Year in Review
As of July 31, 2019
Strategic Priorities

Fundraising / Donors

Since it was established in 2003, $3.0 million in donations has been received by the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Foundation, and another $200,000 is committed for future years, meaning that the Foundation’s past and future commitments have exceeded $3.2 million!

The Foundation continues to operate successfully thanks to contributions and long-term financial commitments from many donors. The Foundation receives support from governments, private sector companies and individuals. Nonetheless, it is crucial for the Foundation to continually devote time and effort to seeking new supporters while maintaining its donor base. Sixteen donor commitments expire in 2019; the Board of Directors will lead the work to renew agreements with the following donors:

- 3M Canada Company
- ATS Traffic
- Canadian Council of Motor Transportation Administrators
- CIMA+
- Esch Foundation
- EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division
- Guild Electric Limited
- HDR Corporation
- IBI Group
- ISL Engineering Group
- The Miller Group
- Morrison Hershfield
- Powell Contracting Limited
- Dr. Ralph Haas
- Stantec
- Tetra Tech Canada

All of Canada’s provincial and territorial departments of transportation, as well as the Halifax Regional Municipality, have been contributors to the Foundation in the past. Those annual contributions, which are also subject to renewal in 2019, aid in supporting the TAC Foundation operations and programs. The Board of Directors will continue to nurture its relationship with all of these jurisdictions, and to secure renewed commitments to support the Foundation as it works to support the education and development of tomorrow’s transportation professionals.

At the 2018 TAC Conference & Exhibition in Saskatoon, part of Tuesday’s lunch program was dedicated to featuring the TAC Foundation’s activities. This included highlighting the ongoing success of the scholarship program, and providing onscreen recognition to donors. Once again, TAC Foundation donors, key volunteers and scholarship recipients present at the event were seated at VIP tables at the lunch in recognition of their support and achievements.

Marketing Study and Communication Plan

In 2018, a consulting firm was hired to develop a marketing and communications plan for the Foundation. The plan provides direction for the Foundation’s efforts to actively engage students and stakeholders, while retaining its focus on scholarships and other key programs.

Of note in the last year, Board members gathered information about the current status of past Foundation scholarship recipients. The “where are they now” summary tells a compelling story about the value of supporting students in transportation-related programs of study. Plans are being made to communicate that story broadly with donors, stakeholders, students and others across the transportation sector.
Programs

TRAC™ Learning

Developed by the American Association of State and Highway Transportation Officials, TRAC™ is a hands-on learning program designed to engage students from grades 7 through 12 with transportation and civil engineering subjects.

Thanks to funding provided by Englobe Corporation and the Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories, the Foundation hosted a TRAC event in Ottawa in conjunction with the 2019 TAC spring technical meetings. Seventeen students in Grades 11 and 12 participated in a day-long experiment of magnetic levitation transportation. In groups of four or five, students designed and constructed MAGLEV cars out of Styrofoam® blocks and magnetic strips, using the TRAC MAGLEV module materials, tools and software. At the end of the session the cars were tested on aluminum tracks fitted with magnetic strips of the opposite pole to that in installed on the cars, to determine velocities and acceleration due to gravity at various grades.

Students and educators found the TRAC event fun and informative and it was deemed a huge success. The TAC Foundation plans to offer additional sessions at future TAC events.

Scholarships

Since 2005, the Foundation’s scholarship program has awarded 546 scholarships valued at $2.2 million to students at the graduate, undergraduate (university and college) and entrance level in transportation-related disciplines.

This year 23 scholarships valued at $106,000 are being awarded directly through the Foundation. The review of the applications that met the eligibility criteria was coordinated by Dr. Xiomara Sanchez, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering and D. C. Campbell Chair in Highway Construction and Pavement Research at the University of New Brunswick and Ms. Janelle Warren, Manager, Professional Development & Training, Ontario Good Roads Association. The 23 recipients, plus a number of other high-ranking applicants, will again benefit from the Employment Connections component of the program when, later this fall, information about their future employment interests and career ambitions will be shared with the TAC Foundation’s major donors.

The program launched in 2015 in partnership with the Norman Esch Foundation continued with the University of Windsor, which awards five (5) annual scholarships of $5,000 each to undergraduates. Half of these funds are provided by the TAC and Esch Foundations, and the remaining half is contributed by the University of Windsor. Recipients of these awards are selected by the university directly.

Therefore, in 2019, 28 scholarships are being awarded internally and externally, with $131,000 provided by the TAC Foundation.

Promoting Internships

Again last year, the Foundation promoted paid summer internships offering on-the-job training at transportation employers across Canada. Six participating companies paid a service fee to the Foundation who advertised the positions, collected and passed along the eligible applications. In all, 89 applications were received from a pool of 26 unique applicants. These companies managed the selection and hiring process independently. The Foundation believes that offering the opportunity to apply for these internship positions enhances the value and reach of the Foundation and its other programs with students.

Student Activities Fund

Five thousand dollars was allocated to the Student Activities Fund in 2019, to support those participating in extracurricular activities like field trips or educational experiences, or to purchase infrastructure or equipment that support their studies in transportation-related disciplines. These funds supported applications from:

- Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) York University Student Chapter: Funding to purchase two TAC publications for their library. TAC provided a 50% discount and the Foundation provided the remaining funds necessary to purchase copies of the Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada.

- University of Alberta Formula SAE Team: Funding to attend Formula SAE North in Barrie, Ontario, from May 30 to June 2, 2019.

Hack-a-thon

As part of an engagement strategy in 2018, the Foundation partnered with Hackworks to explore the possibility of organizing a transportation-themed hack-a-thon. The event was intended to connect the transportation industry with student communities to help solve social transportation challenges over a 48-hour problem solving competition.

Despite securing some sponsorship, additional support from an anchor sponsor would have been required to ensure the success of this event. The event was unable to proceed but the Foundation Board is considering lessons learned. Interest is high for a future transportation-themed hack-a-thon.
Financial Highlights

As noted in the Fundraising section, $3.2 million has either been received by or committed to TAC Foundation programs, past and future. $2.2 million of the $3.0 million received has been paid out in the form of scholarships, equaling 73% of all funds received that have directly reached the hands of tomorrow’s transportation professionals in the form of awards.

The TAC Foundation works annually on a break-even basis for its operational expenses. The 2018 audited financial statements can be found online at https://www.tac-foundation.ca

Donors

Thanks to TAC Foundation donors, past and present, for helping the Foundation to raise more than $3.2 million to date! Assignment to the donor categories below reflects cumulative and/or future commitments to the dollar values listed.

Platinum – $50,000 or more
- 3M Canada Company*
- 407 ETR*
- Alberta Transportation*
- Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories (CCIL)*
- Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators*
- Dr. Ralph Haas*
- Esch Foundation*
- Golder Associates Ltd.*
- HDR Corporation*
- IBI Group*
- ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd.*
- Ministère des Transports, Mobilité durable et l’Électrification des transports du Québec*
- Ministry of Transportation, Ontario*
- SNC-Lavalin Inc.*
- Stantec Consulting Ltd.*
- Tetra Tech Canada*
- Transport Canada*
- Transportation Association of Canada*

Gold – $25,000 or more
- ATS Traffic*
- CIMA+
- Colas Canada*
- EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division*
- Halifax Regional Municipality*
- Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation*
- Metrolinx*
- Morrison Hershfield*
- New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure*
- Newfoundland and Labrador Transportation and Works*
- Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal*
- Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure*
- WSP*

Silver – $15,000 or more
- Guild Electric Ltd*.
- P.E.I. Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal*
- Transoft Solutions*

Bronze – $1,000 or more
- Al-Terra Engineering (Edmonton) Ltd.
- Englebore Corporation
- Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Transportation
- The Miller Group
- MORR Transportation Consulting
- Powell Contracting Ltd.
Leadership

Board of Directors

Jean-François Barsoum, IBM
Gerry Chaput, Metrolinx
Carl Clayton, IBI Group
Stephen Damp, EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division
Ryan Essex, The Miller Group
Keith S. Foster, Englobe
Jean-François Gysel, SNC-Lavalin Inc.
Brian D. Henderson, TAC Foundation
Vimy Henderson, PSI Technologies Inc.
Anne-Marie Leclerc, Ministère des Transports, Mobilité durable et l’Électrification des transports du Québec
Ana Lopez, British Columbia Institute of Technology
Ray Mantha, TAC Foundation
Scott Stewart, IBI Group
Susan Tighe, University of Waterloo
Rob Wanless, WSP Canada
Jim Weir, Morrison Hershfield Limited
Sarah Wells, Transportation Association of Canada

Officers

President – Gerry Chaput
Vice President – Jim Weir
Past President – Stephen Damp
Executive Director – Ray Mantha
Treasurer – Scott Stewart

Committee Leaders

Marketing/Communications – Jean-François Gysel and Vimy Henderson
Fundraising – Stephen Damp
Student Outreach – Keith Foster
Scholarships – Xiomara Sanchez and Janelle Warren
Hackathon – Jean-François Barsoum and Jean-François Gysel
Scholarship Recipients

Jacqueline Young
Master of Science in Engineering
University of New Brunswick
$6000 – Esch Foundation

Lucas Hallett
BSc in Civil Engineering
University of New Brunswick
$6000 – Esch Foundation

Patrick Meredith-Karam
Dual Master’s Degree - MIT Interdepartmental Program in Transportation and Technology & Policy Program
University of Toronto
$5000 – 407 ETR

Kiera Dolan
Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Civil)
University of New Brunswick
$5000 – ATS Traffic

Jen Penner
Master of Science in Civil Engineering
University of Saskatchewan
$5000 – Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories

Amr Mohamed
Ph.D. in Transportation Engineering
University of Alberta
$5000 – CCMTA Road Safety

Gozde Ozonder
PhD
University of Toronto
$5000 – CIMA+

Hosam Sennah
Master of Applied Science (MASc) - Civil Engineering
Ryerson University
$5000 – Dr. Ralph Haas

Hugo Paradis
Master of Business Administration / MBA Gestion des entreprises
Université Laval
$5000 – EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division

Hanlieh Pourmand
PhD in Civil Engineering
Ryerson University
$5000 – Golder Associates Ltd.

Cai Yang
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering - Co-op
University of Alberta
$5000 – Guild Electric Ltd.

Michelle Liu
Master of Applied Science (MASc), Civil Engineering
University of Waterloo
$5000 – HDR Corporation

Amanda Pushka
Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Transportation)
University of Manitoba
$5000 – Morrison Hershfield Limited

Patrick Wilkon
Bachelor of Civil Engineering and Management
McMaster University
$5000 – SNC-Lavalin

Mischa Young
Doctor of Philosophy, Urban Planning
University of Toronto
$5000 – Stantec Consulting, in recognition of Dr. Ralph Haas

Maged Gouda
PhD Civil Engineering
University of Alberta
$5000 – Tetra Tech Canada

Camille Renaud-Laprise
Maîtrise recherche en génie civil (structure de pont)
Polytechnique Montréal
$5000 – WSP Canada

Daniel Olejarz
Master of Applied Science
University of Toronto
$4500 – 3M Canada, Bob Margison Memorial

Alec MacDonald
Masters of Science in Civil Engineering
University of New Brunswick
$4500 – IBI Group

Sheena Briggs
Civil Engineering Technology – Municipal
Seneca College
$2500 – Colas Canada

Qingguo You
Diploma in civil engineering technology
Seneca College
$2500 – Colas Canada

Alexander Hajjar
Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology
Seneca College
$2500 – Powell Contracting Ltd.

Michelle Ewashko
Civil Engineering Technologist – Municipal
Red River College
$2500 – The Miller Group