USASK COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE MAGAZINE SPRING 2022

ARTS&SCIENCE

Vice Chief Aly Bear makes history

Celebrating our Alumni Achievement Award winners

Arts and Science graduate becomes lifelong learner

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Arts and Science
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ARTS & SCIENCE

SPRING 2022

Arts&Science is published for alumni and friends of the College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan.

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On the cover:
University of Saskatchewan graduate Aly Bear (BA'17, JD'20) is Third Vice Chief of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations.

Photography: David Stobbe

BY THE NUMBERS

THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE AT USASK

10,530
STUDENTS

54,685
LIVING ALUMNI

80+
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

$1M
GIFTS FROM DONORS LAST YEAR

2
NEANDERTHAL HAND AXES

In the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology collection

6
PRINTS BY PICASSO

Donated in 2012 by Dr. Frederick Mulder (BA'64, LLD'17)

1
PIECE OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FIREBALL

Famous 1922 meteorite

2
QILAUTIIT (INUIT FRAME DRUMS)

In the David L. Kaplan Musical Instrument Collection

160
PAPER AIRPLANES

In the ceiling of the Henry Taube Lecture Theatre (the Airplane Room)

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Photography: David Stobbe

In challenging times, our deepest values are tested and revealed. Much has changed in the College of Arts and Science during the past two years of the global pandemic, but the things we value most—our commitment to excellent teaching and research, our relationships with our alumni and friends—remain the same.

This year has special significance for me because it will be my last as dean of the College of Arts and Science. June 30 marks the end of my seven-year tenure as dean.

It has been a privilege to help lead this vast and vibrant college. As I return to full-time research and teaching in the Department of Biology, I will know that the future of the college is bright.

In the coming months and years, you will see the College of Arts and Science introduce innovative new ways to empower our students, scientists, scholars and artists. With help from our donors, we anticipate building greater investment in our researchers and their vitally important work. Our students can look forward to new scholarships and bursaries, increased support for experiential learning, and the creation of exciting new certificate programs each year.

I have always believed that the College of Arts and Science can and must play an important role in our country's reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Our college saw progress this year in ways both large and small—from our science outreach instructors bringing Cree language into Saskatoon science classrooms, to our new knowledge-sharing agreement with Mistawasis Nêhiyawak First Nation. Guided by the participation and partnership of Indigenous peoples and communities, we will continue taking steps toward reconciliation.

Serving as dean of the College of Arts and Science has been a life-changing experience for which I will always be grateful. Meeting with you, our alumni and donors, on campus and at events around the world was one of the things I enjoyed most.

Thank you for your continuing support of our students and the work of the college. I hope you will always feel you have a home in the College of Arts and Science.

Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith
Dean and Professor, College of Arts and Science

We acknowledge that we live and work on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Campus spaces named in honour of Nobel laureate

Dr. Gerhard Herzberg (right) received the Nobel Prize from King Gustav Adolf on Dec. 10, 1971.

Photography: ScandiaPress

As part of a national initiative to mark the 50th anniversary of Dr. Gerhard Herzberg's Nobel Prize, the University of Saskatchewan (USask) has named the main experimental hall of the Canadian Light Source (CLS) and a prominent physics lecture theatre on campus after the renowned scientist.

Refugees from Nazi persecution in 1935, Herzberg and his wife and fellow scientist Luise spent 10 productive years at USask. Three of Herzberg's books were published during that time and are still considered classic works on atomic and molecular structure, advancing knowledge in chemistry, physics and astronomy.

Herzberg went on to receive the 1971 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

In 2021, USask joined Defining Moments Canada, the National Research Council, Canadian Heritage and other partners on Herzberg50, a major digital project celebrating Herzberg's life and achievements.

In November, the CLS announced that its main experimental hall—which houses Canada's only synchrotron—would be renamed the Herzberg Experimental Hall. Additionally, the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics renamed the Physics 107 Lecture Theatre the Dr. Gerhard Herzberg Lecture Theatre.

"Canada and the University of Saskatchewan welcomed Herzberg and his wife when no other country or university did," said USask President Dr. Peter Stoicheff. "His legacy is evident today in so many ways, including at our Canadian Light Source where scientists from across Canada and around the world continue to unravel the mysteries of atomic structure."

College enters knowledge partnership with Mistawasis Nêhiyawak

The community of Mistawasis Nêhiyawak and the University of Saskatchewan (USask) College of Arts and Science have begun a new partnership dedicated to sharing and creating knowledge.

Leaders of the college and the community signed an *Asota* at a ceremony at Mistawasis Nêhiyawak—a First Nation located 120 km north of Saskatoon—in October 2021. *Asota* is a sacred Cree term that translates to "Make a Promise."

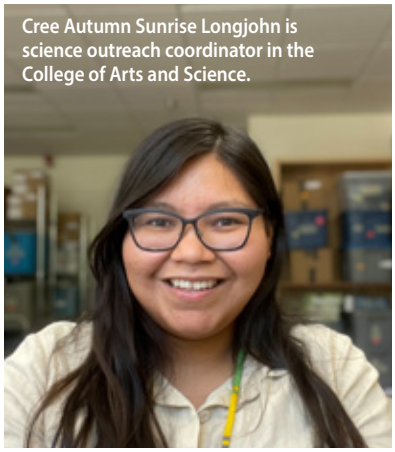
Over the next five years, the community and the College of Arts and Science will develop new teaching and research collaborations in the areas of Indigenous wellbeing, community development and environmental stewardship.

"With this partnership, the College of Arts and Science is committing to a long-term relationship with Mistawasis Nêhiyawak built on cooperation and mutual learning. We hope to serve the needs of Mistawasis Nêhiyawak while respectfully bringing the community's knowledge into our classrooms and research," said Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith, dean of the College of Arts and Science.

One of the first outcomes of the partnership will be a class created jointly by Mistawasis Nêhiyawak High School and the college's Department of Geography and Planning. In the course, USask undergraduate students will team up with high school students from Mistawasis to study environmental and health challenges facing the community, such as food and water security.

Councillor Robin Daniels of Mistawasis Nêhiyawak signs alongside College of Arts and Science Dean Peta Bonham-Smith.

Photography: Vanessa Hyggen



Cree Autumn Sunrise Longjohn is science outreach coordinator in the College of Arts and Science.

Photography: submitted

Science outreach program uses Cree syllabics to teach cryptography

In fall 2021, science outreach instructors from the University of Saskatchewan (USask) connected codebreaking and Cree language for kids in Saskatoon.

A new lesson titled "Break the Code" was part of the year's Kamskénow program offered by the College of Arts and Science. It used Cree syllabics—the set of symbols used to write Cree dialects—as a medium for teaching cryptography to Saskatoon schoolchildren.

Cree Autumn Sunrise Longjohn, the College of Arts and Science's science outreach coordinator, designed the session, which teaches students to encode and decode words using a special map of Cree syllabics.

"I find it's important to me, as an Indigenous student and as a person who is reclaiming their language, that my language be represented in something that I'm learning," Longjohn said. "A lot of the students are probably in the same boat as me, where they're still reclaiming their culture and their language. And so having all of this in a session where they can actually learn what each of the symbols mean and the origin of syllabics, I feel like it's really important."

Kamskénow is a science outreach program that offers hands-on science and mathematics activities to Saskatoon community school classrooms with a high population of Indigenous students.

Reclaimed slate treads were carved with Cree syllabics as part of the *anohc kipasikônaw/we rise/niipawi* project.

Photography: Fatemeh Ebrahimnejadnamini

Art project celebrating Indigenous knowledge reaches final step

In September 2021, the last of 13 carved slate steps was installed at the Gordon Snelgrove Gallery in a collaborative art project more than a year in the making.

The project, *anohc kipasikônaw/we rise/niipawi*, was conceived in the College of Arts and Science in early 2020 as a way to celebrate Indigenous knowledge systems. To highlight the 13 moons of the lunar cycle, 13 carved stone steps would be installed on the USask campus over a period of months.

The steps, reclaimed from a staircase in the Thorvaldson Building on campus, were hand-carved with Cree syllabics representing the traditional names of the 13 moons.

Saskatchewan stone carver Lyndon Tootoosis, who was artist-in-residence with the USask Art Galleries and Collection in 2020, played a key role in launching the project along with artists and College of Arts and Science staff members Vanessa Hyggen (BA'17) and Dr. Sandy Bonny. USask students, faculty and staff were invited to participate in carving the steps during Indigenous Achievement Week in February 2020.

The project continued even as the COVID-19 pandemic closed USask buildings. Relationships were built and strengthened with Elders, colleagues, students, artists and community members.

"When the discussions first began for the project, none of us thought that it was going to be such a long process. But it's really been with us throughout our entire experience of this pandemic; it's kept us connected in that way," said Hyggen.

Highlighting Métis history in Saskatoon

A University of Saskatchewan (USask) researcher is using a technique known as deep mapping to shed new light on urban Métis experiences in 20th-century Saskatoon.

Dr. Cheryl Troupe (BA'01, MA'10, PhD'19), a faculty member in the Department of History, began the research project in collaboration with Métis Elders in Saskatoon and Gabriel Dumont Local #11.

Gabriel Dumont Local #11 is part of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S), a government that represents Métis people in the province. Troupe, a member of the MN-S and Local #11, wanted to work with members of her community to create a resource for the community.

Deep-mapping techniques highlight the connections between geographical places and people's memories and personal identities. The process involves combining artifacts, photos, stories and other types of material culture into a map.

"I will interview Métis people at different places in the city that they determine are important to them, and we'll talk about the stories that are connected to those places," Troupe said.

Troupe will combine the stories and other data into maps, "so that their stories can be represented in a spatial way that demonstrates how Métis have used and occupied the city since the city's founding," she said. "Really, it's about creating maps for the community to have access."

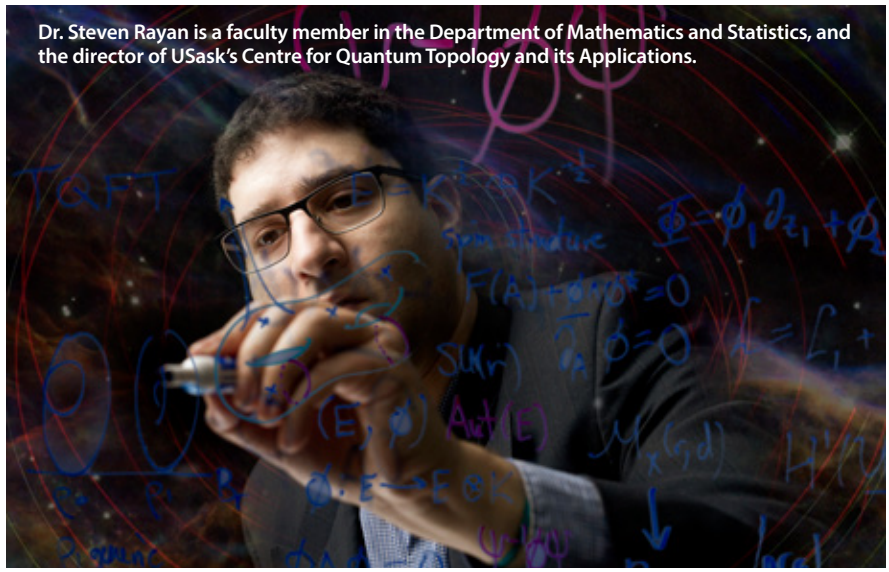
Warped crystals could open new era for quantum computing

A recent paper co-authored by University of Saskatchewan (USask) mathematician Dr. Steven Rayan proposes a new theory that could lead to the next generation of quantum materials—the revolutionary materials that make technologies such as quantum computing possible.

Rayan and University of Alberta physicist Dr. Joseph Maciejko published their paper, titled "Hyperbolic band theory," in the prestigious journal *Science Advances* in September 2021.

Their work points to the possibility of developing a larger class of quantum materials than previously known, opening the door to developing components for wider technological applications and advancements.

"Our paper is really a challenge to the science community: can we physically engineer and bring to life this new class of hyperbolic quantum material, and can we apply them in creative ways to emerging technologies such as quantum computers?" said Rayan, a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the director of USask's Centre for Quantum Topology and its Applications.



Dr. Steven Rayan is a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and the director of USask's Centre for Quantum Topology and its Applications.

Photography: David Stobbe

Interest is high in developing quantum computers because not only are they far faster than current supercomputers, but they can quickly analyze problems with thousands of possible scenarios and provide the best solution.

Rayan said this capability is particularly valuable in designing vaccines and drugs, and in other applications such as developing smaller, less expensive and more accurate MRI technologies for use in remote areas or in harsh environments.

Digital canoe replica on view at Remai Modern

The traditional birch bark canoe built by Isaiah and Annie Roberts is pictured at Remai Modern in 2020.

Photography: Fatemeh Ebrahimnezhadamini / Shared Spaces

An augmented reality version of a traditional birch bark canoe produced through an interdisciplinary research initiative at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) is being showcased in a new art exhibition at Saskatoon's Remai Modern.

The original canoe was built in the 1970s on the banks of Otter Lake, Sask., by Isaiah and Annie Roberts of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. The process was documented in a film titled *My Last Canoe* that was produced by USask and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations.

For years following the filming of the video, the canoe was stored in the Archaeology Building on the USask campus until faculty members initiated its return to the Lac La Ronge community in 2020.

Before its repatriation, 3D documentation of the canoe was undertaken by Shared Spaces—a project of the USask Art Galleries and Collection that explores applications of augmented reality to the arts. As a result, visitors to Remai Modern can view a 3D model of the canoe through their smartphones.

Dr. Rose Roberts (BSN'96, MSc'01, PhD'06), granddaughter of Isaiah and Annie Roberts, is pleased that viewers will be able to see a recreation of her grandfather's canoe. "It's a really good feeling because it is such a gift, and he was so good at it," Roberts said.

The digital canoe is part of an exhibition titled *Canoe* at Remai Modern. It runs until May 8.

Evolutionary biology brings new life to medieval literature

Italian poet Dante Alighieri's epic poem *Divine Comedy (Commedia)* is now available for free and in richer detail than ever before, thanks to an online platform created with University of Saskatchewan (USask) research.

As part of festivities in 2021 commemorating the 700th anniversary of Dante's death, an international team of researchers including USask English professor Dr. Peter Robinson launched a new online edition of the Italian masterwork with a twist—using evolutionary biology to trace how previous versions are related.

"This edition brings phylogenetic and database tools together with traditional scholarly research in a way never before available," said Robinson.

The culmination of years of negotiations, the free online resource located at www.dantecommedia.it makes widely accessible what was "previously available only to a very few readers with privileged access to the great libraries of Europe," said Robinson.

A new online platform brings together seven manuscripts and two modern editions of Dante's epic poem, *Divine Comedy*. ***Photography: dantecommedia.it***

This new edition breaks ground in many ways; it is the first edition of any major work by any author in any language to bring together, in a free online interface, full sets of images of seven key manuscripts and two modern editions—more than 2000 pages.

The mobile phone-friendly platform includes specialized tools for exploring the relationships between the texts, and a word-by-word comparison of all the texts, including all variants of every word.

Disrupting COVID-19 with potential new treatments: USask research

A University of Saskatchewan (USask) research team has discovered insights into the structure of the virus that causes COVID-19, possibly leading to new treatment options.

The virus that causes COVID-19, known as SARS-CoV-2, attaches to cells in the human body via spike proteins. These spikes allow the virus to infect cells, following which the virus replicates itself and spreads throughout the body. The spikes contain molecular structures called disulfides—pairs of sulphur atoms bound together—that may be important for holding the spikes in the correct shape for cell infection to occur.

With this knowledge, the research team investigated an important question about the SARS-CoV-2 virus: If the spike disulfides are disrupted, would this allow the virus to lose its ability to cause infection?

This question was answered through research conducted by two USask research associates, Dr. Andrey Grishin, from the College of Medicine, and Dr. Nataliya Dolgova, from the College of Arts and Science. The idea was first tested in computer models, with collaboration from Dr. Olivier Fissette at USask Advanced Research Computing, and then verified in live virus tests by Dr. Darryl Falzarano and Shelby Landreth at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization.

The overall team involved a collaboration between three Tier 1 Canada Research Chairs—College of Medicine professor Dr. Miroslaw Cygler and College of Arts and Science professors Dr. Ingrid Pickering and Dr. Graham George (DSc'19).

"One of the many disulfides in the spikes seems to be very important in holding the spikes together, and breaking the disulfides disrupts viral infectivity," said George. "It might be the basis of a new treatment, and should work for any future virus variants."

George notes that—with only the current research to go on—any treatment agents developed would have to be given in high doses, but this finding could lead to further work that aims to disrupt these important viral structures, and thus render the virus less infectious.

Donors support creation of ohpinamake, a new prize for Indigenous artists

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) has launched ohpinamake, a new prize for Indigenous artists, made possible thanks to the generous support of donors Jim and Marian Knock.

The donors, originally from Saskatchewan and now residing in Victoria, B.C., have provided $50,000 for ohpinamake, which will be administered by the USask Art Galleries and Collection. An award of $10,000 will be provided annually for the next five years to Indigenous artists whose territories intersect with the current colonial borders of Canada.

"The creation of the ohpinamake award is a step toward reconciling centuries of Indigenous artists having gone unnoticed within Western culture," said Dr. Angela Jaime, USask interim vice-provost, Indigenous engagement. "This recognition is for artists challenging our perception of difference and creating new space for thinking outside the box."

The word ohpinamake is a nêhiyawêwin (Cree) term meaning "to lift others." The name was gifted to the USask Art Galleries and Collection by a group of three Indigenous community leaders: Elders Maria Campbell and Louise Bernice Halfe – Sky Dancer, and artist and USask alumna Ruth Cuthand (BFA'83, MFA'92).

Jim and Marian Knock sought to partner with USask to create an award that positions art to bridge differences. They see Indigenous art, along with sensorial engagement between all Canadians, as the way to communicate most fully the knowledge needed to move forward together in the spirit of reconciliation.

'They deserve to know': Searching for lost graves of residential school children

College of Arts and Science researchers are part of the ongoing search for unmarked graves of children at former Canadian residential schools.

A team led by Department of Archaeology and Anthropology faculty member Dr. Terence Clark has been working with several communities, including Muskowekwan First Nation in Saskatchewan, to locate burial sites of Indigenous children who died while forced to attend residential schools.

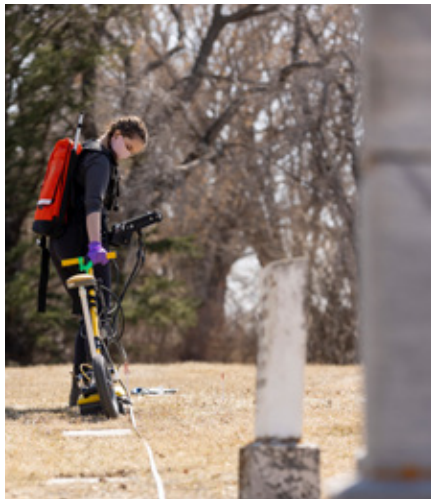
"This work is an important part of reconciliation. We must understand and acknowledge the harm done to Indigenous communities. The families and communities of these (children) still grieve for their loss; they deserve to know where their children are buried. It is an important step in the healing process, but certainly not the end of it," said Clark.

The researchers use technologies such as ground-penetrating radar to scan beneath the surface without disturbing the soil.

"I think it is important, especially in the case of human remains, that they are treated with respect and dignity. By using these non-invasive procedures, we can provide closure and give communities the knowledge so they can make informed decisions about leaving the graves or reinterring them in other locations," said Micaela Champagne, an archaeology master's student involved with the search.

The work of Clark's team at Muskowekwan First Nation has been featured in national and international media, including a *New York Times* video in October 2021 and a February 2022 episode of *60 Minutes*.

An archaeology student pulls a ground-penetrating radar machine at Nutana Pioneer Cemetery in Saskatoon in April 2021 as part of a learning exercise led by Dr. Terence Clark.



Photography: David Stobbe

USask launches symphony orchestra

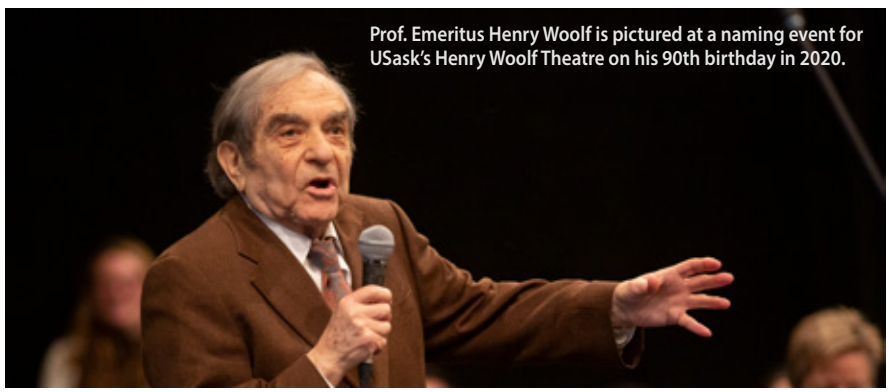
The University of Saskatchewan (USask) has launched a new symphony orchestra that features musicians from on and off campus.

Renowned conductor Shah Sadikov, a sessional lecturer in the Department of Music, directs the new USask Symphony Orchestra. The ensemble is open to students, staff members and community musicians who play violin, viola, cello and/or double bass.

The new ensemble was created to provide an opportunity for people to enjoy making music together in a relaxed environment.

"It hits all the important notes that the department deems important for its mission: giving a quality experience for the students, a department being an inclusive place for everyone at the university and, very importantly, being an ambassador of community outreach," said Sadikov, who has previously conducted ensembles including the National Symphony Orchestra of Uzbekistan, the Tokyo Philharmonic and the Berlin Sinfonietta.

Launched in September 2021, the USask Symphony Orchestra held its debut concert on campus in early December.



Prof. Emeritus Henry Woolf is pictured at a naming event for USask's Henry Woolf Theatre on his 90th birthday in 2020.

Photography: David Stobbe

Drama bursary named for Henry Woolf

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) Department of Drama has launched a new award in honour of one of Saskatoon's most beloved theatre professionals.

The Henry Woolf Bursary is a $1,000 award named for Prof. Emeritus Henry Woolf, who passed away in November 2021. Woolf was a retired faculty member and former head of the Department of Drama who had been influential locally and internationally as an actor, teacher, director and playwright.

Woolf lived to see the inaugural award be given to student actor Christopher Krug-Iron (BEd'21) in June 2021.

"I just am delighted that this particular young man, whom I've watched onstage several times, has been selected. And I really wish him well, because he deserves to do well," Woolf said at the time.

Funded by community donors, the Henry Woolf Bursary in Drama was created by the department to provide financial assistance to undergraduate students majoring in drama. The award was first announced at a naming event for the Henry Woolf Theatre in USask's John Mitchell Building, which took place on Woolf's 90th birthday in June 2020.

In a speech at that event, Woolf spoke about the importance of the arts.

"The arts are what stimulate the imagination. And without the imagination, we lead a deprived life. Living without art in one's life is like living in a house without windows," he said.

The scholarships will support College of Arts and Science students in fine arts, astronomy and environmental studies programs. *Photography: David Stobbe*

New scholarships funded through gift

Students at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) will soon have access to additional scholarships to support their educational journeys, thanks to a $100,000 gift to the College of Arts and Science.

The new Gerald & Joan Johnson Endowed Student Award will support undergraduate students in the college who are studying in fine arts, environmental studies or astronomy programs, with a preference for students from southwest Saskatchewan and/or former employees of Cypress Hills Provincial Park.

"On behalf of the College of Arts and Science, I would like to express our gratitude for this generous gift to fund the Gerald & Joan Johnson Endowed Student Award," said Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith, dean of the College of Arts and Science.

"Our college is proud to be the home of the fine arts and astronomy on the University of Saskatchewan campus, and we also offer several interdisciplinary environmental programs that address some of the most important issues of our time. These excellent degree pathways will be strengthened by this new award, which will provide support to our talented and dedicated students as they continue to work toward their academic goals and be what the world needs."

The scholarship fund was established by the Friends of Cypress Hills Park, a not-for-profit organization that works collaboratively with Saskatchewan's Cypress Hills Provincial Park to enhance educational, recreational and interpretive programs in the area and to assist in the maintenance and securing of facilities in the park. The gift was made possible thanks to the generosity of Gerald and Joan Johnson, longtime residents of Cypress Hills Park.

The Johnsons, who had lived in a cottage in the area on a full-time basis since the 1980s, approached the Friends of Cypress Hills Park around 2003 to see if the group would be interested in taking their home to repurpose as a retreat space. After the Friends acquired the cottage, it served as an artists' retreat for several years, from about 2015 until 2020. The Friends later decided to sell the cottage and establish the Gerald & Joan Johnson Endowed Student Award with some of the proceeds of the sale.

"I kind of feel that the Friends are just a go-between here—it really is money that came from Gerald and Joan Johnson," said Gerald Gartner, CEO of the Friends of Cypress Hills Park.

The Gerald & Joan Johnson Endowed Student Award will be open to continuing undergraduate students pursuing degrees in the fine arts or astronomy (including a minor), as well as environmental studies programs offered in the College of Arts and Science, such as environment and society, environmental biology and environmental geoscience.

USASK ALUMNI

Achievement Awards

Nominated by their peers from a group of more than 161,000 alumni, recipients of the University of Saskatchewan (USask) Alumni Achievement Awards represent alumni who are changing the world one idea or action at a time.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients with degrees from the College of Arts and Science.

ONE TO WATCH AWARD

This award recognizes young alumni from either an undergraduate or graduate program who are making significant contributions in society at large, setting an example for fellow and future alumni to follow.

Kendal Netmaker (BA'11, BEd'11)

Author, entrepreneur and community builder Kendal Netmaker's early career impact has spanned multiple sectors, earning him dozens of business awards and inspiring others to reach their potential. As a USask student, Netmaker founded an apparel company with a social profit motive that has helped thousands of Indigenous and underprivileged youth through scholarships and bursaries. His story of overcoming adversity has made him a role model for youth from all walks of life. Netmaker's work to bridge the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians make him "one to watch" in advancing the country's call for reconciliation.

What advice for success would you offer to others?

Kendal Netmaker: *"Do your best to keep an open mind and become a sponge. Become an exceptional listener—there are teachers everywhere. I went into university thinking of only one path option and was unaware of the opportunities that are available. Once you find your path, give all of your energy to it."*

ALUMNI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

As the highest honour presented by the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association, this award recognizes a graduate for an outstanding lifetime of accomplishments and contributions to the social, cultural and economic well-being of society in any area, such as academics, athletics, arts, business, not-for-profit, public or private sector.

Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert Lorin Calder (BA'63, MA'65)

Dr. Robert (Bob) Calder is a person of many talents and accomplished widespread excellence. He has given his time and energy for nearly 60 years to pursuits both professional and personal that have had an impact on Saskatchewan and the world. As a writer and professor, Calder has explored a broad range of topics, including the life and work of William Somerset Maugham; British propaganda, battle fatigue and suicide in the Second World War; the meeting of the Spanish and the Maya in Yucatan in the 16th century; and the history of the Saskatchewan Roughriders. Calder's 1989 biography, *Willie: The Life of W. Somerset Maugham*, earned him the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction. Dedicated to lending his expertise and guidance to others, Calder has contributed countless hours to serving the University of Saskatchewan and broader community through his volunteer work promoting writers and writing in the province.

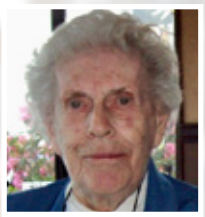
How did your Arts and Science education help you in your career?

Dr. Robert Calder: *"When I went to Leeds, in the U.K., to do my PhD, I was intimidated by the articulate, sophisticated British graduate students in my class. Three years later, I was the only one who had completed my dissertation and got my degree. My undergraduate education and the writing of a master's thesis at the University of Saskatchewan had prepared me for writing a lengthy dissertation in a way that the British had not experienced."*

YOUR LEGACY IS WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

Dr. Elaheh Khozeimeh Sarbisheh (PhD'17), who earned her doctoral degree in the Department of Chemistry, would like to see more women pursue degrees in science.

Thanks to the generosity of legacy donors like Dr. Wilma Elias (BA'47, MA'50), more women will have the financial support they need to go after their ambitions and educational goals in science.



Wilma Elias

A pioneer in her field who earned her undergraduate and master's degrees from USask and who went on to be the first woman—ever—to earn a PhD from the University of British Columbia, Dr. Elias' legacy lives on through a gift in her will to establish the Wilma E. Elias Scholarship, supporting women in chemistry to develop and share their talents with the world.

"If we want to be successful in different fields of science, we need diversity, we need inclusion—otherwise we will miss many aspects of science. It is not possible to achieve the diversity goal without including and supporting women in science."

DR. ELAHEH KHOZEIMEH SARBISHEH (PHD'17)

You can make a significant difference in a student's life and help change the world around them by leaving a gift in your will.

usask.ca/giftplanning

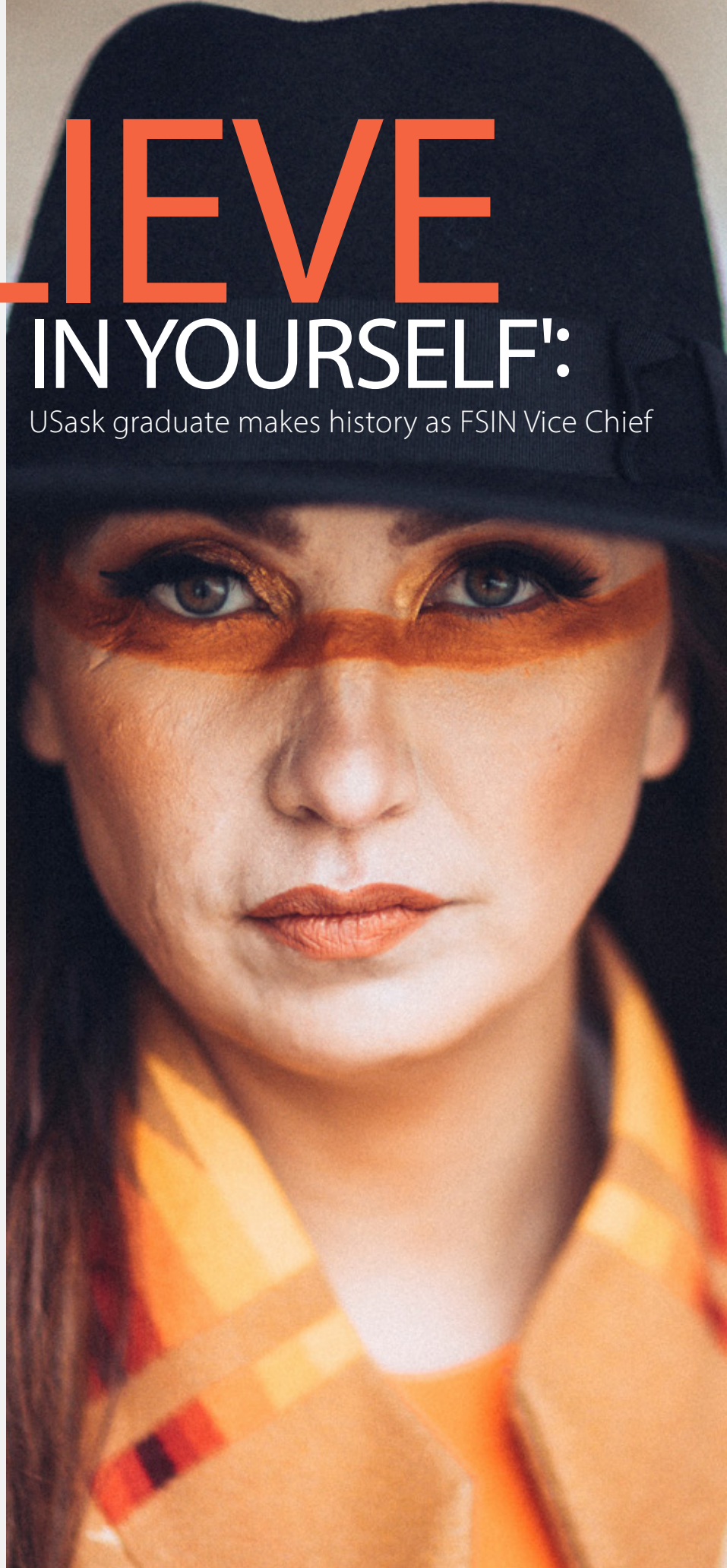
For more information, contact:
Leah Brodie
Director of Development, College of Arts and Science
306-966-3225 or leah.brodie@usask.ca

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

'BELIEVE IN YOURSELF':

USask graduate makes history as FSIN Vice Chief



✎ **SHANNON BOKLASCHUK (BA'00, MPA'14)**

Aly Bear believes in the value of post-secondary education.

It's a value that was modelled by her parents, University of Saskatchewan (USask) alumni Darcy Bear (Cert'09, LLD'14) and Roberta Bear (BEd'94, MEd'05). It's also a value that she is modelling for her own daughters, eight-year-old Kova and six-year-old Kage.

"My goal one day is to have a scholarship that's for single moms," said Aly Bear, who earned two degrees at USask while giving birth to her children and raising them as a single parent.

Bear's first degree, a Bachelor of Arts in sociology that she earned in the College of Arts and Science, was completed in 2017. She followed it with a law degree, which she received in 2020. Bear admits it wasn't always easy to balance parenthood and academic pursuits, but she was determined to persevere. Now, as the recently elected Third Vice Chief of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN), which represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan, she is inspiring other young women to pursue their own post-secondary goals.

"Never give up. Believe in yourself. Focus on

Third Vice Chief Aly Bear (BA'17, JD'20) was inspired to become a lawyer after studying the work of late USask professor Patricia Monture.

Photography: David Stobbe

your journey and not what other people have to say," she said.

"Especially when you're a woman, a lot of people really try to dictate to you how you should be living your life. At the end of the day, you know in your heart what's right for you. I had people tell me that I couldn't do law school with two girls. I was like, 'You just watch me.' So, I had to do it."

And Bear did do it, drawing inspiration from her mother, Roberta, who pursued a Master of Education degree at USask when Bear was a child. Bear vividly recalls her mother writing papers for her classes and taking Bear with her to the USask campus.

"It was very similar to what my kids have seen me do—sitting there writing papers and reading books and going to university," she said.

Making history

With support from her parents and daughters, Bear made history in the fall of 2021 when, at the age of 30, she became the youngest woman to be elected to the FSIN. In seeking the position, she aimed to have an opportunity—on a larger scale—to use her legal knowledge to advocate for Indigenous people and to raise awareness of the ongoing impacts of colonialism and residential schools on Indigenous communities.

It seems leadership comes naturally to Bear, a descendant of Dakota, Anishinaabe and Nehiyaw heritage. She is a member of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, where her father has served as Chief for nearly 30 years. She said a strong work ethic was passed down to her from her parents and, while growing up, she also had the opportunity to meet various Indigenous leaders, including Chiefs, through her father's leadership role. That helped shape her into the person she is today.

"I got to see my dad doing things in the political world and creating change for our First Nation," she said.

As a USask student, Bear served on the executives of both the Law Students' Association and the Indigenous Law Students' Association before graduating and articling at McKercher LLP in Saskatoon. Running for the FSIN executive seemed like a natural next step.

"I was always kind of advocating, and I was always taking on leadership roles naturally," she said. "And, as a mother, I just thought that this was the best way for me to continue to utilize my education and push for change on a positive level for First Nations people."

Pursuing an education

While Bear is proud of what she has accomplished academically and professionally, she is also open about the barriers she has overcome along the way. Her life was forever altered when she experienced two serious automobile accidents, with the first occurring when she was just 17 years old. She went face first through the vehicle's windshield in that crash, resulting in the loss of her right eye. She now wears a prosthetic.

A second accident occurred when Bear was 20 years old and a post-secondary student for a brief time in Vancouver. Doctors didn't expect her to survive the crash, which resulted in broken ribs, the severing of her liver and the removal of her gallbladder. After a hospital stay, she returned to Saskatchewan to continue healing.

"I wasn't supposed to make it," she said. "I came back home, and then that's what kept me here."

As a result of the accidents, Bear experienced post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and low self-esteem, and she began using alcohol as she struggled to cope with her emotions. She was still recovering—emotionally and physically—in 2013 when she began studying in the College of Arts and Science, where she participated in the college's Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways (ISAP) program during her first year at USask. The following year, Bear gave birth to her first daughter, and her second daughter arrived the next year. She is now sober and is focused on being a role model for her children.

In the College of Arts and Science, Bear pursued a sociology degree with a minor in Indigenous studies and graduated with distinction in 2017. She said she is very proud of these accomplishments, particularly because she gave birth to both of her daughters while an undergraduate student.

It was during her time in the College of Arts and Science that Bear decided to become a lawyer. She was inspired to study law after learning about the work of the late USask professor Patricia Monture, a legal

Photography: David Stobbe

scholar and member of the Mohawk Nation from the Six Nations Grand River Territory well known for her work in Indigenous and women's rights. Monture taught in the Department of Sociology in the College of Arts and Science, and sociology, as a discipline, appealed to Bear, a self-described "big-picture thinker" who tends to ponder the ways in which societies function, and why.

"I was able to apply my own life to a lot of my papers to kind of start (that) discovery," Bear said. "I started writing about residential schools and intergenerational trauma through sociology. That's why I took the minor in Indigenous studies—it was very Indigenous-focused, my outlook on sociology."

Taking on a new role

Bear's long-term goal is to one day become a law professor but, for now, she is focused on her three-year term as Third Vice Chief of the FSIN. She describes it as an "extremely busy" job, but she takes it in stride; as a lawyer and a parent, she is already accustomed to being busy and juggling multiple tasks—and she hopes her entry into politics will ultimately encourage other women to take on similar leadership roles.

Bear feels her USask education will help her navigate her new role and will enable her to overcome whatever challenges may arise. She is strong and resilient, and her education has reinforced those traits.

"That's exactly what my education has taught me: How do I navigate university as a single mom, as an Indigenous woman? That's why I went to law school, too—because I wanted to learn how to navigate colonial systems, the legal realm, and then I can apply that or assist other people to navigate," she said.

While she's excited about exploring new possibilities at the FSIN, Bear also looks back, with fondness, on her time at USask. She misses conducting research, and she is contemplating a return to student life to pursue a master's degree in the future.

Bear wants other Indigenous students to know that they, too, belong at USask and they also have what it takes to succeed. She believes her education has been the key to her success.

"At the end of the day, nobody can take my degrees away from me," she said. "It's something you earn."

USask alumnus funds new Graduate Prize for Women in Computer Science

Rifat Zahan (MSc'16) is a computer science PhD student who served as the lead organizer of Research Fest 2021.

Photography: David Stobbe

SHANNON BOKLASCHUK (BA'00, MPA'14)

A University of Saskatchewan (USask) graduate and leader in the province's technology industry says women are "extremely underrepresented" in technology jobs—and he wants to help close the gender gap.

"If women were proportionately represented in the innovation and technology industry, we would not have a labour shortage," said Dr. Aaron Genest (BSc'07, PhD'13), an applications engineering manager with Siemens and the president of SaskTech.

"The tech industry is the only industry where there are fewer job seekers than jobs available—and, not only has this situation (continued) for the last decade, it's getting worse," he added. "However, women are consistently underrepresented—frequently only 10 to 30 per cent of people working at technical jobs. Were we able to increase that by even 10 per cent, we'd see millions of women enter the workforce, alleviating the desperate demand for workers."

As a result, Genest is funding the new Graduate Prize for Women in Computer Science. The purpose of the award is to recognize excellence and innovation in graduate-level research by women in computer science and bioinformatics at USask who participate in Research Fest. Three annual prizes of $500 will be provided to the top three candidates in the Women in Computer Science research competition category.

Research Fest, organized by the Computer Science Graduate Council in partnership with the Department of Computer Science in the College of Arts and Science, celebrates research undertaken by graduate students. The goal is to bring together graduate students, faculty members, researchers and practitioners from academia and industry to discuss and present research and innovation in different areas of computer science and related fields.

USask graduate Rifat Zahan (MSc'16), a current computer science PhD student, commended Genest's generosity. Zahan, who served as the lead organizer of Research Fest 2021, noted the importance of acknowledging women's contributions in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

"This award will set an example of how women's work can be appreciated in STEM fields, and will encourage women to participate in this event," she said. "This generous support is one of many ways to support our women, both in academia and in industries."

As she pursues her PhD in computer science, Zahan is aiming to be a problem solver. In particular, she wants to take "a trans-disciplinary approach to contribute in public health" and is currently using computer modelling to better understand and predict suicide.

Zahan said there are already numerous intervention strategies in place aimed at preventing suicide in Canada and Australia, but studies looking at interventions within the context of systems science are limited. The benefit of computer modelling is that researchers can look at suicide incidence and prevalence in real time and observe the impacts of adjusting specific variables.

"Systems science models have long been used in infectious disease modelling, consumer behaviour, health-care delivery, operations research and business, but using such a tool in the domain of suicide is very limited," Zahan said. "That's why I chose to use a systems science approach to model the complex system of suicide."

Dr. Aaron Genest (BSc'07, PhD'13)

Photography: Danger Dynamite

Genest said USask's new computer science graduates will all have "a great future" ahead of them. Saskatchewan's primary industries of agriculture, energy and mining are undergoing rapid digitization and the trend of increasing technology-centric business practices across every other industry is growing, he said.

"This is putting an enormous opportunity in front of the next generation of graduates: find those places in the rapidly changing business, education and research and development landscape and be part of the change," said Genest.

A STUDENT FOR LIFE

Dr. Jay Cowsill (PhD'10, BA&Sc'21) encourages other retirees to consider returning to school.

Photography: David Stobbe

Dr. Jay Cowsill (PhD'10, BA&Sc'21) has been continually enrolled at USask since 1997

✎ **CHRISTOPHER PUTNAM (BA'07)**

Cowsill is pictured at age 18 in 1965, when he was a student at the University of California, Berkeley.

Photography: submitted

Last fall, Dr. Jay Cowsill returned to classes at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) for the 25th year in a row.

The start of a new term is still exciting.

"I'm a person who just loves study. I've always loved it and I've loved learning," said Cowsill (PhD'10, BA&Sc'21).

The 75-year-old is currently working on his sixth university degree, and he has no plans to stop.

"All the years that I've spent here, it's been a matter of trying to understand the world, to speak more clearly about the issues that face us, to help other people. It's a matter of intellectual culture for me. And I imagine that I will continue studying at this university until I am no longer capable of thinking," he said.

Literary aspirations

Born and raised in California, Cowsill earned his first degree—a Bachelor of Arts in English—from the University of California, Berkeley in 1969. He was profoundly affected by the famous Berkeley Free Speech Movement, in which thousands of students protested for their rights to speech and academic freedom on campus.

Cowsill remembers walking to Berkeley as "a naïve 17-year-old" one morning in December 1964 and witnessing hundreds of peaceful protesters being hauled away by police in one of the largest peacetime arrests in American history.

"It just shattered all of my illusions about being in that country."

He became involved in the free speech, civil rights and antiwar movements. By the time he graduated from Berkeley, Cowsill felt alienated from his home country and was determined to move elsewhere. He and his wife emigrated to Canada in 1973.

"We found a refuge in this country. And we've loved it ever since the day that we came," he said.

Cowsill spent the next 28 years working in the electrical industry in British Columbia.

"I had decided back when I was 12 years old that I wanted to devote my life to the study of literature. But you know, things happen—I had a family and I loved raising them. And so I just had to put these literary aspirations on hold for a quarter of a century."

By 1997, his children had moved out and his retirement had begun. Cowsill enrolled in full-time studies at the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad at USask, intending to become an Anglican priest.

His plan changed when Cowsill's professors spotted his talent for literary studies and encouraged him to pursue his original dream of being a scholar.

He earned two master's degrees focused on the study of the Jewish Bible from St. Andrew's College at USask, then enrolled in a graduate program of the Department of English. In 2010, he was awarded his PhD in English.

Cowsill's next move was unusual. His PhD studies behind him, he reenrolled at the College of Arts and Science—this time as an undergraduate student.

"I thought, well, I've got a PhD. I've sort of reached the pinnacle. Now I can go on and study other things that interest me."

A world of ideas

"I'm sort of a generalist," Cowsill said.

He has a talent for understatement. Cowsill has a working knowledge of a dozen languages ranging from Spanish to Biblical Hebrew. During his PhD studies in English, he contributed to research into cancer and aging led by Dr. Ulrich Teucher of the Department of Psychology and Health Studies.

For his second turn as an undergrad, Cowsill wanted to focus on something further outside his comfort zone. After a stint as a mathematics major, he eventually settled on pursuing a Bachelor of Arts and Science in environment and society from the Department of Geography and Planning.

The multidisciplinary program combines perspectives in the natural and social sciences to study the relationship between humans and their environment.

"I just became engrossed in that. It rewired my mind to think in a more disciplined way. I had never thought scientifically before," Cowsill said.

Cowsill graduated in spring 2021 as one of the College of Arts and Science's top students, winning the University Medal in the BA&Sc Degree and the award for Most Outstanding Graduate in the Environment and Society Program.

This year, he is back in class with plans to finish a Bachelor of Arts (honours) in archaeology and anthropology. After that, it might be a degree in linguistics, or regional and urban planning.

Cowsill feels perfectly at home in the classroom, although his presence can come as a surprise to professors and students.

"I think I became an urban legend for students in the Department of Geography (and Planning)," Cowsill joked.

"Every professor that I've ever seen says, 'I've never seen anybody with a doctorate taking undergraduate courses.' But these disciplines are entirely new to me."

Interacting with students at the start of their academic journeys is part of the reward for Cowsill.

"I love talking to young students and I'm always encouraging them. I tell them there's a whole world of ideas out there that you should also be exploring."

Cowsill believes USask should be seen as a place for everyone, regardless of their age or status. He encourages other retirees to consider returning to school and taking advantage of opportunities such as tuition waivers for senior citizens.

"There's so much more to (university) than just job training. There's intellectual culture. There's spiritual growth. And you never stop learning or growing. It's a lifelong process."

BLUE

Kenney Liu (BA'15) envisions Saskatchewan as an eco-friendly tech hub

CHRISTOPHER PUTNAM (BA'07)

Kenney Liu's job in a pizza parlour wasn't your average after-school gig.

In 2012, Liu—then a second-year economics student in the College of Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan (USask)—purchased Homer's Pizza, becoming CEO and franchiser of his own Saskatoon pizza chain at age 22.

Liu (BA'15) spent the next few years as a full-time student and a more-than-full-time business owner, managing the restaurant's Eighth Street location while training and advising franchisees at other sites.

Doors opened at 11 am and closed sometime between midnight and 3 am each night. Liu would be in class at USask the next morning by 8:30.

"Sometimes when you make a decision, you have to make a sacrifice. And the sacrifice I made was sleeping time," said Liu.

By studying on his way to and from campus and taking extra courses in the summer, Liu was able to finish his Bachelor of Arts degree by 2015.

Those sleepless years spent running restaurants and studying economics proved to be perfect training for Liu's current role. Now 33 years old, Liu is founder and CEO of the CPM Group, a fast-growing set of companies based in Saskatoon that deal in everything from international trade to digital technology platforms.

"It was busy. It was crazy busy. But it was also a good experience for me to learn a lot of things," he said.

The son of two business profession-

Photography: submitted

SKIES

als, Liu grew up in Hebei, China, where he learned English at a foreign language high school. After graduating, he applied to study at several North American universities.

Liu chose to attend USask knowing almost nothing about the university except that it had an interesting and unusual name. The small prairie city of Saskatoon was a culture shock compared to the crowded and highly developed urban environment from which he arrived.

"I was expecting Saskatoon to be more like Beijing, Shanghai or New York, or something like that. But after I lived here for 12, 13 years, I started to love this place. I started to love the people here," he said.

With his sights on a career in business, Liu chose to study economics.

"(Economics) is the basic knowledge that gives you unlimited potential for what you could do in the future. Whether finance or management or whatever it is, it comes from economics," said Liu.

In 2017, two years after graduating from USask, Liu returned to China for a visit. While there, he had a chance to meet with some prominent CEOs and angel investors whose visionary outlooks caused him to think differently about his future.

"I realized there's a lot of things I'd missed. When you run a restaurant, every day you just think about the dough, the pizza sauce, the chicken wings," said Liu. "I started realizing the restaurant industry is not the area that I'm supposed to (work in) for the rest of my life."

Soon after returning to Saskatoon, Liu sold Homer's Pizza and started his next venture.

He founded CPROMO, a tech startup specializing in digital marketing, and CPM Supply, an import/export company focused on environmentally sustainable products. The companies' mission: to help businesses do better business.

Liu's first customers were small restaurants in Saskatoon—a market he understood well from his time with Homer's Pizza.

"During those five years, I realized as a small business, sometimes it's really hard to compete with large corporations," he said.

CPM Supply sold inexpensive compostable and recyclable takeout containers to restaurants. CPROMO offered small businesses a paperless online advertising platform.

Then COVID-19 hit. Many of Liu's customers in the restaurant industry temporarily closed their doors. His international trade business suffered from supply shortages and delays.

"In 2020 March and April, we even couldn't afford our office rent," said Liu.

But new opportunities arrived. Through Liu's connections with manufacturers in China, CPM Supply was able to import orders of personal protective equipment (PPE)—including gloves and face masks—at a time when medical and protective equipment was in short supply.

The company's first shipment in the summer of 2020 sold out within two days of arriving in Canada. More shipments followed.

"That has really saved the business," said Liu.

CPM Group's revenue grew from less than $40,000 in 2019 to about $500,000 in 2020 and $1.4 million in 2021.

Liu's next big venture will connect the dots between his companies' work in marketing and eco-friendly products. In 2022, CPROMO will launch a compostable shopping bag dispenser built on a unique business model.

CPROMO's internet-connected bag dispensers will be provided at no cost to retail businesses. Customers will be able to take a limited number of free compostable bags each day from the machines, which will generate revenue by displaying advertisements from sponsors.

The first CPROMO bag dispensers are set to appear in Saskatoon stores this spring. Liu hopes to have 10,000 machines installed in Saskatchewan and more than 30,000 across Canada by the end of 2022.

The dispenser project is a response to the Government of Canada's upcoming ban on single-use plastics, which will increase operating costs for some businesses. Liu says that CPROMO's compostable bags will save $7,000 for small businesses annually while reducing CO_2 emissions by 70 per cent compared to plastic shopping bags.

"Before 2000, the pollution in China was so bad. I still remember those sandstorms coming to the city every year, and the trees had been cut down. I barely can remember if I could see a blue sky when I was a child," he said.

Encouraged by China's recent progress in reducing air pollution, Liu wants to help protect Canada's environment.

"Because what we're doing here right now, running a business or something like that, is not only about us," said Liu. "It's more about what we could do for the next generation. It's what we could leave for my kid and for my grandkid."

As his businesses grow, Liu is looking for more ways to give back. CPM Group has made donations of PPE to schools, non-profits and small businesses in Saskatoon and other cities.

One of those donations was a gift to USask of 240,000 medical masks in November 2021. The masks are being used by students in some College of Arts and Science classes and programs, and by the College of Kinesiology and Huskie Athletics in campus fitness and training facilities.

"That's part of my Chinese culture, is people have to be grateful. I learned a bunch of things from the University of Saskatchewan," said Liu. "When I became successful, I wanted to give something back to the campus."

Liu wants to continue investing in Saskatchewan, which he believes is well-placed to be a shipping and technology hub that connects Canada's east and west.

"I see Saskatoon as my second home. And when I have all these business plans and business projects, Saskatoon is always the first place I want to try it out," he said.

Photos (clockwise from top left):
Kelley Moore (BA'00, MA'13) was elected to the College of Fellows of the Canadian Institute of Planners. ***Photography: Christopher Putnam***
Fidelia Anulika Orji (MSc'19) was named a 2021 Vanier Scholar. ***Photography: David Stobbe***
John Langan (BA'13) published a memoir and guide to Indigenous spirituality. ***Photography: David Stobbe***
Canada Post released a stamp honouring editorial cartoonist Brian Gable (BA'70). ***Photography: Canada Post***

ALUMNI NOTES

Updates from the past year

University of Saskatchewan (USask) researcher **Dr. Kathryn McWilliams (BSc'94, MSc'97)** became the first Canadian to be awarded an honorary fellowship from the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) of the United Kingdom. The RAS awards honorary fellowships to scientists living outside the U.K. who are eminent in the fields of astronomy or geophysics. In its announcement on Jan. 14, 2022, the RAS described McWilliams, a professor in the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics, as "an unquestioned international expert in the dynamics of field-aligned currents that link the solar wind, magnetosphere and ionosphere."

Dr. Lillian Dyck (BA'66, BA'68, MSc'70, PhD'81) and **Ed Ratushny (BA'64, LLB'65, LLD'21)** have been appointed officers of the Order of Canada. Dyck, a retired Canadian senator, was appointed for her contributions to human rights and social justice, while Ratushny was promoted within the order for his work in law and sports arbitration.

Brad Birnie (BA'83) and Blaine Fagnou (BSc'91, BA'94) were among the 2021 inductees into the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame. Birnie holds three professional titles and was twice named the Professional Golfers' Association of Saskatchewan coach of the year. Fagnou has been superintendent of Elk Ridge Resort for 25 years, hosting 11 provincial tournaments and a Royale senior women's national championship during his tenure.

Dr. Susan Mumm (BA'87, MA'89) was appointed chancellor of the American University of Sharjah, a leading private university in the United Arab Emirates. Mumm has held previous academic and leadership roles at institutions in Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, most recently serving as principal of Brescia University College in Ontario.

Kelley Moore (BA'00, MA'13) was elected to the College of Fellows of the Canadian Institute of Planners. Moore has worked for more than 20 years as a planner in both the public and private sectors, contributing at the local, provincial and international levels.

A new album by two Department of Music graduates combines music with the sounds of nature. Tracks for *behold, the sonic universe* were composed by **Spencer Krips (BMus'19, BEd'21)** and feature vibraphone and marimba performed by his brother, **Fraser Krips (BMus'20, Cert'21)**.

Saskatoon Police Service constable **John Langan (BA'13**) published *Iskocēs Tipiskak: A Spark in the Dark*—a memoir about overcoming racism and poverty, and a guide to Saulteaux and Cree spirituality.

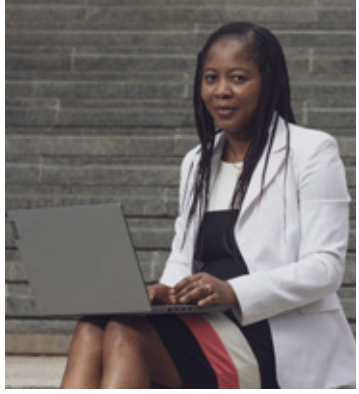
Department of English faculty member **Dr. Sheri Benning (BA'02)** released her fourth book, *Field Requiem*, a collection of poetry inspired by the loss of family farms on the Prairies. A short film adaptation of one of the book's poems—titled *Winter Sleep* and directed by **Chad Galloway (BA'00)**—has been an official selection at eight international film festivals.

Dr. Robert Henry (BEd'04, MEd'09, PhD'15), a faculty member in the Department of Indigenous Studies, is the co-author of *Indigenous Women and Street Gangs*, a collection of stories about strength, determination and growth. Henry co-wrote the book with six Saskatoon women who were involved in street lifestyles.

Dr. John Pomeroy (BSc'83, PhD'88) was named the 2021 Walter Langbein Lecturer by the American Geophysical Union. The annual award recognizes lifetime contributions to the science of hydrology. Pomeroy is a distinguished professor and Canada Research Chair in the Department of Geography and Planning.

Dr. Terry Wotherspoon (BA'76, BEd'77, MA'83) received two national sociology awards: the 2021 Outstanding Contribution Award from the Canadian Sociological Association and the 2021 Best Article Award from the Canadian Review of Sociology. Wotherspoon is a professor in the Department of Sociology.

Dr. Priscilla Settee (BEd'87, PhD'07), a professor in the Department of Indigenous Studies, was named a 2021 NDN Changemaker Fellow by the NDN Collective.



Through the international fellowship, Settee was awarded funding to engage in work that defends, develops and decolonizes Indigenous communities and nations.

Brian Gable (BA'70, DLitt'15) has been honoured with a commemorative stamp from Canada Post. The postage stamp celebrates Gable, the editorial cartoonist for *The Globe and Mail*, for making Canadians laugh and reflect for more than 30 years.

Fidelia Anulika Orji (MSc'19) is a 2021 recipient of the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship for her PhD studies in the Department of Computer Science. Orji is the second member of her family to receive the Vanier Scholarship, one of the most prestigious awards in Canada for graduate students. Her sister **Dr. Rita Orji (PhD'14**) was a 2011 Vanier Scholar—and was recently named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network.

Murray Guest (BSc'92, BEd'93, MEd'10) was honoured with the Canadian Association of Physicists Award for Excellence in Teaching High School/CEGEP Physics. Guest is a physics and math teacher at Walter Murray Collegiate in Saskatoon.

Zachari Logan (BFA'05, MFA'09) premiered his new exhibition, *Ghost Meadows*, at Remai Modern in Saskatoon. It was the first solo exhibition at Remai Modern for the Saskatoon-born artist, whose work has been exhibited around the world.

Dr. Helen Pridmore (BMus'83) recently moved back to Saskatoon after a career of university teaching in New Brunswick and Regina. She is continuing her career as a singer and will premiere a new work, *The Grim Keys*, with Saskatoon's La troupe du jour this spring.

Interdisciplinary artists **Derek Sandbeck (BFA'11**) and **Andie Nicole Palynchuk (BFA'13)** explored the value of play through a residency and exhibition in 2021 at the Kenderdine Art Gallery on the USask campus. Their exhibition, *PLAY*, was produced under their collaborative name, derdie.

Vukie Mpofu (BA'18) accepted a position as manager of hockey operations and legal affairs for the Los Angeles Kings. Mpofu played as a forward with the Red Deer Rebels in the Western Hockey League before focusing on a career in the business side of hockey.

Dr. Jessica Schule (BSc'12) was awarded the title of Seattle Met Top Doctor in Naturopathic Medicine for 2021 by *Seattle Met* magazine. A member of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Schule has practiced naturopathic medicine in the state of Washington for five years.

Five alumni of the College of Arts and Science were honoured with 2021 Saskatchewan Book Awards: **Randy Lundy (BA'94, MA'00)** for *Field Notes for the Self*, **Shannon McConnell (MFA'17, MA'20)** for *The Burden of Gravity*, **Dr. Merle Massie (BA'93, MA'98, PhD'11)** for *A Radiant Life: The Honourable Sylvia Fedoruk*, **Leona Theis (BA'80, Cert'87, MCtgEd'91)** for *If Sylvie Had Nine Lives*, and **Dr. Daniel M. Beveridge (BSc'61, BA'62, MA'65)** as editor for *The Red Road and Other Narratives of the Dakota Sioux*.

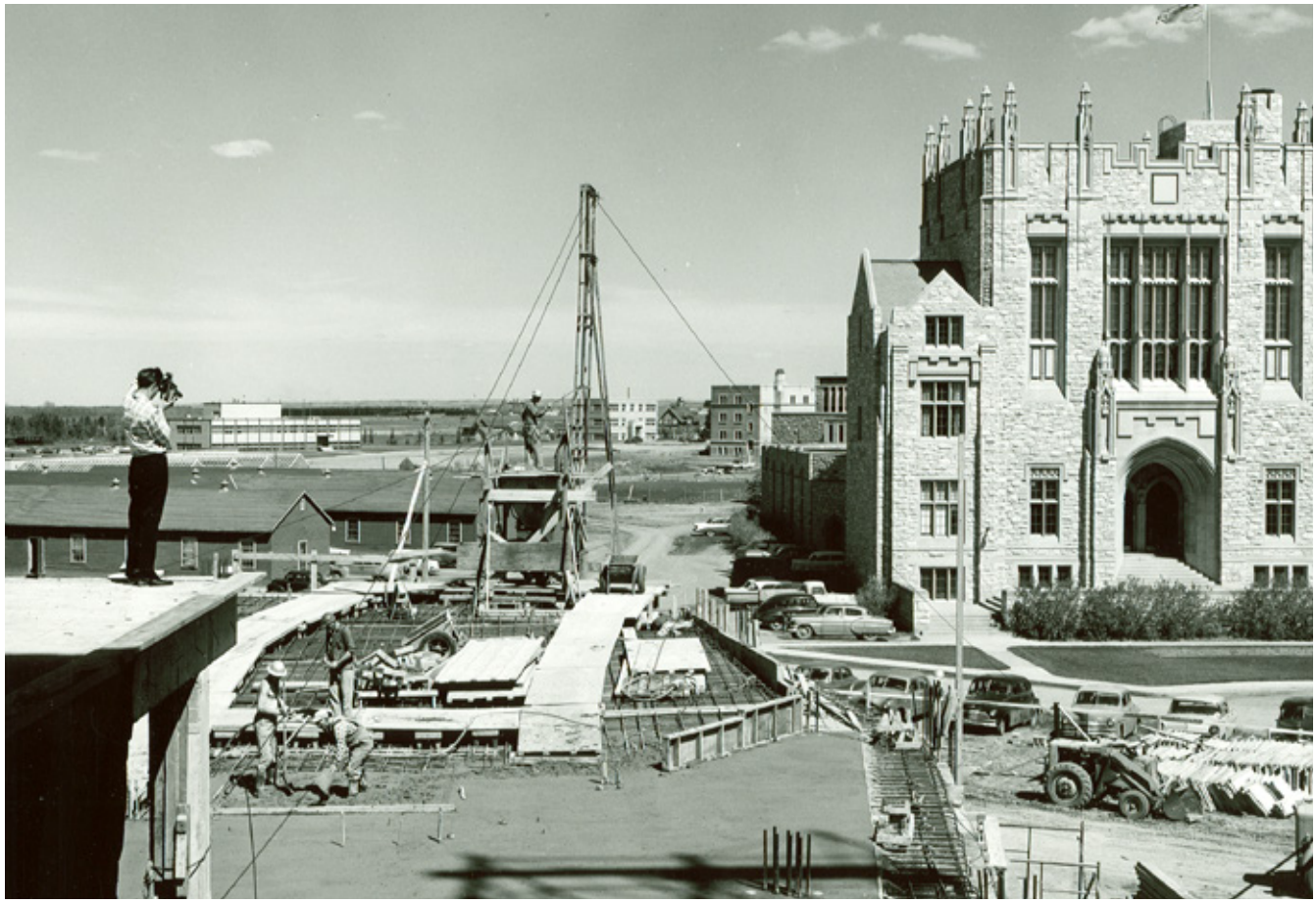
Dr. Bill Waiser (MA'76, PhD'83, DLitt'10) received the 2021 Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence, an award from the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild that honours a writer with a substantial body of acclaimed literary work. Waiser, a distinguished professor emeritus of the Department of History, is the author of more than a dozen books.

Three College of Arts and Science alumni were named to the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 2021. **Albert Brown (BA'74, BEd'82)** is the founder and coordinator of the John School, which has made a significant contribution toward eliminating human trafficking in Saskatoon. **Hart Godden (BMus'82)** has spent decades mentoring young musicians and helping them launch musical careers. Dr. **Donald Greve (BA'58, MD'60)** has served the community of Rosthern, Sask., for more than 40 years as both a physician and a volunteer for countless community organizations and projects.

Arts&Science *wants your news! Send your updates and photos to* ***alumni.artsandscience@usask.ca.***

Raising the Arts Building

The Arts Building at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) was built in four stages between 1958 and 1967. This June 1960 image shows a man photographing the ongoing construction from atop the incomplete Arts Tower, with the Chemistry Building in the background.



Photography: University Archives and Special Collections, A-118

What else was happening in 1960?

- USask became one of the first universities in Canada to obtain a computer, an LGP-30. The desk-sized machine was installed in the basement of the Crop Science Building because it was too large to fit in the Arts Building elevator.
- International art journal *The Structurist* was founded by Eli Bornstein (DLitt'90), USask Department of Art and Art History professor emeritus.
- The House of Commons, under Prime Minister John Diefenbaker (BA'15, MA'16, LLB'19, DCL'58), approved the Canadian Bill of Rights.
- Notable 1960 graduates: photochemist James Bolton (BA'58, MA'60), psychologist Frank Farley (BA'60, MA'63), former Premier of Saskatchewan Roy Romanow (BA'60, LLB'64, LLD'07).

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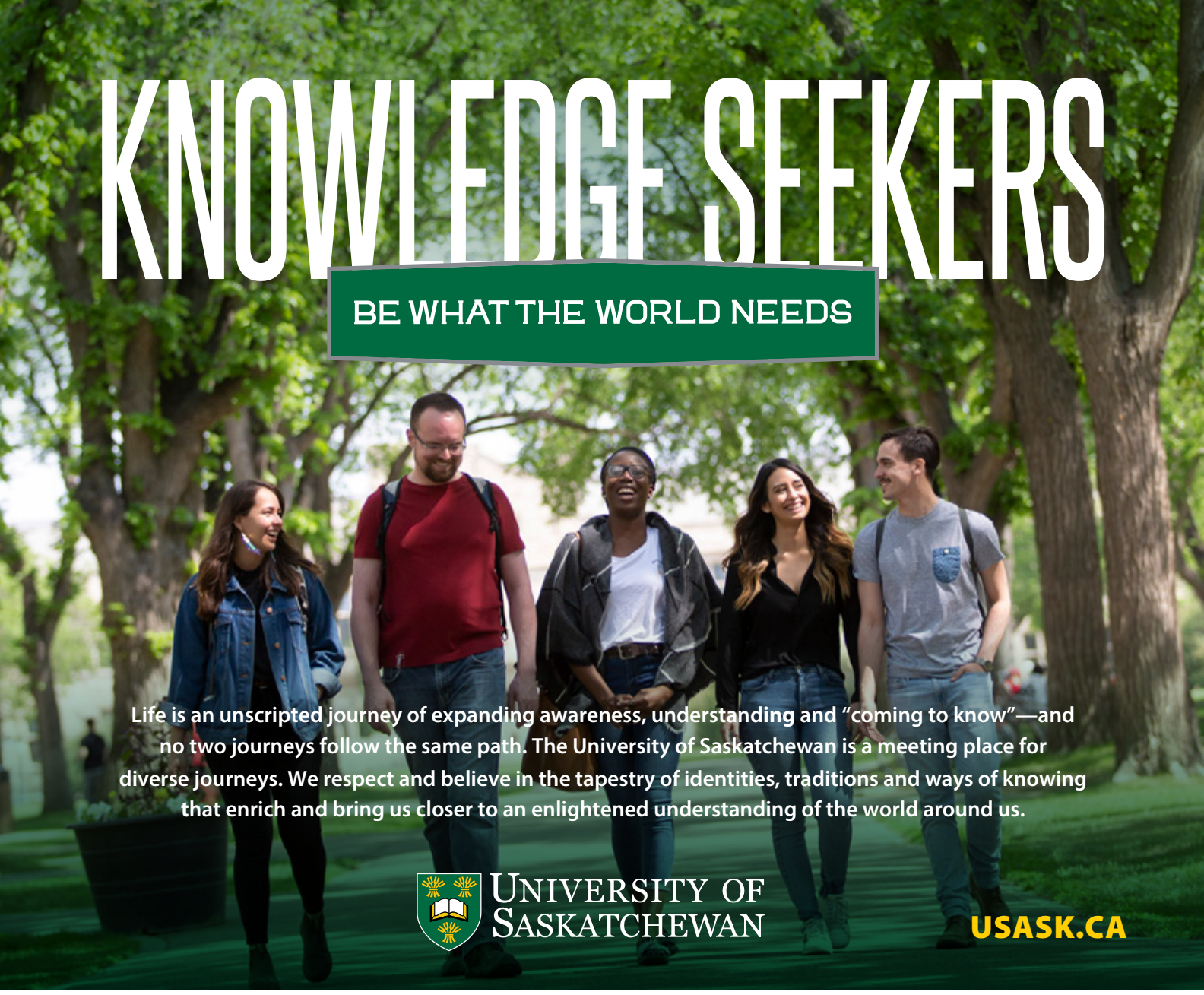

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