

INSTITUTION OVERVIEW

The University of Alberta is one of Canada's premier teaching and research universities, with an international reputation for excellence across the humanities, sciences, creative arts, business, engineering and health sciences. Founded in 1908 as a board-governed public institution by Alexander Cameron Rutherford, the first premier of Alberta and Henry Marshall Tory, its first president, the university and its people remain dedicated to the promise made by Tory that "knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal." This promise endures as the university strives to improve the lives of people in Alberta, across Canada, and around the world.

HIGHLIGHTS AND AWARDS

A Top 5 Canadian university and one of the Top 100 in the world, the University of Alberta is home to more than 39,000 students and 15,000 faculty and staff. The university offers nearly 400 undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs in 18 faculties on five campuses, including one rural and one francophone campus. UAlberta draws international students from more than 150 countries, and has over 260,000 alumni worldwide with alumni branches and contacts in 46 areas around the globe. The university has an annual budget of \$1.7 billion and attracts close to \$500 million in sponsored research funding each year.

Research and teaching at the University of Alberta are helping to advance knowledge, improve our world, and shape the future. The university has 46 Tier 1 and 40 Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs, as well as three prestigious Canada Excellence Research Chairs, the most at any institution. UAlberta leads Canada in teaching awards with 41 faculty members having received 3M National Teaching Fellowships, the country's highest award in undergraduate university teaching.

Many of the world's great minds have been a part of University of Alberta: Alumni have won close to 3000 national and international awards, including Canada's first Nobel Prize for Physics, awarded to alumnus Richard Taylor ('50 BSc, '52 MSc) in 1990. The university has been home to 68 Rhodes Scholars since 1913, the third most among universities in Canada. Faculty researchers have produced 1,150 invention disclosures, 360 patents worldwide, and more than 70 spin-off companies in the last 13 years.

Major faculty achievements include:

- The **discovery of bitumen as a fuel source** by chemist Dr. Karl Clark, who became internationally recognized for his oil sands research that opened the door to the development of an industry now global in its scale and impact
- The **co-discovery of insulin** by Dr. James Collip, who worked with Frederick Banting, Charles Best and John MacLeod
- The revolutionary **islet transplantation for diabetes**, led by the Edmonton Protocol team

- The discovery of a **potential new cancer treatment** using DCA (an inexpensive generic drug) by Dr. Evangelos Michelakis, Dr. Kenn Petruk ('63 BSc, '67 MD, '76 PhD), and their research team
- **The Human Metabolome project**, led by Dr. David Wishart, which gave the world's first list of "ingredients" for the human body
- The **invention of early sonar** by physicist Dr. Robert Boyle
- Canada's first successful **open-heart surgery**, performed in 1956 by Dr. John Callaghan
- The life-saving **Hepatitis B treatment**, Heptovir, developed and administered for the first time in 1998 by Dr. Lorne Tyrrell ('64 BSc, '68 MD)
- The development of the **lab on a chip device** that can perform the same genetic tests as most fully equipped labs, in less time, by nanotechnology researchers Dr. Linda Pilarski and Dr. Chris Backhouse ('85 BSc)
- Major contributions to paleontology by **world-renowned dinosaur expert** Dr. Phil Currie that have made UAlberta a hotbed of dinosaur research

FACULTIES

The University of Alberta's 18 faculties include strong arts and sciences programs that are foundational to, and interlinked with, the university's network of professional programs.

- The *School of Public Health* is Canada's first fully accredited, stand-alone faculty dedicated to public health with a focus on safety, wellness and disease prevention.
- The *Faculty of Native Studies* is Canada's only such faculty, offering undergraduate programs specializing in the study of Aboriginal experiences and issues of language, culture, land and resources.
- *Campus Saint-Jean* is the only francophone post-secondary institution in Western Canada.
- The *Faculty of Arts'* Department of English and Film Studies was recently ranked 22nd in English Language & Literature by the QS World University Rankings.
- The *Alberta School of Business* offers the only Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce degrees in Canada (English and French).
- *The Faculty of Education* was the first of its kind in Canada and remains one of the largest, training over 60 per cent of the province's elementary and secondary school teachers.
- The *Faculty of Engineering*, one of the largest in North America, has 16 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Industrial Research Chairs, more than any other engineering faculty or university in Canada.
- The *Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry* is recognized as one of the Top 50 'Clinical and Pre-Clinical Health' schools worldwide,¹ and is third in Canada in terms of medical research intensity.

¹ Times Higher Education World Rankings (2012)

- The *Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences* offers the only land reclamation undergraduate degree program in Canada and is home to the Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS), the only one of its kind in the world.
- The *Faculty of Nursing* is one of the largest nursing faculties in Canada and the only Canadian member of the National Hartford Centers for Gerontological Nursing Excellence.
- The *Faculty of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences* was ranked third best in Canada by QS World University Rankings, and 34th out of the Top 200 universities worldwide.
- The *Faculty of Science*, with 60 Bachelor of Science programs in 39 subject areas, is one of the most comprehensive science faculties in Canada.

ALUMNI IMPACT

The University of Alberta creates an incredible return on every dollar donated to research and teaching. UAlberta alumni generate a staggering economic impact and carry with them a strong sense of social responsibility. A landmark study released in 2013 estimates that UAlberta alumni have founded more than 70,000 organizations worldwide that create more than 1.5 million jobs and produce annual revenues of nearly \$350 billion— a sum greater than the GDP of the Province of Alberta. Of those jobs, 390,221 were created in Alberta. With 2.1 million people employed in Alberta in 2012, roughly one in every five Albertans is employed by a company founded by a University of Alberta graduate. The social impact of these graduates is also remarkable: Over 77 per cent of UAlberta alumni have volunteered in their local community, and of the 70,000 organizations they have founded, one third—over 20,000—are either non-profit or have a cultural, social, or environmental mission. The impact study, by UAlberta professors Tony Briggs ('95 BSc) and Jennifer Jennings, is the first of its kind in Canada, and builds on methodology used recently at MIT and Stanford.

JOINING THE EDMONTON COMMUNITY

The University of Alberta is located in Edmonton, a vibrant, livable city of one million people that is among the strongest economies in North America. Edmonton offers stunning geography, an outstanding quality of life, and is one of the fastest growing cities in Canada. National and international publications consistently rank the greater Edmonton area high for its quality of life. In fact, the surrounding communities of St. Albert and Strathcona County, and Edmonton itself, were recently ranked as the #1, #3 and #8 best places to live in Canada by Moneysense magazine.² The basis for this success is a combination of low unemployment rates, high wages, low taxes, quality health care, and an abundance of culture, recreation and amenities:

- **Employment:** Alberta has among the lowest rates of unemployment in North America, with the current rate of 5.4 per cent sitting well below the Canadian average.
- **Cost of living:** Edmonton combines the highest per capita income in Canada with an affordable cost of living. Taxes are lower than elsewhere in Canada and there is no provincial sales tax. As a result, Edmontonians have more disposable income than other

² <http://www.moneysense.ca/property/canadas-best-places-to-live-2014-time-to-think-small>

Canadians, who have already surpassed Americans as the world's richest middle class.³ Relatively stable housing prices over the past several years make Edmonton very affordable compared to other major centres, with prices lower than they are in Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto.⁴

- **Healthcare:** The province of Alberta has a publicly administered and funded health care system that guarantees that all residents of Alberta receive universal access to medically necessary hospital and medical services. Coverage is offered free of charge through the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.
- **Education:** Edmonton's publicly funded K-12 school system is one of the best in North America, and offers a curriculum that has been modelled around the world.⁵ Alberta students continue to achieve excellent results on international tests, sharing the highest scores in the world in reading, mathematics, science and problem solving.⁶ Parents of students in Edmonton's K-12 system can choose schools they feel are best for their children, without being limited by districts or boundaries. Edmonton also has 10 post-secondary institutions, five of them degree-granting.
- **Sustainability:** Edmonton was one of the first cities in Canada to create a waste management system focused on sustainability. The Edmonton Waste Management Centre is North America's largest collection of modern, sustainable waste procession and research facilities. For three years in a row, Corporate Knights Magazine ranked Edmonton in the top three of Canada's most sustainable large cities. The University of Alberta is also a recognized leader in sustainability and in 2012 was rated second among 16 Canadian institutions for sustainability performance.⁷ And for the past six years UAlberta has been named one of Canada's greenest employers.⁸
- **Recreation:** Edmonton's river valley, the largest stretch of urban parkland in North America, is 22 times the size of New York's Central Park, and has more than 160 km of maintained multi-use trails. The abundance of parkland and ravines is one of the first thing visitors notice about Edmonton. An hour outside the city is Elk Island National Park, where wildlife like bison and elk can be seen in their natural habitat. Edmonton offers several nearby ski hills, including Rabbit Hill Snow Resort, Snow Valley, Sunridge Ski Area and the Edmonton Ski Club. The majestic Rocky Mountains and Jasper and Banff National Parks are only a three-hour drive away. With 71 golf courses in and around Edmonton, and sunshine lasting 17 hours at the peak of summer, golfers are in heaven.

³ Personal Disposable Income, Conference Board of Canada – Dec 2013; <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/23/upshot/the-american-middle-class-is-no-longer-the-worlds-richest.html>

⁴ RBC Economics research

⁵ <http://education.alberta.ca/department/newsroom/news/archive/2004/december/20041209.aspx>

⁶ [http://www.cmec.ca/252/Programs-and-Initiatives/Assessment/Programme-for-International-Student-Assessment-\(PISA\)/PISA-2012/index.html](http://www.cmec.ca/252/Programs-and-Initiatives/Assessment/Programme-for-International-Student-Assessment-(PISA)/PISA-2012/index.html)

⁷ Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

⁸ <http://www.canadastop100.com/environmental/>

- **Sports:** Edmontonians enjoy dozens of fitness and sport-training facilities, and the city is well known for its professional sports, including five-time NHL Stanley Cup champions the Edmonton Oilers and thirteen-time CFL Grey Cup champions the Edmonton Eskimos. Along with the Oilers and Eskimos, Edmonton has professional basketball, baseball, lacrosse and soccer franchises. The public also enjoys cheering on the University of Alberta Golden Bears and Pandas athletic teams. UAlberta's athletics program is one of the most successful in Canada, winning national collegiate championships in all 11 sports—the most of any Canadian university.
- **Culture:** Edmonton offers a wide variety of arts and culture opportunities. The downtown Arts District features the architecturally stunning Art Gallery of Alberta, the Winspear Centre for Music (home of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra), and the Citadel Theatre Complex, one of the top three regional theatres in Canada. Edmonton is known as “Canada’s Festival City” with over 30 major cultural and arts events featured throughout the year, including the second-largest Fringe Theatre Festival in the world, a world-renowned Folk Music Festival, and a multitude of winter events. The Heritage Festival, held every summer, celebrates Edmonton’s diverse blend of cultures and features food and performances from 85 cultures around the world. With over 1600 restaurants to choose from in the city, Edmontonians enjoy a first-class, world-influenced cuisine.
- **Urban centres:** Edmonton’s downtown is undergoing a transformation into a sophisticated and creative urban centre. In addition to its cluster of world-class art, music and theatre venues, the city has begun construction on a brand new downtown hockey arena and entertainment complex. Many heritage buildings in the area have been transformed into lofts, and there are Saturday farmer’s markets as well as several coffee shops, restaurants and boutiques to explore. Shopping opportunities abound in Edmonton, from the world-famous West Edmonton Mall, to trendy Whyte Avenue, to the upscale 124th Street area.
- **Transportation:** No matter one’s transportation of choice, Edmontonians enjoy shorter than average daily work commutes.⁹ Edmonton’s subway system, the Light Rail Transit (LRT) is powered by electricity and carries over 92,000 passengers on an average day. The LRT currently runs two north-south lines, stopping at 15 stations, with planned expansion for an additional three lines along other major corridors within the next few years. Edmonton has over 275 km of shared bike paths and multi-use trails, as well as 117 km of bike lanes and on-street routes to help protect cyclists on the road.
- **Connectivity:** The recently expanded Edmonton International Airport offers non-stop flights to several major hubs including London-Heathrow, New York, San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle, Dallas, Houston, Minneapolis, Phoenix and Denver, as well as 20 popular resort destinations. On all flights from Edmonton to Europe, Iceland Air offers an extended stopover in Iceland at no additional fare.

⁹ Statistics Canada, 2005 General Social Survey

- **Weather:** With about 2,300 hours of bright sunshine per year, Edmonton is one of Canada's sunniest cities.¹⁰ The summer sun seems to never set with daylight stretching as long as 17 hours. Even in winter with snow on the ground, Edmonton's skies are big, blue and bright. The average winter temperature is -15 C but winters are dry, with annual snowfall less than that of Montreal and Toronto. Edmontonians embrace the winter months with many outdoor activities including skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, skating and tobogganing, and celebrate with a variety of winter festivals. The fall and spring are mild (average temperatures of 5-6 C) with moderate precipitation. Summers in Edmonton are perfect for outdoor activities with temperatures averaging around 20 C and often reaching into the high 30s.

LOCAL ECONOMY & ENTERPRISE

Edmonton is an economic powerhouse. In 2012 Edmonton's economic output grew faster than that of any other major Canadian city, and it has been forecasted to remain one of the nation's fastest growing economies for years to come.¹¹ Edmonton has the second-most diversified economy of Canada's largest cities: while highly resource-driven, it is also a centre for manufacturing, government, financial services, education, transportation and much more. The city's notable employers include BioWare, PCL, Stantec, Telus and the University of Alberta itself, the province's fourth largest employer. With approximately 11 percent of the world's oil resources found in Alberta, the oil and gas industry is at the heart of the province's business community. Greater Edmonton's success in the energy sector has spun off into new areas of prosperity including technology, clean energy, manufacturing, production and transportation. Edmonton has 80 publicly traded firms with a market capitalization of more than \$10 billion. A large and competitive small and medium-sized entrepreneurial business community also characterizes the region; family enterprise and private equity define the structure of most local businesses, nearly 85 per cent of which are family owned.¹²

RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY

As a research-intensive university, the University of Alberta is a catalyst for two high-technology research sectors in Edmonton – health and medical science, and nanotechnology. The first is the outcome of long-standing and continuing government commitment and funding. Greater Edmonton is home to the fourth-largest bio-research community in Canada, and has generated more than half of Alberta's 200 biotechnology companies. Edmonton's Northern Alberta Clinical Trials and Research Centre (NACTRC) provides pharmaceutical and research companies with state-of-the-art facilities and a large population base for clinical trials and research projects. The National Institute of Nanotechnology (NINT), the centre of nanotechnology research in Canada and one of the jewels in the crown of Edmonton's research community, is located on the University

¹⁰ Environment Canada Climate Normals (climate.weatheroffice.gc.ca)

¹¹ Conference Board of Canada (http://www.conferenceboard.ca/press/newsrelease/14-02-26/prairie_cities_to_see_most_economic_growth_in_2014.aspx)

¹² North American statistic. Alberta Business Family Institute (<http://www.business.ualberta.ca/Centres/ABFI/AboutUs.aspx>)

of Alberta campus and operates as a partnership between the university, the National Research Council and the Government of Alberta. The 20,000 square metre building is one of the world's most technologically advanced research facilities.

TEC Edmonton is a not-for-profit joint venture of the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation focused on helping transform technologies into business opportunities. TEC Edmonton was recently named the 17th best university business incubator in the world by the University Business Incubator Index. TEC Edmonton and the Edmonton Research Park make the city a hub for technology commercialization.

LEADERSHIP

Under the leadership of 12th president Indira Samarasekera, the University of Alberta has articulated a strategic plan to secure its place in the top tier of the world's public universities. Informed by extensive internal and external community consultation and insight, the university's vision is articulated in the road map, "Dare to Discover," and anchored on four cornerstones: Talented People; Learning, Discovery, and Citizenship; Connecting Communities; and Transformative Organization and Support. This vision is intended to realize the University of Alberta's commitment to build one of the world's great universities in service of the public good.

President Samarasekera, Ph.D., F.R.S.C, F.C.A.E., D.Sc., O.C, is internationally recognized as one of Canada's leading metallurgical engineers for her ground-breaking work on process engineering of materials. She received the E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship in 1991, awarded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. She was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2002 for outstanding contributions to steel process engineering. Dr. Samarasekera is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering, and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIMM). In 2014, she was named a Foreign Associate of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering, one of the profession's highest distinctions. She was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Public Policy Forum's Peter Lougheed Leadership Award in 2012. Dr. Samarasekera was named one of five runners-up for the Nation Builder of the Year by The Globe and Mail in 2010, and one of the Top 100 women in Canada by the Women's Executive Network. She also received a Canadian Learning Partnership Award in 2008 and a Leadership Award, by the CASE District VIII, USA, in 2012. She has received honorary degrees from the Universities of British Columbia, Waterloo, Montreal, and the University of Western Ontario in Canada, and Queen's University in Belfast, Ireland.

During President Samarasekera's tenure, the University of Alberta has invested significantly to expand and enhance fundraising and alumni relations with a goal of becoming the best Advancement organization in Canada, and one of the best in the world. In 2012, Samarasekera established UAlberta's first Vice-President of Advancement as a strategic decision to diversify its base of financial support. Leading the Advancement team is Vice-President O'Neil Outar, formerly of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he held a variety of leadership positions including Senior Director of Global Initiatives. Mr. Outar serves as a trustee of the Council for the

Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), as well as on the WEF's Knowledge Advisory Group, and has been selected as a Commonwealth Study Conference Leader for 2014.

With President Samarasekera's emphasis on philanthropic support and alumni engagement, donations have nearly doubled over the past eight years, and the value of the University of Alberta's endowment has surpassed \$1 billion. Contributions of \$98 million toward endowed chairs and professorships enable faculty and researchers in all disciplines to pursue exploration and discovery. Private donors give over \$68 million annually to more than 1,500 student scholarships, awards and bursaries. In fiscal 2012 and 2013, UAlberta had its two highest fundraising years to date, with \$162.7 million and \$119.4 million raised from contributions from more than 20,000 individuals, foundations and corporations. In 2014 the university had the largest number of alumni donors ever.

The Office of Advancement is building a fundraising team that is not afraid of setting goals grander than any other Canadian university, putting the University of Alberta firmly on the global map. The university is gearing up to launch a \$1.5 billion campaign in the next several years, and is seeking leaders to join a team that will grow as we put our ambitious strategy in motion.

[Attach: Office of Advancement organizational chart]