong foundation established by his predecessors, guiding the Killam Trusts with vision and integrity.

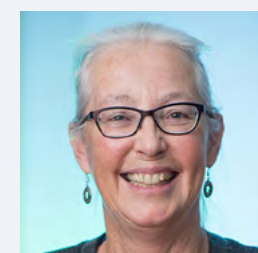
### The Killam Trustees



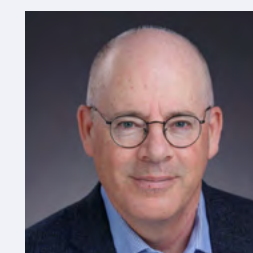
Bernard F. Miller,  
KC, ICD.D  
Managing Trustee



The Honourable  
Jim Dinning,  
ECA, CM, F.ICD, LLD



Brenda J. Eaton,  
MA, ICD.D



Iain S. Stewart  
ICD.D



*“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

## Vision



## The Origins of the Killam Trusts

2025 marked the 60th anniversary of Mrs. Dorothy J. Killam’s passing, a moment to reflect on an extraordinary legacy that continues to shape Canada’s future.

When Mr. Killam died in 1955 without leaving a will, 50% of his estate was taxed. However, prior to his passing he had arranged with the government to combine his estate taxes with those of his friend, Sir James Dunn, as seed money for the establishment of the Canada Council for the Arts.

During the decade following her husband’s death, Mrs. Killam’s personal solicitor and confidant, Donald N. Byers, QC, took the ideas Mr. and Mrs. Killam had discussed during their joint lifetimes: they believed in the power of education and research and had both agreed to use their wealth to fund higher education. He then carefully crafted their ideas into the masterpiece that became Mrs. Killam’s will.

Dorothy Killam died in 1965 and, through her remarkable business sense, managed to restore the original endowment left by her husband 10 years prior – estimated at \$1 billion in today’s dollars. After her death, Donald Byers, as Managing Trustee of her estate, threw himself into the task of getting the Killam scholarships and their supporting endowments up and running, based on Mrs. Killam’s will – the document that has guided the Killam Program since the beginning and will do so forever.

The entire estate was left as a perpetual fund and the Killam trusts were then established for the benefit of scholars at Dalhousie University, The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital), the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Calgary. These universities were selected based on Canadian regions where Mr. Killam had held business interests during his lifetime; and the Neuro for the excellent medical care provided to a relative of Mrs. Killam.

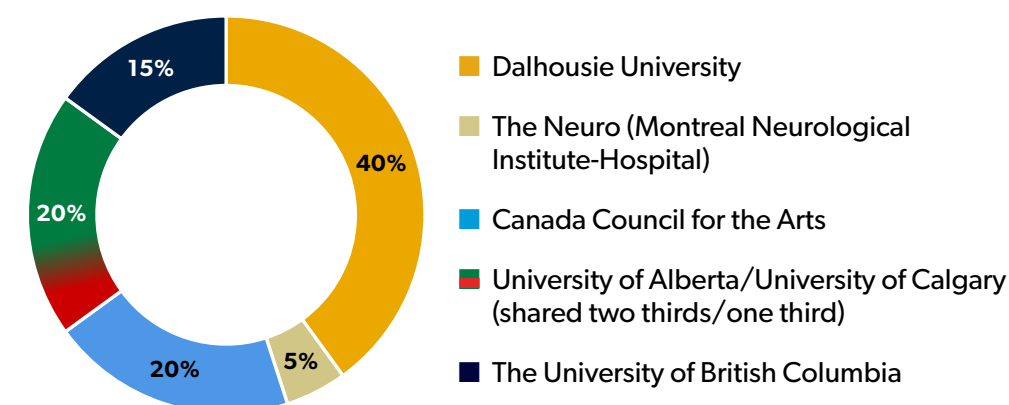
The chart below depicts the share each institution received from the original endowment in 1967.

Watch the [Killam video](#) produced in 2025 for more information on the history of the Killam Trusts.



### Original Testamentary Bequests

(Not including Anonymous Donor’s Fund)





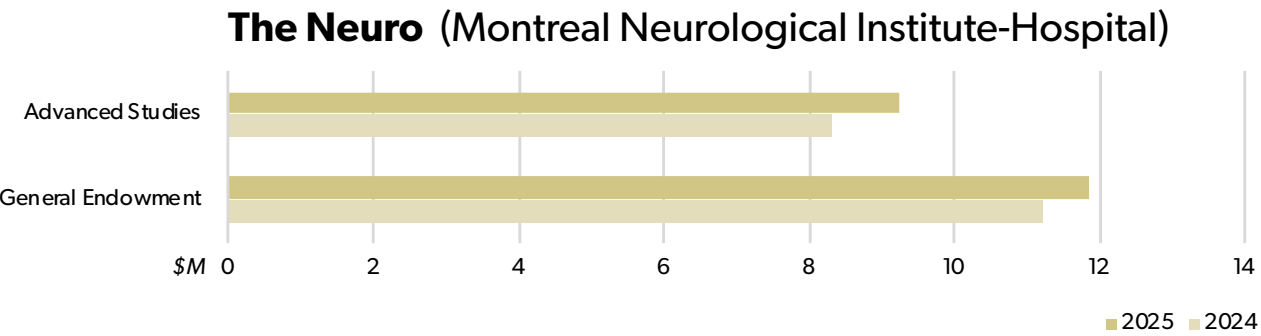
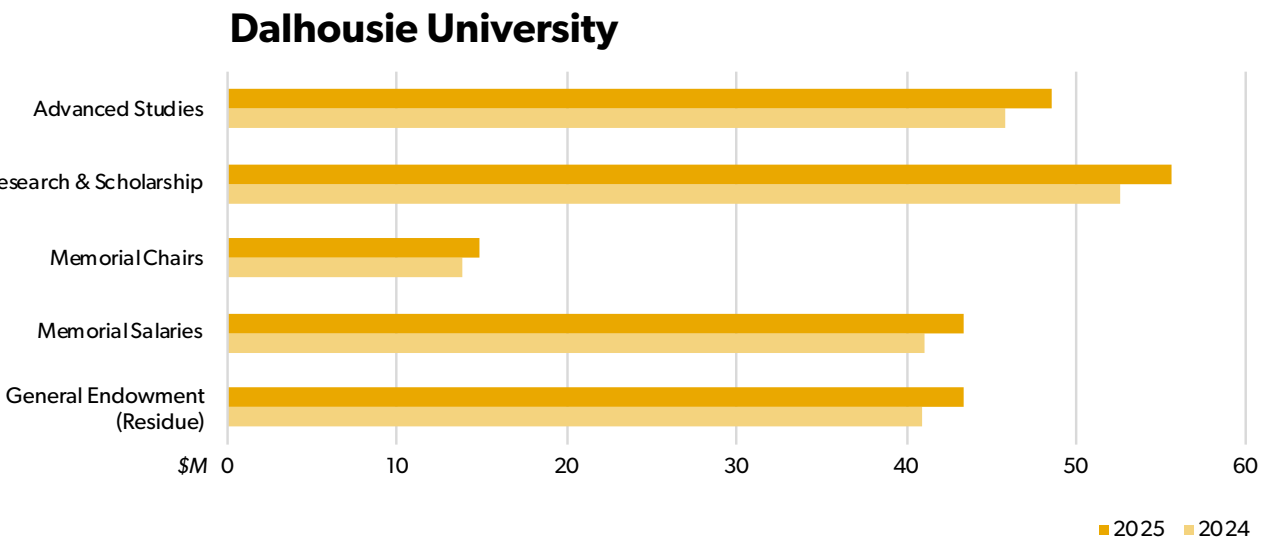
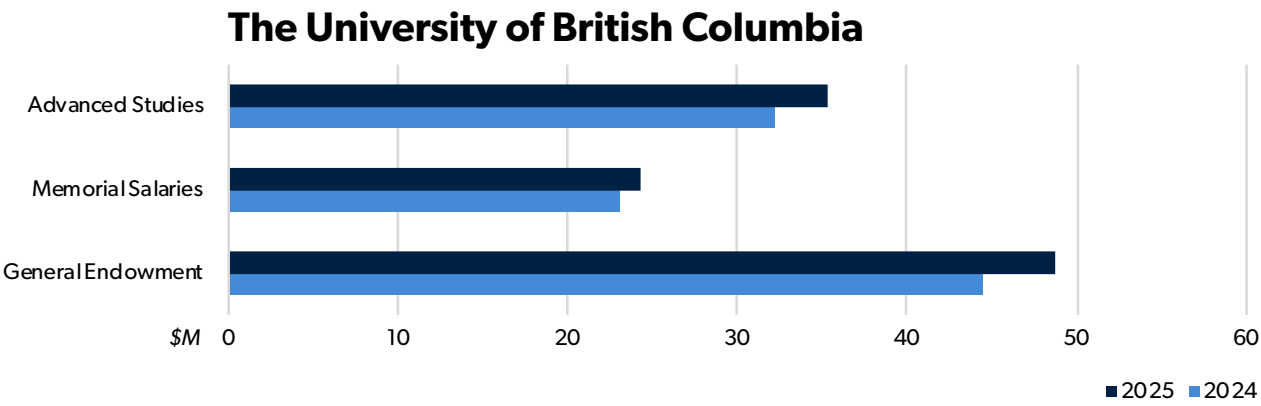
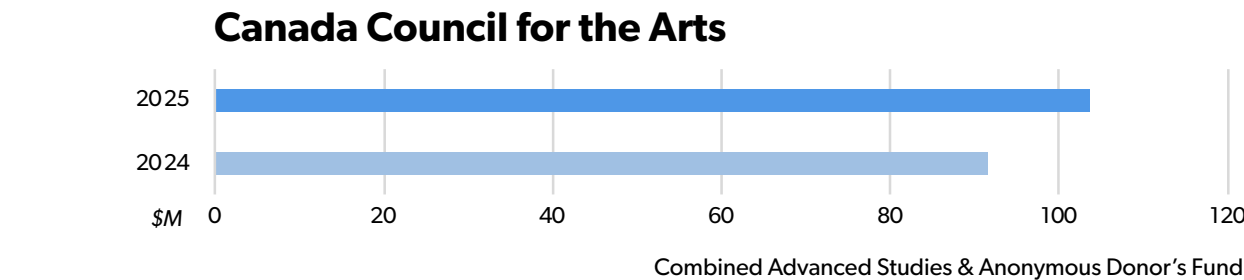
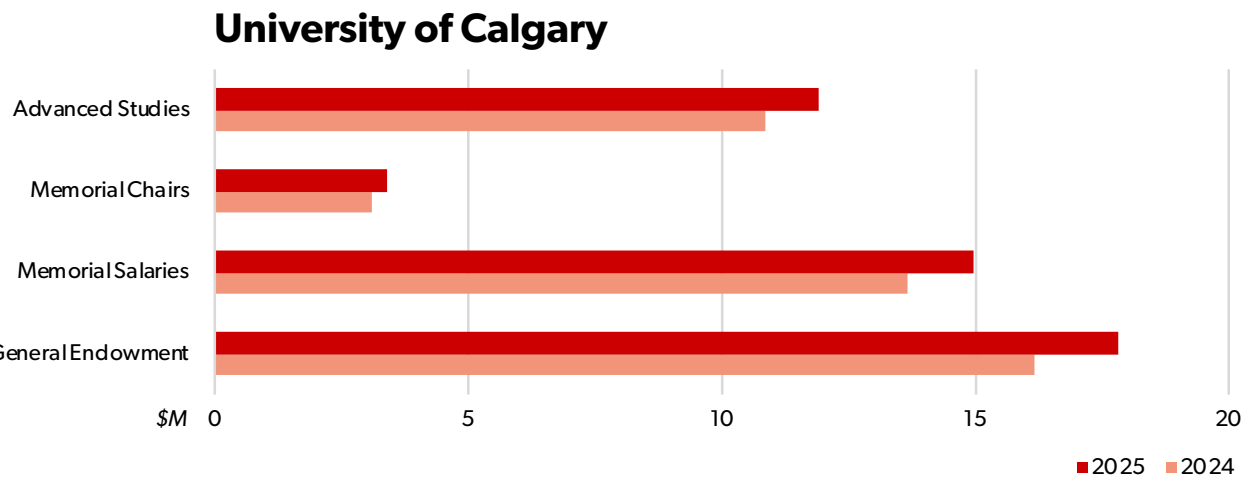
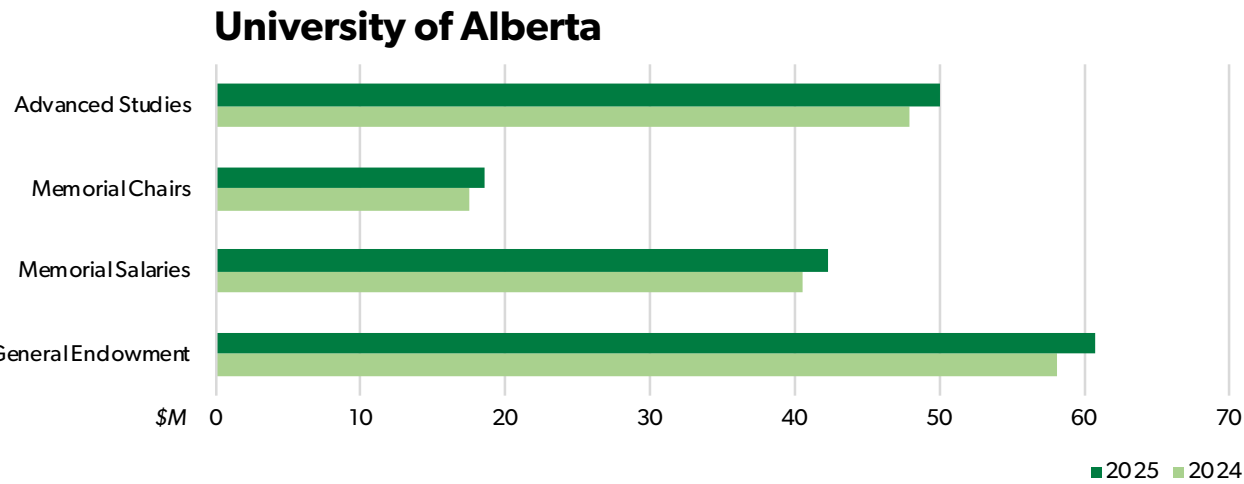
*We extend our sincere appreciation to  
the Killam Institutions and the National  
Research Council Canada for their  
invaluable collaboration in making the  
Killam programs a great success.*

## The Killam Programs





Market Values – Killam Funds



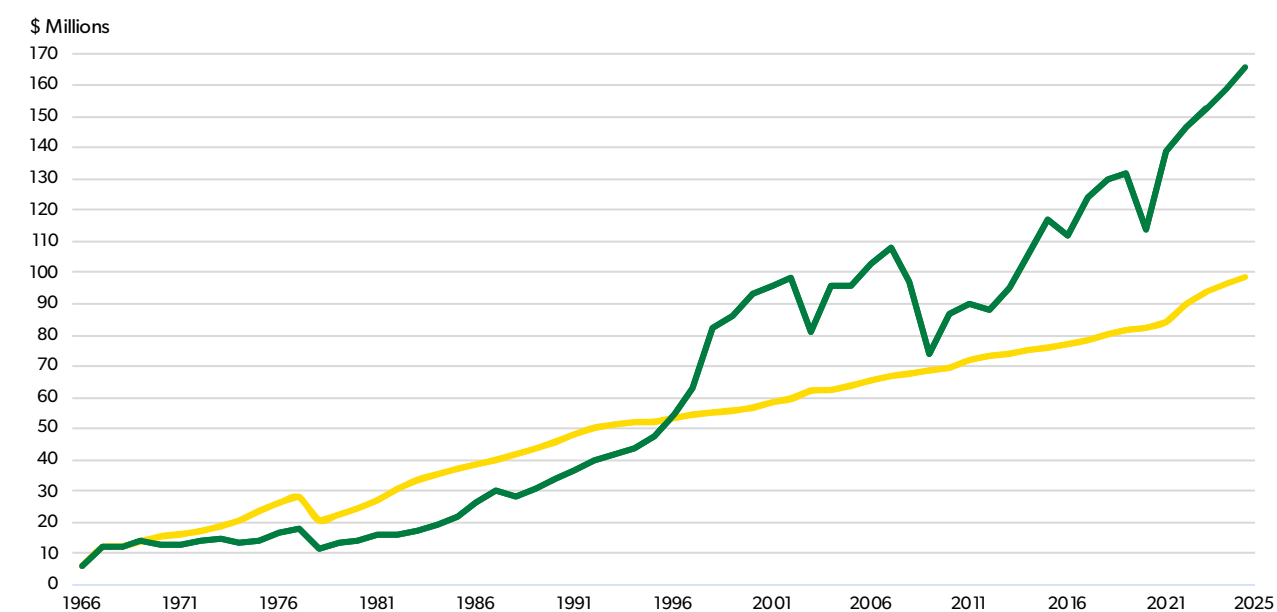


# Killam Endowment – Inflation Adjusted Values

## University of Alberta

■ Inflation Adjusted Value ■ Endowment Market Value

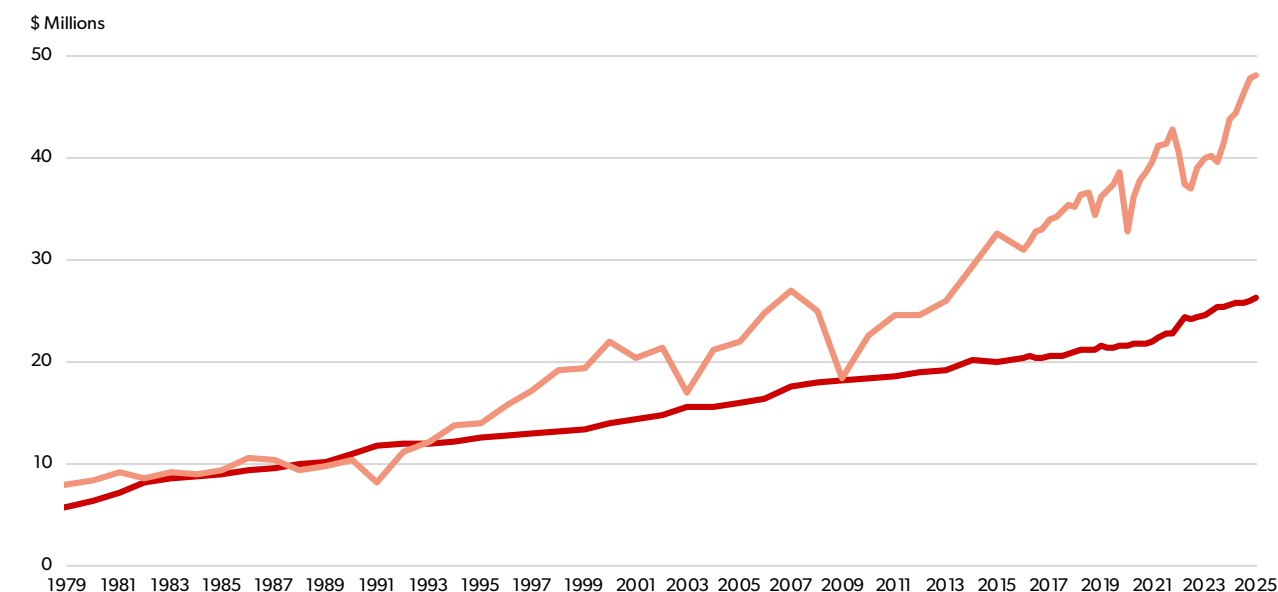
As of March 31, 2025



## University of Calgary

■ Inflation Adjusted Value ■ Endowment Market Value

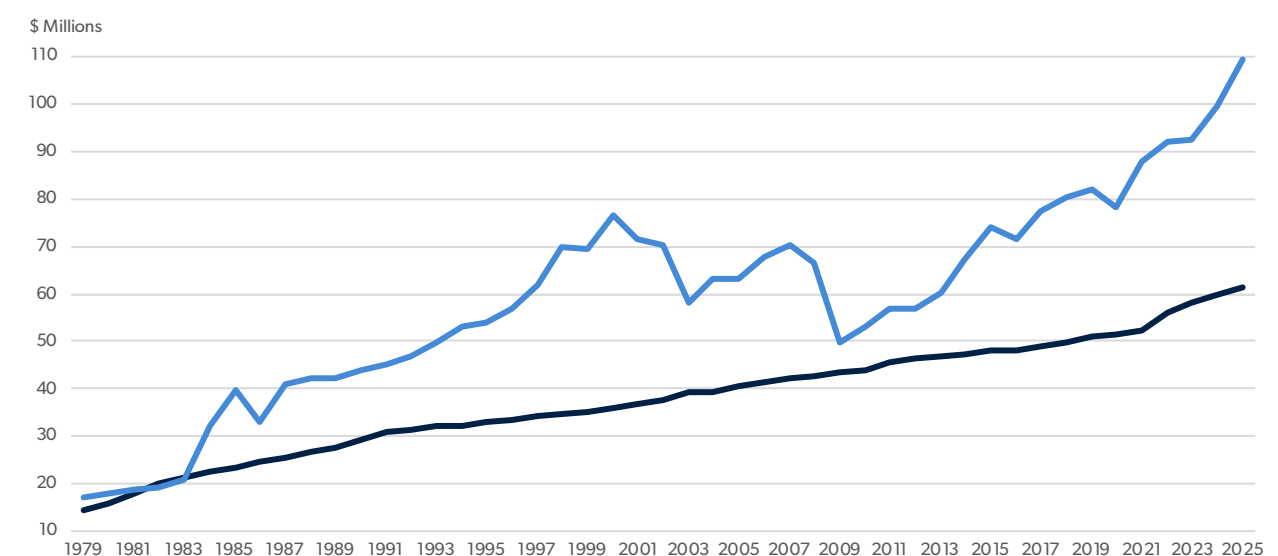
As of March 31, 2025



## The University of British Columbia

■ Inflation Adjusted Value ■ Endowment Market Value

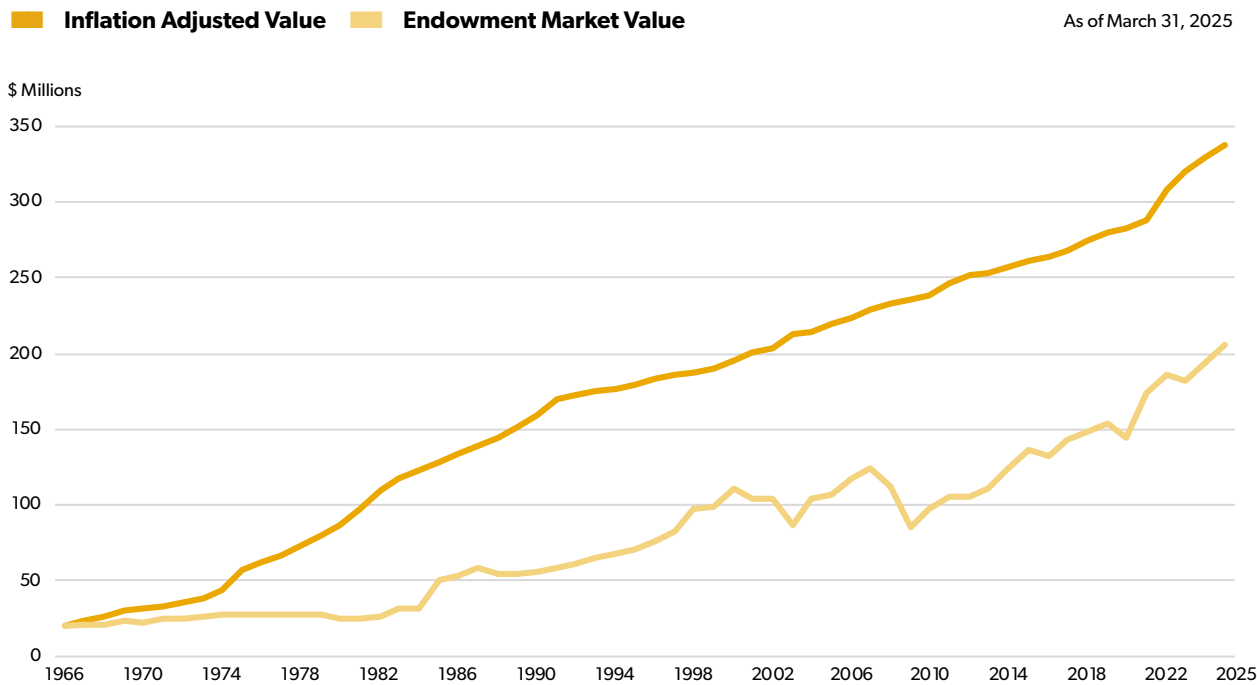
As of March 31, 2025



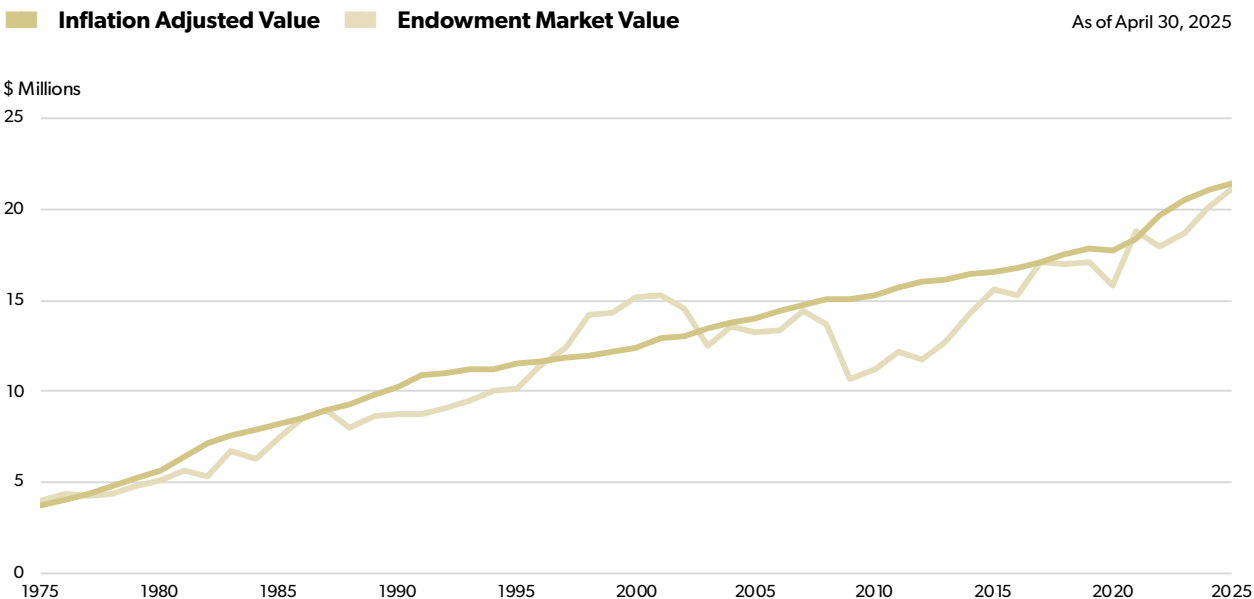


# Killam Endowment – Inflation Adjusted Values

## Dalhousie University



## The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital)



*Distinct highlights of people, research  
projects and accomplishments from 2025.*

## In the News



## People

### Dalhousie University



**Christian Blouin** was appointed Dean of Graduate Studies in July 2025 as Marty Leonard concluded her second term in that role in June. We thank Marty for her support to the Killam program during her numerous years at Dalhousie.



**Cathie O'Toole** was appointed Vice President Finance & Administration effective on October 20, 2025 as Gitta Kulczycki went into retirement. We thank Gitta for her services to Killam Trusts during her time at Dalhousie.

### University of Calgary



**William Ghali** was reappointed Vice-President (Research) for a five-year term effective May 1, 2025.

### The UBC



As of June 16, 2025, **Shannon Hagerman** was appointed Dean and Vice Provost *pro tem*, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Killam Trusts gratefully thanks all individuals and organizations for images they provided.

## Research News

Canadian researchers’ groundbreaking work is actively shaping Canada’s future. Here are some exciting research projects from 2025, randomly selected.

### Innovations to protect this unruly commodity

When it comes to [Canada’s wild blueberries](#), field-ready support and driving innovation in harvesting was needed to stay competitive in the face of climate change and global pressures. Dalhousie’s Atlantic Institute for Digital Agriculture stepped in to help.



### Turning research into solutions

The UofA College of Health Sciences is launching an [AI Health Hub](#) bringing together a diverse, interdisciplinary and collaborative community working towards a future where AI fundamentally transforms healthcare.

### Gut’s role in Parkinson’s

A UCalgary study reveals a prescription drug traditionally used to alleviate Parkinson’s symptoms is being wasted in the small intestine, resulting in reduced efficacy and a reduced benefit for the patients. [A new approach](#): a tiny capsule powered by big ideas.



### More compatible organ donations

A 2019 discovery led to a major step in 2025 toward helping patients get kidney transplants sooner: first successful human transplant of a kidney converted from blood type A to universal type O [using special enzymes](#) developed at the UBC.





### Shifting mindsets on substance use

A leading expert on substance use and social inequities at Dal argues that the [rethinking around these issues](#) in Canada is necessary, as the way society responds to different substances – and the people who use them – is far from equal.

### A SCOTUS decision cites a Canadian philosophy paper

Although it seldom happens, to make its point the Court relied on a UBC professor’s 22-year-old [research paper](#). That paper argued that the meaning of many everyday nouns is shaped by intended function rather than technical definitions or expert consensus.



### Brain training exercises

Researchers at The Neuro show a [brain exercise](#) yielding benefits. A study finds game-like online exercises offset signs of aging in key brain systems for learning and memory – the first of any intervention shown to do so.

### Light, washable, affordable assistive technology

An interdisciplinary U of A team is granted funds to advance the frontier of [assistive technology](#) by developing smartwear that will assist with joint injury repair, posture, balance, arm movements, and even standing and walking.



## Impact of Killam Prize Winners

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div> <div>40<br/>years ago</div> <div>1985</div>  </div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <div> <div>30<br/>years ago</div> <div>1995</div>  </div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <div> <div>20<br/>years ago</div> <div>2005</div>  </div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <div> <div>10<br/>years ago</div> <div>2015</div>  </div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Ralph G. Stanton (1923-2010)</b><br/><b>Natural Sciences</b></p> <p>Main areas of research were in statistics and applied statistics; algebra; mathematical biology; combinatorial design theory, graph theory; and algorithms. Introduced computers to classroom teaching in 1960 and co-op programs in applied mathematics and computer science. Encouraged teaching of computing science and mathematics in high schools.</p> | <p><b>Michel Chrétien</b><br/><b>Health Sciences</b></p> <p>First articulated the prohormone theory, a paradigm later widely confirmed and foundational for modern endocrinology. His prohormone/convertase research has had broad clinical impact, informing therapies and biological understanding in diabetes, obesity, dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis, cancer, opiate use disorders, and Alzheimer's disease.</p> | <p><b>Linda A.M. Hutcheon</b><br/><b>Humanities</b></p> <p>Also received a Killam Research Fellowship in 1986. Known for her influential theories of postmodernism suggesting postmodernism works through parody. Many of her writings are reflected in books she has written and edited on Canada, one being a discussion of postmodern textual practices used by Canadian authors of the late 20th century.</p> | <p><b>Vijay Bhargava</b><br/><b>Engineering</b></p> <p>Practical applications of his research included wireless networks that would support 3D multimedia, gaming, device-to-device communications, e-health, and social networks. His research interests were in the areas of fifth generation (5G) wireless communications and cognitive spectrum access, which are now the norm for wireless networks.</p> |



*We are pleased to introduce the 2025 scholarship, fellowship and other award recipients.*

## 2025 Killam Laureates

**Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship**

|                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mehri Baloochi        | Business PhD                      |
| Carolyn Belanger      | Native Studies                    |
| Andrew Brotto         | Kinesiology, Sport & Recreation   |
| Thayanne G.M. Ciriaco | Civil & Environmental Engineering |
| Matthew Davis         | Mechanical Engineering            |
| Ping Lam Ip           | Sociology                         |
| Ji-Hoon Kang          | Medicine (Surgery)                |
| Dawson Konowalchuk    | Chemistry                         |
| Si Ning Liu           | Pediatrics                        |
| Ehsan Misaghi         | Medical Genetics                  |
| Alexander Murray      | Electrical & Computer Engineering |
| Christopher Picard    | Nursing                           |
| Jad-Julian. Rachid    | Pediatrics                        |
| Mohamed Saleh         | Civil & Environmental Engineering |
| Jaron Xe Yung Tan     | Psychology                        |
| Rosemary Dawn Wambold | Anthropology                      |
| Simone Willmann       | Music                             |
| Harry Wilton-Clark    | Medical Genetics                  |
| .....                 |                                   |

**Dorothy J. Killam Memorial Graduate Prize**

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Matthew Davis         | Mechanical Engineering |
| Ehsan Misaghi         | Medical Genetics       |
| Rosemary Dawn Wambold | Anthropology           |

**Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral New Fellows**

|                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ellen Forget       | English & Film Studies          |
| Azadeh Kordzadeh   | Mechanical Engineering          |
| Wajiha Mehdi       | Political Science               |
| Fallon R. Mitchell | Kinesiology, Sport & Recreation |
| .....              |                                 |

**Dorothy J. Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow Prize**

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Fallon Mitchell | Kinesiology, Sport & Recreation |
| .....           |                                 |

**Killam Accelerator Research Award (2025-2028)**

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Carrie Demmans Epp | Computing Science |
| Anastassia Voroova | Medical Genetics  |
| .....              |                   |

**Killam Annual Professorships**

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mahua Gosh    | Medicine                          |
| Farook Hamzeh | Civil & Environmental Engineering |
| Carla Peck    | Education                         |
| Cheryl Poth   | Education                         |
| .....         |                                   |

**Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring**

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Heather Brown       | Education          |
| Frederick Colbourne | Psychology Science |
| .....               |                    |

**Killam Memorial Chair**

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Valeri P. Frolov | Department of Physics |
|------------------|-----------------------|



## Killam Doctoral Scholarship

|                          |                                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Youssef Al Bouchi        | Geography                          |
| Shabana Ali              | Kinesiology                        |
| Yiwen Chen               | Mathematics                        |
| Connor Durfy             | Chemistry                          |
| Kat Gallant              | Interdisciplinary Studies          |
| Mahdi Ghiasi             | Biomedical Engineering             |
| Zoë Golay                | Chemistry                          |
| Simone Goldberg          | Psychology                         |
| Katherine Herperger      | Physics & Astronomy                |
| Margarita Kapustina      | Neuroscience                       |
| I-Chih (Grace) Kuo       | Experimental Medicine              |
| Lydia Laflamme           | Political Science                  |
| Allana LeBlanc           | Nursing                            |
| Jonathan (Jay) Martiniuk | Food Science                       |
| Yasmine McDonough        | Zoology                            |
| Tamara Mihic             | Pharmaceutical Sciences            |
| Andrés Enrique Montiel   | Psychology                         |
| Yi Nian (Jeffrey) Niu    | Computer Science                   |
| Sean O'Rourke            | Forestry                           |
| Tiffany Price            | Pharmaceutical Sciences            |
| Maria Stephenson         | Genome Science & Technology        |
| Emilie Théberge          | Medical Genetics                   |
| Robert (Robbie) Wright   | Experimental Medicine              |
| Ilena S. Yim             | Oral Biological & Medical Sciences |

## Donald N. Byers Memorial Killam Prize

|           |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Ilena Yim | Oral Biological & Medical Sciences |
|-----------|------------------------------------|

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## Killam Postdoctoral Research New Fellows

|                          |                                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Saeed Ataie              | Chemistry                                    |
| Thomas Blank             | Physics & Astronomy                          |
| Lee Michael Cannon-Brown | Music                                        |
| Dexter Fergie            | History                                      |
| Brian Lerch              | Zoology                                      |
| Limei Lin                | Land & Food System                           |
| Nicholas Lin             | Architecture & Landscape Architecture        |
| Seth McCarthy            | Health & Social Development                  |
| Michaela Pedersen-Mcnab  | Political Science                            |
| Renata Poulton Kamakura  | Forest Resource Development                  |
| Maxine Savage            | Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies |

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## Killam Postdoctoral Fellow Research Prizes

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Michael Asamoah-Boaheng | Emergency Medicine |
| Saeed Ataie             | Chemistry          |

.....

## Killam Accelerator Research Fellowships

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Jeff Clune           | Computer Science       |
| Jean-Thomas Cornelis | Land & Food Systems    |
| Alannah Hallas       | Physics & Astronomy    |
| Govind Kaigala       | Biomedical Engineering |
| Jocelyn Stacey       | Law                    |

**University Killam Professors (2024/25)**

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Isabel Grant | Peter A. Allard School of Law |
| Marco Marra  | Medical Genetics              |
| Jamie Peck   | Geography                     |

.....

**Killam Faculty Research Fellowships**

|                |                                              |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Megan Daniels  | Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies |
| Emily Murphy   | English & Cultural Studies                   |
| Naomi Schwartz | Geography                                    |
| Sharon Stein   | Educational Studies                          |
| Mila Zuo       | Theatre & Film                               |

.....

**Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring**

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sara (Sally) Otto | Zoology                           |
| Sudip Shekhar     | Electrical & Computer Engineering |

**Killam Prize for Research – Faculties: Applied Science, Medicine and Sciences**

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| M. Shahria Alam | Engineering         |
| Tao Huan        | Chemistry           |
| Alison Lister   | Physics & Astronomy |
| Takamasa Momose | Chemistry           |
| Todd Woodward   | Psychiatry          |

.....

**Killam Prize for Research – Faculties: Arts and Humanities**

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alfred Hermida    | Journalism, Writing & Media    |
| Jonathan Ichikawa | Philosophy                     |
| Vin Nardizzi      | English Language & Literatures |
| Daniela Palombo   | Psychology                     |
| Victoria Savalei  | Psychology                     |



## Killam Teaching Prizes 2024/2025

|                       |                                                        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| JP Catungal           | Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice |
| Alison Elliott        | Medical Genetics                                       |
| Naoko Ellis           | Chemical & Biological Eng.                             |
| Charissa Fung         | Zoology                                                |
| Mohamed Gebril        | Oral Health Sciences                                   |
| Katie Lee Bunting     | Occupational Science & Therapy                         |
| Joana Gil-Mohapel     | Medicine (Family Practice)                             |
| Tillie-Louise Hackett | Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics            |
| Kathleen Hall         | Linguistics                                            |
| Jason Hein            | Chemistry                                              |
| Bowen Hui             | Mathematics, Physics and Statistics                    |
| Larry Leung           | Pharmaceutical Sciences                                |
| Simon Lolliot         | Psychology                                             |
| Evan Mauro            | Academic writing, Literature                           |
| Ahmad Mohammadpanah   | Mechanical Engineering                                 |
| Olena Morozova        | Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies           |
| Eva Nichols           | Chemistry                                              |
| Sofia Noori           | Curriculum & Pedagogy                                  |
| Abel Rosado           | Botany                                                 |
| Sima Sajjadiani       | Organizational Behaviour & HR                          |
| Chin Sun              | Zoology                                                |
| Jenna Usprech         | Biomedical Engineering                                 |
| Danielle Wong         | English Language & Literatures                         |

## Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards

|                           |                                                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vishak Nandan Aatresh     | Biomedical Engineering                                     |
| Alexis Bahl               | Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences                               |
| Holly Bergeron-Dumaine    | Music                                                      |
| Kabir Bhalla              | Microbiology & Immunology                                  |
| Melike Karaca Bulut       | Forest Resources Management                                |
| Kenny Chiu                | Statistics                                                 |
| Mengyang (Billy) Guo      | Accounting & Information Systems                           |
| Gizem Guryil              | Educational & Counselling Psychology and Special Education |
| Layal Jbara               | Chemical & Biological Engineering                          |
| Vanessa Johnson           | Dentistry                                                  |
| Ali Khodaei Tehrani       | Chemical & Biological Engineering                          |
| Stuart Knight             | Pharmaceutical Sciences                                    |
| Lexis Ly                  | Land and Food Systems                                      |
| Caleb Marshall            | Mathematics                                                |
| Johanna Mickelson         | Psychology                                                 |
| Yuveshen Moorooogen       | Mathematics                                                |
| Robyn Peers               | English Language & Literatures                             |
| Carrie Peters             | Kinesiology                                                |
| Rodrigo A. Sierra Rosales | Population & Public Health                                 |

## Izaak Walton Killam Doctoral Scholarship

|                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mohammed Adnan           | Electrical & Computer Engineering |
| Silvia Carboni           | Anthropology                      |
| Brendan Carswell         | Biological Sciences               |
| Jay Patrick Cavanagh     | Sociology                         |
| Alexander Cuncannon      | Nursing                           |
| Fatemeh Morshedi Dehaghi | Chemical & Petroleum Engineering  |
| Selena Fu                | Psychology                        |
| Syed Kazim Haider        | Biomedical Engineering            |
| Jill Hunter Hoselton     | Social Work                       |
| Megan Edythe Kinzel      | Immunology                        |
| Queenie Kwan Wing Li     | Clinical Psychology               |
| Cara Nania               | Educational Psychology            |
| Serhat Sevgen            | Geosciences                       |
| Jenna A.P. Sim           | Kinesiology                       |
| Abbygale G. Swadling     | Physics & Astronomy               |
| Jasmine Sein Mun Veitch  | Veterinary Medical Sciences       |

## The Donald N. Byers Memorial Killam Prize

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Alexander Cuncannon | Nursing |
|---------------------|---------|

## Killam Postdoctoral New Fellow

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Katarzyna Anna Dudek | Cumming School of Medicine |
|----------------------|----------------------------|

## Killam Visiting Scholar

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Jean-François Biasse | Computer Science |
|----------------------|------------------|

## Killam Memorial Chairs (2021-2026)

|                       |                                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Senior Chair          | Kathy McCoy, Physiology & Pharmacology |
| Emerging Leader Chair | Melanie Noel, Psychology               |

## Killam Research & Teaching Awards

|                       |                                         |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Hadis Karimipour      | Emerging Research Leader Award (NSERC)  | Electrical & Software Eng.  |
| Jack Lucas            | Emerging Research Leader Award (SSHRC)  | Political Science           |
| Pamela Roach          | Emerging Research Leader Award (CIHR)   | Family Medicine             |
| Peter Tieleman        | Research Excellence Award               | Biological Sciences         |
| Fabiola Aparicio-Ting | McCaig-Killam Teaching Award            | Community Health Sciences   |
| Suzette Mayr          | Graduate Supervision & Mentorship Award | English                     |
| Houston Peschl        | Undergraduate Mentorship Award          | Haskayne School of Business |

## Killam Annual Professor Awards

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Cheryl Barnabe | CSM - Medicine              |
| Joern Davidsen | Physics & Astronomy         |
| Susan Kutz     | Veterinary Medicine         |
| Nick Turner    | Haskayne School of Business |
| Suzanne Tough  | CSM – Pediatrics            |



## Killam Predoctoral New Scholars (Masters)

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Faith Andy             | Health Administration |
| Benjamin Bush Anderson | English               |
| Anna Gleason           | Biology               |
| Kai Zuo                | Agriculture           |

## Killam Predoctoral New Scholars (Phd)

|                         |                                         |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Cameron R. Albright     | Nursing                                 |
| Marissa Carroll         | English                                 |
| Christine K. Clarke     | Biology                                 |
| Molly Courish           | Health                                  |
| Ahmad Hameed            | Interdisciplinary PhD                   |
| Koushika Kumaresan      | Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences |
| Kate Leslie             | Chemistry                               |
| Pedro Sartori Locatelli | Electrical Engineering                  |
| Devdatta Mukherjee      | Law                                     |
| Peter Robertson         | Pathology                               |
| Xijie Zeng              | Computer Science                        |

## George Cooper Killam Prize

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Anna Gleason       | Biology |
| Devdatta Mukherjee | Law     |

## Killam Postgraduate Medical Scholarships

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Takhliq Amir          | Cardiac Surgery   |
| Joel Bergman          | Dermatology       |
| Todd Dow              | Plastic Surgery   |
| Ayla Raabis           | Internal Medicine |
| Jenna Smith-Forrester | Neurosurgery      |
| Katherine Tourigny    | Neurosurgery      |

## Killam Postdoctoral New Fellows

|                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sarah Colpitts          | Microbiology & Immunology         |
| Kieran Cox              | Biology                           |
| Noah Fry                | Political Science                 |
| Elson Ian Nyl E. Galang | Resource & Environmental Studies  |
| Elena Koning            | Psychiatry Research               |
| Cameron Krulewski       | Mathematics & Statistics          |
| Fidelia Orji            | Computer Science                  |
| Sucharita Sen           | International Development Studies |

## Faculty of Science Killam Professor

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Joseph (Joe) Bielawski | Mathematical Sciences |
| Erin Johnson           | Chemistry             |
| Mevlude Akbulut-Yuksel | Economics             |

## Faculty of Science Killam Prize

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Theo Johnson-Freyd | Mathematics & Statistics |
|--------------------|--------------------------|

## Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Chairs (2024-2029)

|               |                             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Frank Rudzicz | Faculty of Computer Science |
|---------------|-----------------------------|

## Killam Memorial Research Chairs (2021-2026)

|                      |                                                  |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Mita Dasog           | Emerging Researcher, Dept. of Chemistry          |
| Jeanna Parsons Leigh | Early Career Researcher, School of Health Admin. |
| Kevin Plucknett      | Faculty of Engineering                           |

**2022-2027 Killam Scholars – Neurological Sciences**

Gary Armstrong  
Julien Doyon  
Thomas Durcan  
Ziv Gan-Or  
Maiya Geddes  
Yasser Iturria Medina  
Catherine Legault  
Jean-Baptiste Poline  
David Rudko  
Nathan Spreng  
Jo Anne Stratton  
Christine Tardif

.....

**Dorothy J. Killam Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery**

Brenda Milner (who celebrated her 107th birthday - now retired)

.....

**Izaak Walton Killam Chair**

Eric Shoubridge

.....

**2025 Killam Fellow Prize**

Michael Luo

**Killam Seminar Series**

The Neuro’s [Killam Seminar Series](#) invites outstanding guest speakers from Canadian cities and also from the United States and Europe. Seminars are held in-person or virtually depending on the speaker’s preference.





## National Killam Program | Killam Prize

The **Killam Prizes** are awarded to active Canadian scholars who have distinguished themselves through sustained research excellence, making a significant impact in their respective fields in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, health sciences, and engineering. The Killam Prize is valued at \$100,000 and is normally awarded each year in each of the five disciplines.

Here are the 2025 recipients of a Killam Prize:

Since their inception, the Killam Prizes have been awarded to 178 Canadian researchers.



**Peter Zandstra**  
**Engineering**  
**The University of British Columbia**

Globally recognized leader in cell therapy bioprocess engineering, with pioneering contributions shaping the future of regenerative medicine and immunotherapy. His work has deepened our understanding of stem cell biology.



**David Dyzenhaus**  
**Social sciences**  
**University of Toronto**

World's foremost scholar of the role of the rule of law in societies under stress. The rule of law governs how we relate to each other and to the state. It is one of the foundations of democracy but is now under threat worldwide.



**Christina Sharpe**  
**Humanities**  
**York University**

Writing and thinking from Canada, she has energized Black Studies research in Canada and internationally. Her work is concerned with black life, slavery and its afterlives and sits at the apex of research and writing on black peoples living in diaspora.



**René Doyon**  
**Natural Sciences**  
**Université de Montréal**

Creates ultra-specialized instruments used in the study of exoplanets, stars and brown dwarfs, leading to transformative discoveries. Has developed cutting-edge instruments for detecting and characterizing planets located outside our solar system.



**Marco Marra**  
**Health Sciences**  
**The University of British Columbia**

Has driven the expansion of genomics in Canada. Co-leads a program demonstrating the use of whole genome and transcriptome sequencing that can influence clinical treatment decision making to benefit cancer patients and their families.



## National Killam Program | Dorothy Killam Fellowship

The [Dorothy Killam Fellowships](#) provide support to scholars of exceptional ability by granting them time to pursue research projects of broad significance and widespread interest within the disciplines of the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, health sciences, engineering or studies linking any of these disciplines. The fellowships are valued at \$80,000 CAD per year for a total of up to \$160,000 for two years.

Since their inception, these fellowships have been awarded to 608 researchers.

Here are the 2025 recipients of a Dorothy Killam Fellowship (from left to right):

**Simon Caron-Huot** (McGillU), **Laura Horak** (CarletonU), **Jennifer Bruin** (CarletonU), **Heather Aldersey** (Queen'sU), **Leyla Soleymani** (McMasterU), **Jeffrey Ansloos** (UofT), **David Leitch** (UofVictoria), **Mark Schmidt** (UBC)



Photos credit for the 2025 National Killam Program events: National Killam Program and Ira Kotliar.





## National Killam Program | Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship

The [Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships](#) were launched on April 2, 2024 as part of the 2025 National Killam Program cycle in honour of Dr. Paul Corkum's outstanding contributions to research in Canada.

The Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships will:

- Support advanced study and research excellence.
- Create opportunities for mid-to-late career Canadian and international scholars to collaborate with NRC researchers.
- Provide opportunities for external scholars to have access to the NRC's unique infrastructure and resources, and collaborate with an NRC researcher.

Here is the first cohort of recipients of a Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship in 2025:

**Linda Nazar** (U of Waterloo) and **Yaser Abu-Lebdeh** (NRC)



**Adam Bergren** (NRC) with Dr Corkum



**Andrew Tanentzap** (Trent U) with Dr Corkum





## National Killam Program | 2025 Celebration of Excellence

The 2025 Killam Prize winners, the Dorothy Killam Fellows and the Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellows were celebrated in November during a special event. We wish to express our most sincere thanks to:

**Dr. Paul Corkum** for his opening address at the event.



**Anthony Morgan**, co-host of CBC's *The Nature of Things* for hosting the event and for his interviews with the Killam Prize winners.



**Universities Canada**, represented by **Gabriel Miller**, President and CEO, for their sponsorship of the event.





## Killam Conversation

In the fall of 2024, the National Killam Program and the Killam Trusts held the inaugural Killam Conversation at Massey College in Toronto and later released the [Killam Conversation – Building Canada’s AI future: A Call to Action](#).

On November 5, 2025, they held their second Killam Conversation: *The Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enabling Canadian Prosperity*. The event was chaired by Elissa Strome, Executive Director of the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy at the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

Once again, the Conversation convened key thought leaders across a variety of disciplines to share ideas, insights and expertise on a conversation of national importance.

The roundtable discussions were led by **Elissa Strome**; **Janice Stein**, Founding Director of the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto; **Glenda Crisp**, President and CEO, Vector Institute; and **Anthony Morgan**, co-host of CBC’s *The Nature of Things*.



## Stay connected.

Killam Laureates, we want to hear from you.

Do you have an important accomplishment we can share on our social media? If so, remember to tag us #KillamTrusts.

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](mailto:administrator@killamlaureates.ca)

And remember to follow us on social media.    

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