

# TAC FOUNDATION YEAR IN REVIEW

as of July 31, 2017

## Strategic Priorities

### Fundraising / Donors

Since the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Foundation was established in 2003, more than \$2.6 million in donations has been received, and another \$400,000 in donations is already committed for future years. This means that the Foundation's past and future commitments have reached the \$3 million milestone!

The Foundation continues to operate successfully at a consistent and stable level of funding 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. The Board of Directors leads in this responsibility.

Three new donors came on board in 2017, and three past or current donors rejoined or expanded their involvement. Welcome to new donors:

- Guild Electric Ltd. with a three-year commitment of \$16,500; \$5,500 per year for three years in support of a named university scholarship;
- The Miller Group with a three-year commitment of \$8,250 or \$2750 per year to support a named college/CEGEP level scholarship; and
- Powell Contracting with a three-year commitment of \$8,250 or \$2750 per year to support a named college/CEGEP level scholarship.

Three past or current donors who made new commitments are:

- CIMA+, with a three-year commitment of \$16,500; \$5,500 per year for three years in support of a named university scholarship; and
- EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division is now supporting a named

university scholarship as well as its existing college/CEGEP one, for a total of two awards. The university scholarship is for three years, totaling \$16,500, or \$5500 per year.

- Morrison Hershfield with a three-year commitment of \$16,500; \$5,500 per year for three years in support of a named university scholarship.

Commitments from the federal, provincial and territorial departments of transportation expired at the end of 2016 and departments of transportation in Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, the Northwest Territories, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Yukon, as well as Transport Canada, all agreed to three year extensions. Additionally, the Regional Municipality of Halifax remained a committed donor. The Board of Directors will continue to nurture its relationship with all of these jurisdictions, and to communicate the value it brings in supporting students in transportation-related programs of study.

At the 2016 TAC Conference & Exhibition in Toronto, 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. Prior to the lunch, a small reception was held for donors, volunteers and current and past scholarship recipients.

### Scholarship Program

Since 2005, the Foundation's scholarship program has awarded 494 scholarships valued at \$2,002,000 to students at the graduate, undergraduate (university and college) and entrance level in transportation-related disciplines.

In 2017, 38 scholarships valued at \$165,500 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

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Foundation worked to adapt its strategies and activities to ensure its relevance to the new breed of students pursuing careers related to road and highway infrastructure, and urban transportation.
- Three (3) new donors with multi-year commitments were secured, and three (3) past or existing donors rejoined or expanded their involvement
- 43 scholarships valued at \$178,000 are being awarded this year, bringing the total value of scholarships since 2005 to \$2,002,000
- Two grants of \$3,000 each were awarded to student groups through the Student Activities Fund, which supports extracurricular activities providing exposure to transportation as a discipline and career choice.
- A pilot program to promote and collect applications for internships providing work experience in transportation companies was launched. Three companies hired five students through the program for summer 2017.

Research at the University of New Brunswick. The 38 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. The University of Windsor program awards five (5) annual scholarships of \$5,000 each to undergraduates. Half of these funds are provided by the TAC and Esch Foundations, while the remaining half is contributed by the University of Windsor. Recipients of these awards are selected by the university directly.

Therefore in 2017, 43 scholarships are being awarded internally and externally, with \$178,000 provided by the TAC Foundation.

## Student Activities Fund

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2017 was the first time that the Foundation provided grants to individuals or groups through its Student Activities Fund. In April, grants of \$3,000 each were provided to two student groups: le Club scientifique Pont d'acier Hercule de l'École de technologie supérieure (ETS), and the Institute of Transportation Engineers University of Alberta (ITEUA) Student Chapter. Congratulations to the group from ETS, who ended up winning the National Student Steel Bridge Competition for the second year in a row!

The Student Activities Fund (currently \$10,000 annually) supports 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, and provide exposure to transportation as a discipline and career choice.

The Board of Directors is optimistic that the Student Activities Fund will help the Foundation broaden its level of awareness and influence among college and university students, and promote transportation as an attractive career choice.

## Internships

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The Foundation expanded its programs to include a pilot program for students to apply for paid internships that offered work experience in a transportation-related company. The Foundation promoted the internships and collected applications from eligible students, which were then passed along to the participating companies: EllisDon Corporation, MORR Transportation Consulting and SNC-Lavalin. These companies managed the selection and hiring process independently.

Through this pilot program, four interns were hired to work at the three participating companies during summer 2017. The Foundation is excited to debrief with both the companies and interns to learn more about areas that were successful as well as those that could be improved. The program offering companies the opportunity to promote and collect applications for internships is expected to continue in 2018.

## Strategic Direction & Evolution

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Over the past year, the TAC Foundation has been working to adapt its strategies and activities to remain relevant to the new breed of students pursuing careers related to road and highway infrastructure and urban transportation.

In fall 2016, the Foundation approved new Vision and Mission Statements, to better reflect the Foundation's intent to broaden its reach and activities beyond its traditional audience of civil and transportation engineering.

**Vision:** Supporting the Education and Development of Tomorrow's Transportation Professionals

**Mission:** The Transportation Association of Canada Foundation supports the education and personnel development needs of the Canadian transportation industry by:

- Providing educational support to individuals attending post-secondary institutions in current and future transportation-related disciplines;
- Providing financial support for student activities to promote transportation-related disciplines as a career; and
- Supporting opportunities to link emerging technologies and relevant non-traditional disciplines with transportation professionals and students.

A brainstorming session was held in April 2017 themed around the question, "how do we support the future educational needs of the changing and broadening transportation industry in Canada". The session, and discussions that followed it, led to directions to be pursued in the coming year.

**Scholarship Program:** The primary focus of the scholarship program will remain on supporting civil / transportation engineering and transportation planning students, however one or two specific new disciplines will be identified as secondary targets to broaden and modernize the scope of the scholarship program.

**Promotion of Internships:** After a successful pilot year, the initiative around internships should continue. Related materials will be adjusted to more clearly express the Foundation's role as providing a service to companies to promote their internships and centralize the collection applications, rather than them being managed by or through the Foundation.

**Student Outreach:** Current activities including involvement in Student Day of the TAC Conference and supporting non-curricular ways to expose students to transportation-related trips or activities via the Student Activities Fund will continue.

**Potential new initiatives:** Two concepts for other programs are being explored further: hosting TRAC program-related events that engage high school students participating in hands-on activities; and a transportation hack-a-thon inviting multi-disciplinary teams of university students to work over a weekend to solve a transportation problem with the support of mentors from the private sector.

## Donors

Thanks to TAC Foundation donors, past and present, for helping the Foundation to raise more than \$3 million to date! Assignment to categories reflects cumulative and/or future commitments to the dollar value listed.

### Platinum – \$50,000 or more

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3M Canada Company\*  
Alberta Transportation\*  
Amec Foster Wheeler\*  
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators\*  
Dillon Consulting Limited\*  
Dr. Ralph Haas\*  
Esch Foundation\*  
Golder Associates Ltd.\*  
HDR Corporation\*  
IBI Group\*  
ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd.\*  
Ministry of Transportation, Ontario\*  
Parsons\*  
SNC-Lavalin Inc.\*  
Stantec Consulting Ltd.\*  
Tetra Tech EBA\*  
Transport Canada\*  
Transportation Association of Canada\*

### Gold – \$25,000 or more

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407 ETR  
ATS Traffic\*  
Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories (CCIL)\*  
CIMA+\*  
EllisDon Corporation, Civil Division  
Halifax Regional Municipality\*  
Morrison Hershfield\*  
Peto MacCallum Ltd.\*  
WSP\*

### Silver – \$15,000 or more

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Colas Canada  
Guild Electric Ltd.  
Manitoba Infrastructure\*  
Metrolinx  
New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure\*  
Newfoundland and Labrador Transportation and Works\*  
Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal\*  
P.E.I. Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy  
Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure\*  
Transoft Solutions

### Bronze – \$1,000 or more

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Al-Terra Engineering (Edmonton) Ltd.  
Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Transportation  
Powell Contracting Ltd.  
The Miller Group  
Yukon Department of Highways and Public Works

## Financial Highlights

As noted in the Fundraising section, \$3 million has either been received by or committed to TAC Foundation programs, past and future. \$2 million of the \$2.6 million received has been paid out in the form of scholarships, equaling 77% 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 2016 audited financial statements can be found online at [www.tac-foundation.ca](http://www.tac-foundation.ca).

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jean-François Barsoum, IBM  
Gerry Chaput, Metrolinx  
Carl Clayton, Stantec Consulting Ltd.  
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, Golder Associates Ltd.  
Anne-Marie Leclerc, Ministère des Transports, Mobilité durable et l'Électrification des transports du Québec  
Cindy Lucas, Ministry of Transportation, Ontario  
Susan L. Tighe, University of Waterloo  
Rob Wanless, WSP Canada  
Jim Weir, Morrison Hershfield Limited  
Sarah Wells, Transportation Association of Canada

#### OFFICERS

President – Stephen Damp  
Past President – Carl Clayton  
Executive Director – Brian Henderson  
Secretary/Treasurer – Erica Andersen

#### VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Marketing/Communications – Jean-François Gysel  
Fundraising – Stephen Damp  
Student Outreach – Keith Foster  
Scholarships – Xiomara Sanchez

# Scholarship Recipients

**Benjamin Bédard**

Bachelor Mechanical Engineering  
Université de Sherbrooke  
\$6000 ~ Esch Foundation

**Glen Chua**

Master Civil Engineering  
University of British Columbia  
\$6000 ~ Esch Foundation

**Suliman Gargoum**

PhD Transportation Engineering  
University of Alberta  
\$5000 ~ 407 ETR

**Abid Tabassum**

PhD Civil Engineering  
University of Waterloo  
\$5000 ~ Amec Foster Wheeler

**Syed Imam**

Bachelor Applied Science, Civil  
Engineering  
University of Toronto  
\$5000 ~ ATS Traffic

**Derek Albert**

PhD Psychiatry, Transportation  
Psychology  
McGill University  
\$5000 ~ CCMTA Road Safety

**Md Sami Hasnine**

PhD Transportation Engineering  
University of Toronto  
\$5000 ~ CIMA +

**Pasquale Basso Trujillo**

PhD Civil Engineering  
Université Laval  
\$5000 ~ Canadian Council for  
Independent Laboratories (CCIL)

**Emily Grise**

PhD Urban Planning  
McGill University  
\$5000 ~ Dillon Consulting Limited

**Antoine Gagnon**

PhD Civil Engineering  
Université Laval  
\$5000 ~ Dr. Ralph Haas

**Matthieu Goudreau**

MScE Transportation  
University of New Brunswick  
\$5000 ~ EllisDon Corporation, Civil  
Division

**Gabriel Lefebvre-Ropars**

PhD Civil Engineering, Transportation  
Polytechnique de Montréal  
\$5000 ~ Golder Associates Ltd.

**Amanda Gadowski**

BSc Civil Engineering Cooperative  
Program  
University of Alberta  
\$5000 ~ Guild Electric Ltd.

**Caleb Olfert**

MSc Civil Engineering, Transportation  
University of Manitoba  
\$5000 ~ HDR Corporation

**Seiran Heshami**

PhD Philosophy, Transportation  
Engineering  
University of Calgary  
\$5000 ~ ISL Engineering, in recognition  
of Gary W. Mack

**Matthew Sjaarda**

PhD Civil Engineering  
University of Waterloo  
\$5000 ~ Morrison Hershfield Limited

**William Wilson**

PhD Civil Engineering  
Université de Sherbrooke  
\$5000 ~ Parsons, in recognition of W.J.  
Malone

**Michelle Liu**

Bachelor of Applied Science,  
Faculty of Engineering  
University of Waterloo  
\$5000 ~ Peto MacCallum Ltd.

**Jack Gillies**

Bachelor Technology  
McMaster University  
\$5000 ~ SNC-Lavalin

**Yuxin (Leo) Chen**

MSc Transportation  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
\$5000 ~ Stantec Consulting, in  
recognition of Dr. Frank Meyer

**Kate Beck**

Masters City Planning, and Masters  
Public Health  
University of California, Berkeley  
\$5000 ~ Stantec Consulting, in  
recognition of Dr. Ralph Haas

**Auja Ominski**

MSc Civil Engineering  
University of Manitoba  
\$5000 ~ Tetra Tech Canada

**Aaron Manuel**

MSc Civil Engineering, Transportation  
Engineering  
University of Calgary  
\$5000 ~ WSP Canada

**Soheila Aalami**

PhD Transportation Engineering  
University of Calgary  
\$4500 ~ 3M Canada, Bob Margison  
Memorial

**Christopher Harding**

PhD Civil Engineering  
University of Toronto  
\$4500 ~ IBI Group

**Jeff Allen**

MA Geography  
University of Toronto  
\$4000 ~ Provinces/Territories

**Georgiana Madar**

PhD Civil Engineering, Transportation  
University of Windsor  
\$4000 ~ Provinces/Territories

**Alireza Mohammadi**

PhD  
Concordia University  
\$4000 ~ Provinces/Territories

**Dahlia Malek**

MASc Transportation Engineering  
University of Waterloo  
\$3000 ~ TAC Foundation

**Dylan Stafford**

MSc Civil Engineering  
University of Manitoba  
\$3000 ~ TAC Foundation

**Alec MacDonald**

BSc Civil Engineering  
University of New Brunswick  
\$3000 ~ Municipalities

**Ali Al-Abbasi**

MSc Civil Engineering  
University of Manitoba  
\$3000 ~ Provinces/Territories

**Tyler Donovan**

MSc Civil Engineering  
University of Alberta  
\$3000 ~ Provinces/Territories

**Daryl Roldan**

Civil Engineering Technology Diploma  
Southern Alberta Institute of  
Technology  
\$2500 ~ Colas Canada

**Khong (Brian) Le**

Transportation Engineering  
Technology Advanced Diploma  
Mohawk College  
\$2500 ~ Colas Canada

**Ivan Balaban**

Transportation Engineering  
Technology Advanced Diploma  
Mohawk College  
\$2500 ~ EllisDon Corporation, Civil  
Division

**Eric Bentzen-Bilkvist**

Transportation Engineering  
Technology Advanced Diploma  
Mohawk College  
\$2500 ~ Powell Contracting Ltd.

**Stacey Neves**

Diploma Civil Engineering Technology  
British Columbia Institute of  
Technology  
\$2500 ~ The Miller Group