

# IMPACT REPORT 2020-21

# PURSUING A BETTER WORLD AS EDMONTON'S CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Our mission as Edmonton's Christian University is to provide Christian university education that inspires students from across Canada and around the world to bring renewal to every walk of life.

Every student at King's is made in God's image.

By helping to develop their unique interests, passions, and talents, our hope is that they leave here knowing who they are, having heard God's call, ready to embark on their life's work.

We believe that learning happens best in community, and that the greatest ideas are born in conversations between friends. With the help of our donor community, King's provides a unique and supportive learning environment for our students that gives them a strong foundation for life.



# Ryleigh Vandershee: Adventures in Research

As a biology student at King's, Ryleigh Vanderschee spent the summer of 2019 conducting research in the wilderness of northern Alberta as an assistant to a graduate student from the University of Alberta. Their research, supervised by King's Biology professor Dr. Vern Peters, and others from the University of Alberta, examined the effects environmental factors have on the habitat choices of snowshoe hares.

"Our job involved driving as close as we could to a research site and bush-whacking the rest of our way in," recalls Ryleigh. "When we arrived, we set up 50-meter by two-meter transect lines and collected all the data we could from within that plot: pellet counts, vegetation types—you name it."

That summer, Ryleigh helped collect data from more than 140 such plots in the forests around Fort McMurray. Though most days were uneventful, Ryleigh and her colleague once unknowingly entered a part of the bush used by hunters to bait bears. To their surprise, they found themselves within 30 feet of a black bear. Although both carried bear spray for safety, they managed to frighten the bear off without incident.

On a separate occasion, while walking back to their vehicle, Ryleigh felt as though they were being fol-

lowed. As it turned out, a large black wolf had taken a leisurely interest in them!

During the following school year, Ryleigh spent time editing research models, analyzing and interpreting data, and collaborating with her supervisors and colleauges to get their research published. Under the supervision of Dr. Peters, she also used some of the data for her senior thesis. Ryleigh credits her education at King's for preparing her for such a unique project.

"If I had to pick a course or two that were most useful to me in my research, it would be my plant diversity course with Dr. Vern Peters as well as research methods and biostatistics with Dr. Darcy Visscher."

This autumn, in addition to managing King's Community Garden and applying for medical schools, Ryleigh continues to edit her research models and revise her paper as she works to have their work published. The hope is that their findings provide insight into how climate change will affect snowshoe hares and which variables most influence their choice of habitat, allowing conservationists to focus their efforts for the greatest impact.



## **Trees for Tomorrow**

Because of your generosity, over 128 trees and 550 saplings were planted this spring in support of campus beautification, student wellness, and sustainability. We couldn't have done this without your support!

• 5 Brandon Elm

3 Ming Cherry

2 Evans Cherry

2 Inferno Maple

2 Swiss Stone Pine

2 Green Ash

 3 Scots Pine • 2 American Elm

2 Apple

• 5 Ponderosa Pine

4 Autumn Blaze Maple

In total, 88 people gave towards this initiative, exceeding our initial fundraising target of \$8,000 by over 400 percent! The dividends of this investment are already beginning to grow, making our campus a more welcoming place for new generations of King's students.

Together, we planted a diverse collection of trees, including:

300 Fir

120 Paper Birch

42 Willow

37 White Spruce

25 Swedish Aspen

24 Tamarack

18 Colorado Spruce

13 Linden

7 Ohio Buckeye

6 Flowering Crab

6 Trembling Aspen



# **Moving Forward in Faithfulness**

I have been utterly amazed this year at God's faithfulness and how King's alumni and community have rallied around the beautiful vision of this institution, despite high levels of uncertainty in the world. Your support has enabled us to put together a strong plan for delivering top-quality Christian academic and student programs that meet students where they are, both in-person and online.

Our task is an awesome one! We exist to inspire and equip learners to make real, positive impacts in our world and in the lives of others. There is no better time to invest in the next generation. Thanks for being a part of this great place. Pray for us and our students, that we remain encouraged and faithful to our God as we build into this year.

Faithfully yours,

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### **Statement of Financial Position**

Surplus	Total	201,538
	Total	20,479,843
	Interest on debt	243,610
	Facilities and computing	3,163,794
	Administration and advancement	3,065,490
	Student services	5,644,547
Expenses	Instruction, research, library	\$8,362,402
	Total	20,681,381
		2,416,447
	Donations	2,914,055
	Government grants Sales and other	5,254,578
Revenue	Tuition	10,096,301
	Total	29,910,980
	Total	
	Net assets	3,094,758
a liei asseis	Deferred capital contributions	2,883,519
Liabilities & net assets	Current liabilities Long-term debt	23,015,853 916,850
	Total	29,910,980
	Property and equipment	19,291,489
	Investments	8,678,128
Assets	Current assets	1,941,363

For a complete, detailed report on King's finances, please visit: kingsu.ca/finances

### 2019-2020 Investments for Students

Launched the Academic Enrichment Centre, consolidating all of King's student services and academi supports in one location.

Founded the new Centre for Career and Calling, supporting students and lumni as they seek employmen or placement in graduate and professional programs.

Invested in **new video** conferencing equipment, live-streaming software, and network infrastructure to enhance our online learning experience.

Opened a **new seasonal** community ice rink, supported by generous contributions from business partners in the community.

Disbursed \$660,000 in student awards and scholarships

Upgraded our Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in the sciences continues to be world-class.

Imaging (NMRI) machine to ensure that our research



"I will be starting a Ph.D program in philosophy this fall. My work is centered on issues of love and hospitality. What does it look like to be hospitable to the stranger? What does it mean to embody the love of Christ? These questions are exciting because they change how we interact with people."

#### **Anna Boessenkool**

Eagles Volleyball, Right Side B.A. Philosophy '20

painted bike racks and planters, stained fences, trimmed foliage, and

planted flowers to beautify the campus for incoming students.

"I would say that the community

is my favourite part about King's.

I am blessed to play volleyball

with an amazing group of team-

mates. They're some of my best

friends and are great people to be

so friendly and I have made a lot

around. Everyone at King's is

of friends because of that!"

**Tanner Piers** 



"My favourite thing about my job is encountering students who are willing to stare our world's brokenness and suffering in the face and commit themselves to living lives of loving-kindness in their own unique ways. I love King's commitment to exploring Christ's call in every corner of the world."

#### **Jonathan Nicolai-DeKoning**

Director, Micah Centre

# An update on the Critical Operations Fund

Through your generous gifts to the Critical Operations Fund, King's successfully navigated significant challenges to our financial situation and the health of our students, staff, and faculty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Your support enabled us to quickly pivot to online course delivery and provided the foundation for the hybrid model we have rolled out for the 2020 academic year, which now includes in-person and online instruction. Because of your support, we surpassed our goal of \$200,000 and are entering the 2020-21 academic year on good financial footing and with an enrolment increase over last year. Thank you!

# **SAVE THE DATE** KING'S HARVEST BANQUET

November 14, 2020, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Join us for a small group online event featuring live entertainment, a keynote address, alumni achievement awards, and a silent auction. More details to come!

For more information:

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