

IMPACT



2020 Donor Report

RRU alumna Samra Shiekh (right), 2019 Changing Lives Award recipient, helping orphans in Sarajevo, Bosnia to continue their education.

Caring. Creative. Courageous.

As we go to press, Covid-19 has changed so many things about our daily lives, yet the core values of our community shine through despite these challenges. With your help, our goals to connect with each other, gain new understanding and use what we learn in our workplaces, communities, environment and economies are being realized every day.

Four short pages can't begin to share all the ways your gifts have helped people at Royal Roads to make a difference, but we're proud to share this snapshot with you and introduce our new strategic vision for Royal Roads' next 25 years.

Your gifts are inspiring people with the courage to transform the world, to step up and to rise up.

Thank you.

Welcome! Hay'sxw'qa' si'em!

Royal Roads University is located on the traditional lands of the Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and Lekwungen (Songhees) families. It is with gratitude that we learn and work here, where the past, present and future come together.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Investment performance is an essential part of how we steward your gifts and plan for their future.

As of March 5, 2020, we no longer hold investments in fossil fuel, mining or pipeline industries. These proceeds have been reinvested broadly in consumer discretionary, consumer staples, banking institutions and utility companies. We will continue to evaluate all investments against environmental, social and governance metrics in order to maintain our ethical and sustainability commitments as we manage risk and take advantage of market opportunities.

The value of the endowment on March 31, 2020 was \$9.6 million.

The fund's 1-year, 5-year, 10-year actual returns for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 were (3.67%), 2.25% and 4.29% respectively. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the returns did not exceed our long-term return goal of 4.5%; however, our investments have experienced a recovery in 2020/21. By mid-May 2020, the fund's 1-year, 5-year, 10-year actual returns were 8.25%, 5.40% and 5.47%, respectively.

Our full financial reports, strategic plans and other performance information can be found on our website: royalroads.ca/about/plans-reports. Please let us know if you have any questions.



Leading The Way

PRESIDENT PHILIP STEENKAMP ON ROYAL ROADS' NEXT 25 YEARS

In this anniversary year, the time is right to renew our vision. I'm very excited to be announcing our new strategic vision to the community and to share the heart of it with you here. Our vision and its associated values, goals and actions will guide the development of our learning, teaching and research for the next 25 years.

The vision is simple and bold: **inspiring people with the courage to transform the world.**

Our world is changing rapidly in nearly every sphere of life. And there's our most pressing challenge: the climate crisis, an existential threat around the world. Addressing it and, increasingly, adapting to it, demands coordinated action at every level from the personal to the global. And all this is set against a backdrop of shifting economies, rising populism, civil unrest, mass migration and devastating pandemics.

These extraordinary times call for transformational leaders who can step up and tackle significant challenges.

Royal Roads University aims to be the university of choice for these leaders. A university facing, and focused on, the future. Asking not just "what's next" but what should be next. How we make change – those key interventions where our expertise has leverage, often in multiple spheres – and how we can journey together toward a future that is prosperous, sustainable and just.

These remarkable leaders need your support, encouragement and recognition. Together we demonstrate how a university with courage at its core creates leaders, again and again, who truly change the world. ■

– President Philip Steenkamp

Visit royalroads.ca to learn more about our strategic vision, Royal Roads 2045 Learning for Life.

There Is Always Something We Can Do

It is natural to feel overwhelmed, and even powerless, in the face of monumental challenges like climate change, growing inequality, racial injustice and the pandemic. And yet there is always something we can do.

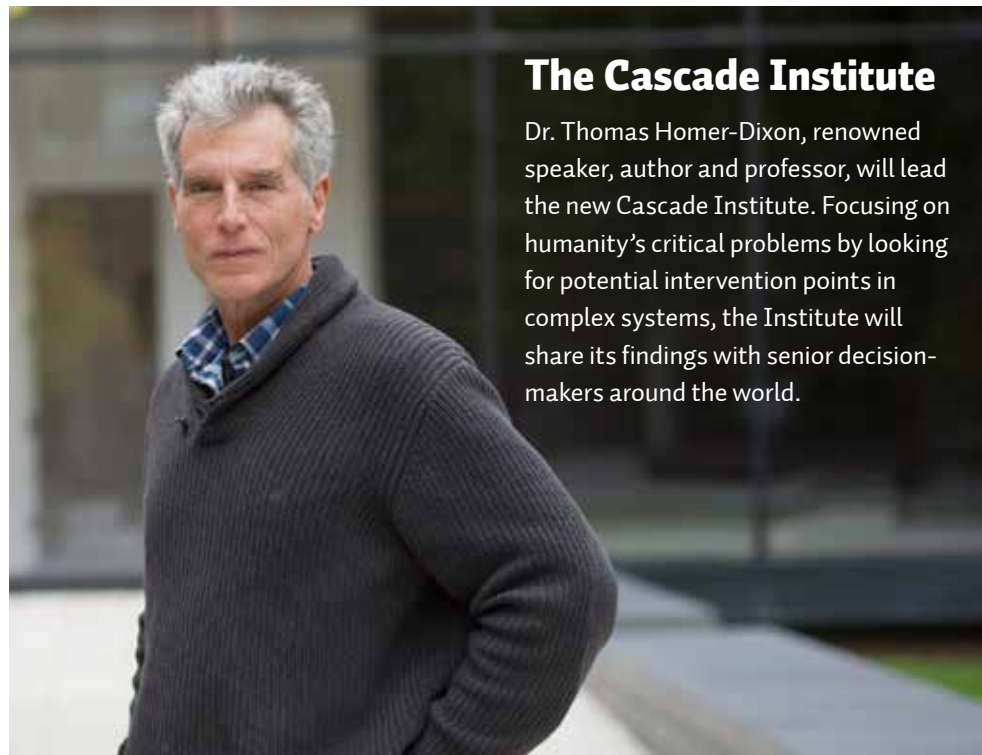
We recently launched our Changemakers Speaker Series with Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, one of the world's leading complex system scientists and the founding director of the Cascade Institute here at Royal Roads.

He started by speaking about his new book, *Commanding Hope: The Power We have To Renew A World in Peril*.

While Dr. Homer-Dixon is very clear about the scale of the challenges we are facing, he believes strongly in the power of hope to mobilize individuals and societies to create change for a better future. This is not a naive, passive hope; it is honest, astute and powerful. As he says: "We need to turn our hope THAT the desired future will happen into a hope TO make it happen."

We strongly encourage you to watch his talk on our Facebook page, read his book, or visit cascadinstitute.org.

We are so fortunate at Royal Roads to have faculty members working on many of the most critical issues confronting us, and we will be looking at ways to profile their work and contributions in the weeks and months ahead. Donors like you create opportunities for that discovery, work that bridges traditional disciplines as well as distance. ■



The Cascade Institute

Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, renowned speaker, author and professor, will lead the new Cascade Institute. Focusing on humanity's critical problems by looking for potential intervention points in complex systems, the Institute will share its findings with senior decision-makers around the world.

2019-20 At A Glance

- Royal Roads awarded over \$600,000 in bursaries, scholarships and awards
- Donor-funded awards accounted for 51% of that financial support
- Average award value was \$2,000
- Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) program welcomed the first cohort of students
- Alumna Teara Fraser and Master of Arts in Leadership student researcher Kiana Alexander were honoured with Top 100 Awards by the Women's Executive Network (WXN), with Alexander receiving the Future Leaders Award.
- Construction began to turn an unused swimming pool into a Learning and Teaching Auditorium, allowing us to bring convocation back to campus and expand our learning spaces.
- Royal Roads University celebrates its ninth year in a row as a carbon neutral organization. Over the last 12 years, RRU has reduced its GHGs by 36%. This year, we are excited to develop our new five-year Climate Action Plan that will further reflect the university's new vision and values for climate leadership.



We'd love to hear from you.

Your interests in giving are unique. You might be an alumnus, an ex-cadet, an employee or a visitor to the gardens. You might be thinking about setting up your own student award, making a monthly gift, or adding a gift to your will. These are all powerful ways our donors make a difference.

Please let us know if you would like us to answer your questions about creating change and opportunity at Royal Roads.

Amy Hinrichs, Advancement Manager
advancement@royalroads.ca | 250.391.2529

Samra Sheikh

2019-20 CHANGING LIVES AWARD RECIPIENT

THANKS YOU!



In 2019 our alumni appeal focused on the power of one person to make a difference, and the power of student awards to level the playing field and create opportunity for many. Alumni donated more than \$5,000 towards our Changing Lives Award endowment, an award that recognizes students making a life-changing difference for others and provides significant tuition support. Samra Sheikh is a 2019-20 recipient of the Changing Lives Award and we feel her letter of thanks to all donors speaks for itself.

Thank you for your support of people like Samra who are making such a difference, for so many.

Dear Donors –

As a student admitted into the MA of Human Security and Peacebuilding at RRU I am sincerely honoured and grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Changing Lives Award and wanted to thank you for your generosity in funding this bursary.

I've always been devoted to helping address critical issues that challenge women and youth, in my country and around the world. I have served with the RCAF and within the past 6 years I have devoted my time volunteering with non-profit organizations such as Meals on Wheels, MAAD, Peace Fur Paws and Scadding Court Community Centre, a community centre that works closely with disadvantaged youth in Toronto. As an ERT & PDA Volunteer Supervisor with the Canadian Red Cross, I respond to emergency crises situations within my community and across Canada.

Recently, I extended my volunteerism with the Islamic Relief to orphanages in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Lebanon, supporting the Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese youth. I have successfully fundraised over \$10,000 for the orphans to continue their education and be provided with psychosocial support programs. In 2018, I volunteered with the UN Tanzania Development Trust, and collaborated with volunteers in Tanzania to help protect local girls at risk of female genital mutilation.

In 2020, I will continue my humanitarian work within Canada and across the globe to help empower youth by addressing education, poverty and gender inequalities. Because of RRU and your generosity I have the means to do this. I am confident that the graduate program at RRU will enable and teach me the leadership skills necessary to restore peace and civil society across the globe.

As I start and continue my graduate studies, I will never forget the extraordinary opportunity I have been given to continue my studies and am eternally grateful for the bursary. The donors behind the fund have deepened my passion for equality and inclusiveness and have contributed to my focus on helping the vulnerable and disadvantaged. Going forward, I will measure my success against the way I honour kindness and exceptional scholarship. ■

Thank you,
Samra Sheikh

THANK YOU

“Thank you for putting your faith in me. I am so grateful. I am pursuing a Masters of Arts in Human Security and Peacebuilding, a subject I am whole-heartedly passionate about. Simply, I have big dreams about building more inclusive communities for all people, but I couldn't do it without you.”

SHIRLEY CASE MEMORIAL BURSARY,
MA HUMAN SECURITY AND
PEACEKEEPING STUDENT

“Thank you for encouraging me, challenging me and believing in me. It means a lot to have your support.”

MCLEAN FOUNDATION AWARD
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES,
MA ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT STUDENT

“Thank you for supporting my ambitions and believing in my dream.”

PENNISULA CO-OP AWARD, MA
ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE STUDENT

“Your generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. Thank you for creating this opportunity. I will use it to the best of my ability and make you proud. You can't see me, but I am smiling right now.”

MARRIOTT INTEGRATED LEARNING AWARD,
MA TOURISM MANAGEMENT STUDENT