

A community doing much together



Your investment in students is growing

868
awards to
537
students

701 awards,
492 students in 2018-19

\$1,086,386
disbursed to
students

\$843,517 in 2018-19

63
new awards
created

32 new awards in 2018-19

“Thanks to The Aboriginal Emergency Bursary, I no longer have to worry about the cost of my application into the Licensed Practical Nursing program. It was a scary moment when I had to choose between paying for my bills or investing into my future career. I had never thought that I would live through a pandemic and request emergency financial assistance. I would like to sincerely thank Okanagan College for helping me through this unimaginable time. I like to think that once I graduate and start working as a nurse, I can help give back to my community as they have given to me.”

~ **Samantha Lougheed**



Donor support boosts recruitment

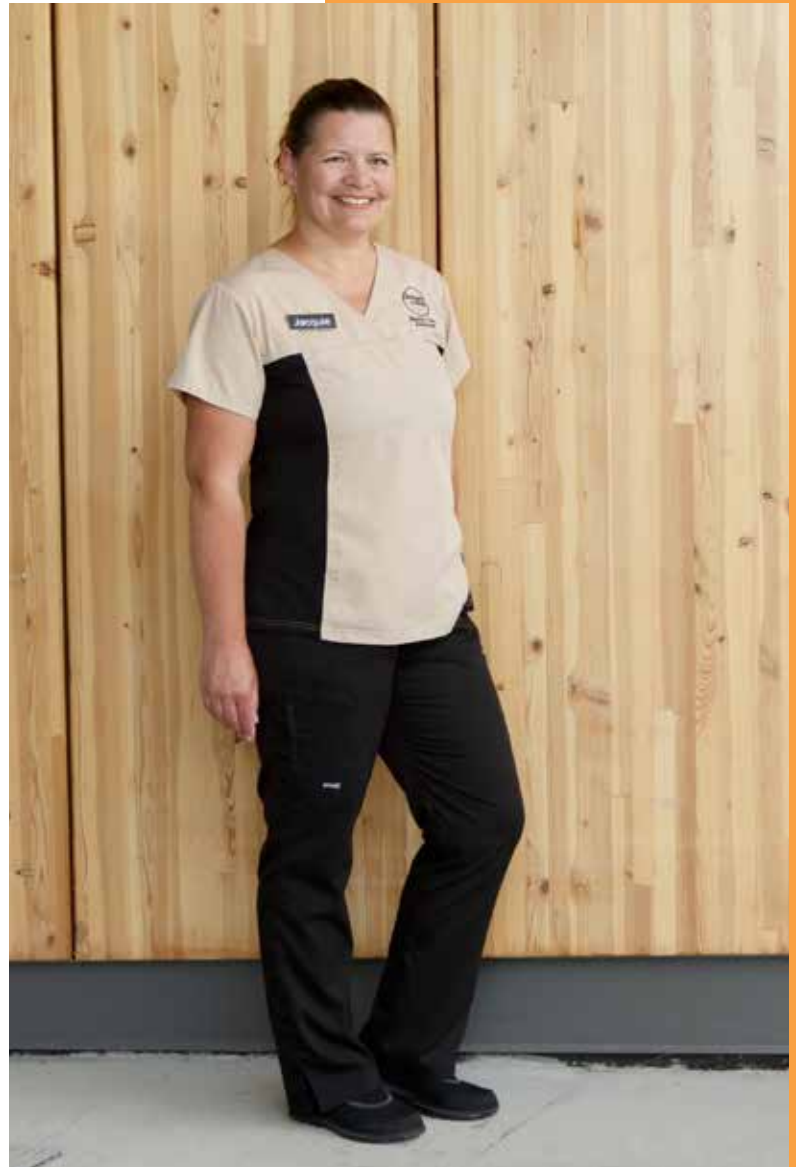
Your support helps the College continue to attract students and provide a world-class education. For the 15th year, Okanagan College has successfully met government-established full time equivalent domestic enrolment targets, and has experienced significant increases in international student enrolment.

Setting her sights on seniors care

After caring for her parents when they were palliative, Jacquie Thom quit her job as an employment counsellor and returned to school at age 51 to become a Health Care Assistant and fulfil her passion to care for the elderly.

Jacquie was born with the eye condition coloboma and is legally blind. Jacquie is nearsighted and uses her other senses including feel, smell and hearing to assist her when needed.

One in four Canadians will develop irreversible vision loss by age 75, a fact Jacquie says she can meet with empathy and experience, helping seniors adjust to their new reality.



With your help, OC creates compelling community benefits

A recent Economic Impact Report shows that Okanagan College is creating valuable benefits for society. Based on data from the 2018-19 year, the impact report shows:

Altogether, the social benefits of OC equal a present value of \$1.4 billion. These benefits include \$1.4 billion in added income through students' increased lifetime earnings and increased business output, as well as \$19.9 million in social savings related to health, crime and income assistance in British Columbia.

Year in review

Income

Total revenue
\$4,336,145



Student support
\$2,073,946



Program support
\$241,517



Capital projects
\$1,876,583



Investment
and other income
\$144,099



Expenses

Total expenses
\$1,741,185



Student support
\$1,086,396



Program support
\$363,253



Capital projects
\$20,233



Fundraising
and other expenses
\$271,303



Famous plane gets new wings

Robert Foord, along with family members, donated Tom Foord's plane to the College's Aircraft Maintenance Technician (AMT) program in July 2019.

Tom was the co-founder of Kal Tire, which grew from a small tire shop in Vernon to an international business.

Robert, along with another long-time donor Don Turri, have been chosen by the College as 2020 Honorary Fellows for their contributions to education and community.

Kofoed family give to nurses

Jack Kofoed and his children Jacqueline, Leah, Jillian and Jeremy gave \$60,000 to the Our Students, Your Health campaign to help complete construction on a new Health Sciences Centre at Okanagan College's Kelowna campus.

Jack's wife Leona was a nurse. She passed away in 2017, and this gift recognizes her life's work and the special care she received during her final days, according to her family.



Note: Net revenue is designated for future capital and other projects.

The compounding effects of your giving

Award winner is teaching young people to crunch numbers

Erum Ahmad is creating an opportunity for Vernon high school students to improve their financial literacy skills, an experience she wished she had during grade school.

The fourth-year Okanagan College Vernon Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting) student remembers being disappointed when she learned her high school didn't offer any accounting classes. So Erum took it upon herself to create and teach a program to Clarence Fulton Secondary students in Vernon this past year.

Erum was able to teach students in Grades 11 and 12 how to do their taxes, how to get student loans, understanding interest and credit card debt, how to read financial statements and their rights as an employee.

According to Erum, the awards she's received from Okanagan College are allowing her to give back while pursuing her passion.

“Receiving awards is amazing. It has allowed me to not worry about working as much as I usually would. I was able to work towards offering this financial literacy course, which is helping the youth of our community, and that really feels full circle for me.”

I was able to give back because I also received support.”

Erum says her education is helping her open new doors, including an internship this summer at BDO as a staff accountant. While the change to online learning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has had challenges, Erum says there have been some silver linings. She's honed her ability to learn independently, and has surprised herself by working through files without standard training.

The Co-President of the Okanagan College Accounting Club Vernon shares that awards from donors mean much more than financial support, and she gets emotional when receiving an award.



“It's not just the money, it's the fact that someone is there saying ‘I've got your back, and I'm helping you become a better person.’”

To me, an award says ‘Thank you for being you and continue being you’ and that is best feeling you could ever have.”

~ Erum Ahmad

A landmark gift to health

The Stober Foundation is committing \$500,000 over the next five years to support the development of a state-of-the-art Health Sciences Centre at Okanagan College's Kelowna campus.

The new Health Sciences Centre will serve as a regional training hub for the Southern Interior and will educate eight critical health and social care professions. Graduates will go on to provide care in the region's hospitals, long-term care facilities, pharmacies, rehabilitation settings, dental clinics and mental health services.

The Stober Foundation gift will specifically support the completion of the Centre's Health Lab, where nurses and Health Care Assistants will be trained.

“This gift is a testament to the leadership and vision of the Stober family and will help us complete a world-class facility which our students and community deserve, as we continue to deliver the vital training needed to shore up our health care sector.”

Okanagan College has been educating health care professionals since the early 1960s. Our graduates – and many of our current students – are serving on the frontlines during this public health crisis. We are exceptionally proud of all of them, and of the quality of education they received.”

~ Jim Hamilton
Okanagan College President



Keith Z. Brewster, with Linda and Ken Stober

“This is a strategic investment in our community's health and well-being. COVID-19 continues to highlight the dedication and commitment of all those on the frontlines in our community, specifically health care professionals. We are incredibly honoured and proud to be able to support the education of those who will care for our community, when we need it most.”

~ Keith Z. Brewster
Stober Foundation Executive Director



With more than 10,000 skilled worker vacancies expected in the Thompson Okanagan's hospitals and care homes in the next 10 years, these students will be crucial to addressing the looming skills gap.

“I've seen first-hand the contribution of Okanagan College's graduates to our community's hospitals and health care settings.

Clearly, the Stober family recognizes the importance of community support for the College and the development of facilities and programs that will serve our health needs in the years to come.”

Maxine DeHart
Our Students, Your Health
Campaign Ambassador

Award fund to support 100 students

In recognition of this leadership gift, Okanagan College Foundation is establishing a \$250,000 award fund in honour of the Stober family. The awards will provide vital financial support for 100 students over a period of five years. The awards will help students achieve their educational goals and progress to careers in critical sectors of our region's economy including health, business and trades.

Together we can do so much

This year's theme for our Annual Report comes from a famous Helen Keller quote *“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”* The quote resonates for us as we celebrate what we've achieved this year thanks to our diverse Okanagan College community, and as we buttress ourselves for what may lie ahead.

COVID-19 is creating a challenging context for all fundraising, and yet the pandemic reminds us just how important well-trained health care professionals are for ourselves, our loved ones and our entire community.

Philanthropic investment in our new Health Sciences Centre will have a far-reaching impact for generations to come.

The pandemic poses new challenges for public health but the health care issues we are familiar with haven't gone away. With an aging population and already-critical skills shortages, this new regional training hub will help us attract and retain new talent to meet our communities' future health care needs – whatever they may be.

We are thankful to our generous donors for helping us reach the halfway mark of our \$5-million Our Students, Your Health campaign goal. Many donors had personal reasons for giving, from honouring loved ones who received excellent care to recognizing the essential role these caregivers play.

We're preparing to open the new Health Sciences Centre this fall, a world-class facility that will attract students from across B.C. While the building will open, our fundraising efforts will continue as we still need to achieve our fundraising goal for equipment and to support the capital costs of the building.

If you're in a position to support this cause, please consider giving to the education of health care professionals. This is a gift that will safeguard our community's health and impact generations to come.



Gladys Fraser
Chair
Okanagan College Foundation



Helen Jackman
Executive Director
Okanagan College Foundation

Your support creates community for student

Pandemic teaches importance of caring for one another



Eric Pruijs was in the first month of his Aircraft Maintenance Technician (AMT) program when COVID-19 resulted in classes being cancelled temporarily and quickly moved online.

“I felt alone when this was happening,” recalls Eric, who had saved up to take the program but still planned on working part-time to get by.

“I was worried about my finances and how it was going to work out. I needed to find ways to support myself.”

Eric considered leaving the program to focus on finding work full-time. However, an emergency bursary helped Eric focus on completing his program.

“It helped pay for my rent and groceries. Instead of going back to work I was able to focus on my studies,” says Eric. *“It really helped me, and gave me time to study. I can see it in my grades.”*

COVID-19 also meant he couldn't see his mother, who lives in a long-term care home. Despite the challenges, Eric says the experience taught him that we are one community, and that if we are generous with one another, we can help each other accomplish our goals.

“If we're all looking out for each other, we will get through COVID-19,” says the 22-year-old.

“When I received the emergency bursary, it gave me a message to pay it forward. To give a scholarship. I would like to do something like that because of how much it helped me and how much confidence it gave me and I would like to do that for someone else.”

~ Eric Pruijs

A quarter century of giving

Last year during our Student Award ceremonies we were able to publicly thank donors who have been giving to the Okanagan College Foundation for more than 25 years. The list includes individuals, non-profits and service clubs as well as many businesses. We are grateful to having such loyal donors, but also curious about what keeps them giving. We followed up with several of these donors to learn why they started giving, and what keeps them engaged for more than two decades.



Dr. Jayne Brooks
former Dean of Business,
Okanagan College

*Distinguished Service Award
Recipient 2020*

*“I give because Okanagan
College gave me my start. The
College set me on a path that*

led to an incredible lifetime career.

I barely made it through high school but there was something about the College and the faculty that got me engaged. I became interested in business and accounting and suddenly I had top marks and was winning awards.

I was working full-time while going to college and I remember what those awards meant to me. They provided recognition, motivation and financial support. They made a difference.

I went on to get my masters and PhD. When I returned to the College as a professor in the business department, I saw first-hand the financial need of students, many who were working full- or part-time jobs, and some who were single parents. I was motivated to give because of the financial need of students.

When I became the Dean of Business I really learned what our students and graduates meant to our business community. The employers were very grateful to have qualified employees working with them in their companies.

What I love about the College is that it provides relevant and practical education. It is also accessible to everyone, and it doesn't matter if you dropped out of high school or if you already have a degree, a wide array of programs from trades to health care to business are available.”



Dr. Malcolm Paterson
President, Rotary Club of
Penticton Sunrise

*“Our members believe that our
nation's greatest natural resource
is our youth, and we're firmly
committed to supporting them.*

We started an annual student award in 1995 and now provide three annual awards in business, sustainable construction and dental assistant training. We fundraise for these awards annually and our members love attending events and meeting with the awardees. Supporting the College fits so nicely with three of Rotary's areas of focus: education, economic and community development and supporting the environment. We are both delighted and honoured to be involved with Okanagan College.”



Nick Arkle
Gorman Group CEO
*Distinguished Alumni Award
Recipient 2007*

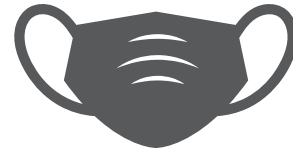
*“We give because we're part of
the community. The founders
of Gorman Brothers and now
the fourth generation living here have a strong
connection to the valley and we operate very
much in the same region the College covers,
from Revelstoke to Salmon Arm and Kelowna.
We recently set up a nursing award. It feels
even more essential during this pandemic.
Institutions like the College grow with the
community but they also play a huge role in
helping the community grow: economically
and socially. OC has had a huge impact on
the valley, and we're pleased to support a
community-building organization.”*



A quick shift

Faced with the rapid shift to online learning in March, College employees, faculty and instructors were part of a massive undertaking to transition approximately 90 per cent of courses online. The IT department and Learning and Applied Research were instrumental in setting up systems for virtual learning and training the majority of staff on new teaching and learning strategies, as well as ensuring everyone had the necessary technology to access their programs.

Moving forward, we estimate 10 per cent of students won't have the technology to access online learning. The Foundation is creating a fund to support technology needs of students. For more information, contact our office.



Sewing safety

A group of Therapist Assistant students decided to put the sewing skills they learned for Occupational Therapy to work during the lockdown. The group of five sewed hundreds of masks to donate to long-term care homes and community groups.

Stories of

While the true impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was felt after the reporting period for this annual report, it's our new, encompassing reality. We would be remiss not to remark on the incredible impact COVID-19 has had on students and the College community – and the incredible response it elicited.

And yet, the pandemic is far from over. We are finding our way through this together. We've gotten through the first phase, and are using these lessons to ensure a world-class learning experience, albeit one that will look and feel different, as we



OC Serves UP

A new initiative on the Kelowna campus is training future chefs while providing healthy and nutritious meals to students who are struggling financially. With OC's restaurants and cafeteria closed for the time being, culinary students are not able to cook for people on campus. With the support of RBC Royal Bank of Canada, the Okanagan College Students' Union (OCSU), Sysco and GFS the culinary students are instead helping fellow students in need by creating 50 meals a day free of charge.

The OC Foundation is seeking more support for this student meal delivery program. Contact us if you'd like to learn more.



Student entrepreneurs pivot

The closure of elementary schools meant that the distribution model for FruitSnaps, a healthy apple chip for children facing food insecurity, would no longer work. The OC Enactus team behind FruitSnaps quickly forged new community partnerships across the valley to ensure children in need could access the snacks.



Student support

Donors and the College contributed to an Emergency Bursary fund to help students when the pandemic struck and businesses were mostly closed.

Over \$150,000 in additional financial support was made available and disbursed to students in the first half of 2020 to assist them in making it to the end of their study period.



Alumni assist

When businesses were mostly closed, alumni of the Therapist Assistant Diploma program were instrumental in connecting students with people in need of online assessments or treatments, helping students get their much-needed clinical hours in order to graduate.

r e s i l i e n c e

move into the 2021 academic year. Whether it is in the physical presence of students and employees on our four campuses, or in the manner of delivery and assessment of our educational offerings, the College experience is changing for the interim.

Through this process, we are grateful to you and our entire community. While this pandemic is ongoing, we celebrate the resilience and strengths that are helping the College to continue transforming lives and communities – from a distance.



Haircuts for Health Care

Community members facing months without a haircut pledged to give themselves home haircuts while raising funds for our new Health Sciences Centre. More than 400 people donated to the various campaigns raising \$44,000. Kelowna Mayor Colin Basran and Westbank First Nation Chief Christopher Derickson shaved their heads after raising more than \$10,000 each.



Student nurses advocate

In March 2020, the College was forced to postpone LPN students' preceptorships – the final stage of their practical training – out of concern for their safety.

The students advocated to Interior Health and the College that they should be able to finish their preceptorships in order to graduate and help their fellow nurses in the field. Once Interior Health deemed it was safe for them, all 28 LPN students chose to complete their preceptorships.



Financial prudence

While markets have been volatile as a result of the pandemic, the OC Foundation was able to approve a disbursement for its endowed student award funds of 3.5 per cent in 2020-21. A reserve fund equal to the awards allocation will be set aside for future years should the market conditions continue to prove challenging.

Thank you for supporting students



Okanagan College Foundation

Phone: 250-762-5445, ext. 4773

Toll-free: 1-888-650-6968

Email: foundation@okanagan.bc.ca

okanagancollegefoundation.ca

Charitable registration tax number
86248 8194 RR001

