



MOUNT ROYAL
UNIVERSITY
1910
Foundation



COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

2022/23

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When you decide to support Mount Royal University (MRU), you choose to support dreams, aspirations, ideas, the future.

2022/2023 was a stand out year! Donors like you contributed to help raise more than \$11 million in support of scholarships, bursaries, student support programs, teaching and learning initiatives and so much more. As a member of the MRU community of donors, faculty, staff, alumni, sponsors and volunteers – YOU are making it possible for students to reach higher and achieve more. Thank you!

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022/23

MRU lost a valued member of its community with the passing of longtime supporter and friend, Joan Synder. In one of her last acts of kindness, Joan left the Cougar Women's Hockey Team and the MRU Conservatory a transformational gift of \$5 million which will be used to enhance both programs.



Dr. John Lacey, PhD, has provided the funding to establish the new MRU Conservatory Chamber Ensembles-in-Residence program. Dr. Lacey's generosity will allow students in the Conservatory's Advanced Performance Program and the Academy to network and attend master classes with professional musicians.

The second MRU Giving Day was a resounding success with more than \$450,000 raised. Through the generosity of 624 donors who supported more than 75 areas across campus, the gifts that came in throughout the campaign went to student awards, various programs across campus, faculties and student support initiatives. One notable gift on November 29, was \$15,000 from the team at Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. who chose to contribute to student food security initiatives.



MRU was bequeathed a thoughtful and inspiring gift of an original Alex Janvier piece, from the estate of Melvin Edward Benson "Wapunatew." Mr. Benson was a staunch ally and good friend to MRU, and was always ready to share his advice and to learn about MRU programs that support Indigenous student success.

2022/23 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

\$11,514,853 RAISED



55%

increase in funds raised



1,276

total gifts to MRU



33%

of donations supported scholarships and bursaries



1,205

students who received donor-funded awards



Doug Dirks, a notable member of MRU's Alumni community, decided to give back to his alma mater in the form of an endowment – the Doug Dirks Journalism Award. This vital bursary will support a third- or fourth-year student majoring in Journalism and Digital Media in perpetuity providing support to students far into the future.



ATCO stepped up to support MRU's Institute for Community Prosperity, Map the System program for the next three years with a \$750,000 sponsorship. This partnership will allow students to deepen their research competence and allow ATCO employees access to emerging talent.



MEET KELSEA



My name is Kelsea, and I'm currently a second-year student pursuing a degree in journalism! I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for your assistance in allowing me to pursue my chosen career through your support of MRU scholarships and bursaries. I cannot fully express how grateful I am to receive a scholarship. I am so inspired by the wonderful work of donors like you and your commitment to the MRU community.

As a student, it is always a humbling experience to receive recognition for academic achievement, and receiving a scholarship was a true honor. Academics are never about recognition, but it is comforting to know there are people to whom my success matters, and this support provides the motivation to continue to push myself to grow. Your encouragement does not go unnoticed and helps students like me feel like their goals are attainable.

MRU is an incredible institution, and it's donors like you who assist in making the campus a welcoming and supportive place for every student. Each faculty and staff member is devoted to helping students achieve the success that they want to achieve, and the smaller class sizes and campus create a close-knit atmosphere, where it is easy to become involved and meet new people. From the moment I stepped foot on campus I knew that I had made the right decision in pursuing my post-secondary education here.

Once again, I just want to offer my thanks for your continued support, not only of myself but of other students as well. It's through your assistance that students can pursue their academic goals at an institution that values each part of who they are. No student should have to choose between financial security or seeking higher education, and with your contributions no student has to.

With thanks and appreciation,

KELSEA ARNETT



See your impact on students and
check out our video playlist

mru.ca/Foundation