

# IMPACT

Working together at Royal Roads University

## FALL 2018 IN THIS ISSUE

### *A legacy to share*

When President Allan Cahoon steps down this year, he leaves behind a school that is richer in every sense.

### *Building the bridge*

Alumnus Don McIntosh shines a light on creating research opportunity.

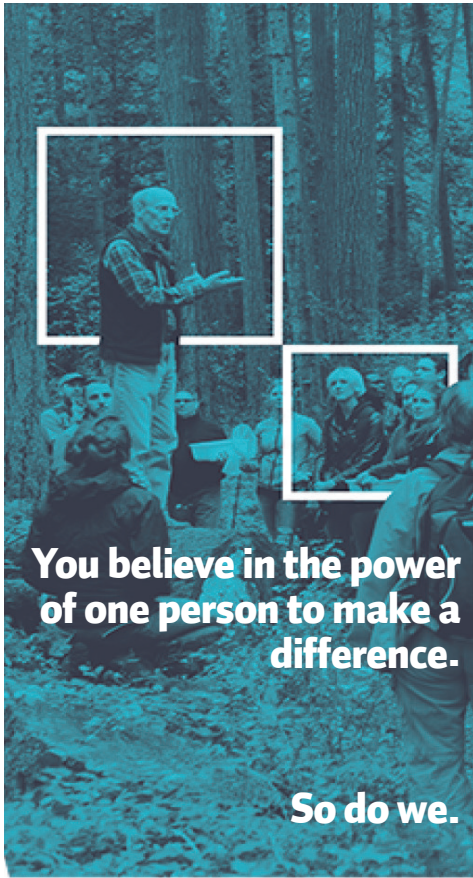
### *Alumni profile*

Life.Changing: how Kim Banfield touches the lives of nearly everyone in British Columbia.

### *Thanks to you . . .*

More than \$700,000 raised for student awards and learning opportunities.





**You believe in the power of one person to make a difference.**

**So do we.**

## THANK YOU

You raised more than \$700,000 for student awards and learning opportunities as part of the Power of One initiative.

PowerOfOne.ca

# POWER OF ONE



### ALUMNI PROFILE:

# KIM BANFIELD

**She has one of those quiet job titles.**

**What she really does is touch the lives of almost everyone in BC.**

The Royal Roads graduate turned her Master of Arts in Leadership (Health Specialization) into a career with the Provincial Health Services Authority. As a project leader with BC Emergency Health Services, Kim oversees the safety of patients and staff.

Working with a team, she reviews emergency medical responses. They ask: Is there something that could be done differently to ensure a better outcome for patients? If the answer is yes, they make the changes, ensuring that frontline emergency medical professionals have what's needed to adopt new procedures.

"We're genuinely helping people. Everyone's family needs emergency services at some point," Banfield says. "The courses I did on change management have been essential. We're often trying to change [work] cultures that are deeply entrenched."

She recognizes the rewards of her job and education, but recalls some difficult times along the road to graduation in September 2015.

For ten years, Banfield had wanted to return to school, knowing she was capable of a senior leadership role. As a full-time single parent, she had put off her education until her sons were teenagers, old enough to understand and appreciate her commitment.

Financially, she appeared to be in good shape with owning a home and having a steady job. But she describes student life as being a tough two years that would have been more difficult had she not received three alumni-funded bursaries.

"I was living paycheque to paycheque," she says. "Those bursaries allowed me to breathe for a minute. They meant I could put that \$1,000 towards my tuition and maybe spend a little more on groceries that month."

Unexpected pleasure came from the long daily commute with her sons between

home in Shawnigan Lake and her work in downtown Victoria. They took this time to

talk and enjoy as a family.

"They told me what they were doing in school and I told them what I was learning," she says. "My boys have always known that education is valuable, that it opens doors. They were exceptional when I was studying or working all night on an assignment."

Graduate school worked out so well for Banfield, she will some day make a financial contribution.

"The bursaries I received lifted some of the stress. If there is a chance I could help a new student take the plunge and give them the opportunity to succeed, I wouldn't hesitate to make that happen."

"The courses I did on change management have been essential."

ALUMNUS DON MCINTOSH:

# Building the Sustainability Bridge

CREATING RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

When it comes to endowing university awards, Don McIntosh assumed it's a privilege of the rich and famous. He was delighted to be proven wrong.

When asked to bundle his modest monthly donation into a research award of his choice, he jumped on the opportunity. That's how the Sustainability Bridge Award was born: an annual \$1,000 grant for a graduate student doing research in environmental sustainability, green technologies, and/or food security.

While \$1,000 may not go far on a research project, McIntosh learned that it could be a bridge to other grants. Funding bodies that offer large awards are looking for researchers with a track record. Even small prizes contribute to establishing a novice investigator as a good candidate.

"I grew up on a farm, and sustainability is something I've always had a great concern for," says McIntosh, who graduated from RRU with an MBA in 2009.

He hails from Leroy, Saskatchewan, a

small town with a population of about 500.

When he left home to study pharmacy at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, he was surprised to find that grocery stores stocked strawberries in the dead of winter.

For a farm boy accustomed to food that grows within the rhythm of nature, he

may shape a more sustainable future, McIntosh says the award shows his appreciation for a good education.

"Going to school is expensive, but the cost of going to [Canadian] universities is relatively low. The benefits—a career that is well paid and enjoyable, where you get to help people—are great."

That first \$1,000 award could be the bridge to the next grant.

Funding bodies that offer large awards are looking for researchers with a track record. Even small prizes contribute to establishing a novice investigator as a good candidate.

wondered about the environmental cost of shipping food around the globe.

Today McIntosh is a management consultant based in Calgary, specializing in change management.

"I'm a bit of a science nerd and I follow current events," he says, adding that he's concerned about the effect climate change is having on day-to-day life.

Besides being delighted that his donation





## A LEGACY TO SHARE

**When the president of Royal Roads University steps down this year, he leaves behind a school that is richer in every sense of the word.**

President Allan Cahoon hadn't intended to be an administrator for so long. In 2007, he was the acting president at the University of Regina, looking forward to returning to the classroom as a professor. Seniority meant he would have his pick of classes, with time to research and consult.

His plans changed when he saw the opportunity to lead Royal Roads. The university was already on the path to becoming his idea of a 21st century educational institution.

It was reaching wider communities, developing programs for mid-career professionals, and blending online education with short-term on-campus learning.

"They were a bellwether for the direction education should be moving," Cahoon recalls. "You can't expect that you can pre-load all the education anyone needs into a 22-year-old and then you are done for life."

He was concerned that graduate degrees, a stepping-stone to senior management,

had long been restricted to wealthier students. As a business professor, Cahoon wanted to see more diversity in classrooms and workplaces.

He knew that everyone benefits when the classroom embraces different perspectives, including Indigenous students, international students, immigrants, LGBTQ people and those who might be struggling financially.

"You can't get a global perspective from just reading case studies," he says.

"It will give students an opportunity to do something that will make the world a little bit better."

The challenge is that Royal Roads draws less than a quarter of its revenues from government subsidies, which raises tuition. So Cahoon made raising funds for scholarships a priority.

He developed the President's Aboriginal Support Bursary to improve Indigenous students' access to education, and the Allan Cahoon Global Advancement and Diversity Award to support his vision of a university that connects people globally.

### THE ALLAN CAHOON SCHOLARSHIP

"Education is a great social equalizer: an investment not just in the individual but in a healthy, resilient and thriving society."



The award is named to honour Allan Cahoon, who has served as the university's third president and vice-chancellor since 2007.

The Allan Cahoon Scholarship encourages excellence by supporting students who demonstrate academic achievement and leadership at Royal Roads University and in their home communities.

This award will recognize students who best exemplify this spirit in their lives and practice.

**Thank you for your support!**

[royalroads.ca/news/legacy-share](http://royalroads.ca/news/legacy-share)

Now, as a nod to his legacy, Royal Roads has introduced a third award: The Allan Cahoon Scholarship, designed to support students who excel as scholars and leaders.

"I'm excited by this fund because it will give students an opportunity to do something that will make the world a little bit better."