“Working together, we harness the transformative power of education, supporting and inspiring students.”

Dr. Richard Florizone,
President and Vice-Chancellor, Dalhousie University
This has been an incredible year for the Dalhousie community. While many have played a role, it’s our partnerships with you, our donors, that have been instrumental to our success. Collectively, our supporters have generously invested over $67 million* in 2016-2017.

When we collaborate, we challenge ourselves to think bigger and shift the boundaries of possibility.

Working together, we harness the transformative power of education, supporting and inspiring students like Leah Beveridge, a PhD student and recipient of the Sobey Fund for Oceans Scholarship. Our students have access to the academic and community supports they need to thrive, like the Bissett Centre for Academic Success. Through the appointment of Chairs like Naiomi Metallic, Dalhousie’s first Chancellor’s Chair in Aboriginal Law and Policy, we foster greater teaching and learning. And we encourage and support entrepreneurship and provide spaces like Dalhousie Sandboxes and the future Emera ideaHUB, where business concepts move from idea to execution.

Throughout Inspiring Achievement: 2016-2017 you’ll learn more about these students and projects, as well as other areas across the university that have benefitted from philanthropy.

As we approach our third century, our bicentennial anniversary in 2018 provides an opportunity to reflect on our status as a Canadian thought leader, global educator and research powerhouse. It is also a time to recognize and celebrate the transformational power of philanthropy and the many ways in which it has shaped our institution. As a loyal supporter of Dalhousie’s work, I hope you recognize the important role you’ve played in Dal’s history thus far, through your commitment to higher education.

Dalhousie continues to bring together the brightest minds from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to push the boundaries of knowledge. Thank you for being a part of our mission.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Florizone  
President and Vice-Chancellor, Dalhousie University

*A detailed breakdown is available on page 17.
“I am just one person whose outcome was very positive because of these services – I can only imagine how many other students have benefitted.”

*Morgan Hawkes,*
*first-year Occupational Therapy student*
STRENGTHENING STUDENT SUCCESS

The Bissett Centre for Academic Success is the hub for student assistance on Dalhousie’s Halifax campus. When Morgan Hawkes turned to the Centre for support, she found exactly what she needed.

**AS A FIRST-YEAR** Occupational Therapy student, Morgan Hawkes (BScK ‘16) is learning the skills to help people overcome challenges due to injury, illness or environmental barriers. It wasn’t that long ago that Morgan was looking for some help, herself.

An honours student in high school, Morgan came to Dalhousie with athletic scholarships for both track and field and cross-country. But by the end of her first term of her undergraduate degree, there was no sign of the A+ student.

“I was starting to believe I wasn’t university material,” says Morgan. “But I came back second term and worked hard. I continued to do well throughout second year, excelling in the classroom and on the track, and thriving from the support of my friends and family.”

Third year, however, brought with it a series of challenges. Having dealt with anxiety and mental health issues in the past, Morgan knew she needed help to cope and balance her school work.

It was then she turned to the Bissett Centre for Academic Success. Made possible by the support of David and Leslie Bissett, it’s here students can access a range of support services. From accommodations at the Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre (including human rights and disability), to academic and career planning, the Bissett Centre is a tremendous resource for students. Last year 8600 students sought assistance.

“I was matched with an academic advisor who mapped out the necessary steps to get the support I needed. The biggest hurdle for me was having the proper time and space to ease my anxiety during exams.”

By January, Morgan’s mental health had worsened.

“Things were spiraling for me. During a meeting my academic advisor quickly noticed I was unwell and contacted my track coach, someone who I trusted and had a close relationship with,” she says. “Within hours I was hospitalized and subsequently received a formal diagnosis of bipolar disorder.

“My academic advisor alleviated a lot of my stress. The support I received went above and beyond what I could have imagined.”

Morgan says it was her own experience that fueled her passion to improve the lives of others who have unique barriers to overcome. Something she hopes to do in the future as an occupational therapist.

“I’m just one person whose outcome was very positive because of these services – I can only imagine how many other students have benefitted from having this at Dal.”

**MARK A. HILL ACCESSIBILITY CENTRE**

Since 2007, the Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre has been providing an array of invaluable resources to Dalhousie students. Made possible by Ian and Margaret Hill, the Accessibility Centre is dedicated to their son, Mark. After a car accident left Mark a quadriplegic at age 18, he overcame many barriers to pursue his dreams.

The Accessibility Centre is not only a resource for students with physical disabilities – it also provides help for those who have been diagnosed with learning disabilities and mental health disorders. It is here students can access tutors, note-takers, readers, scribes, information on funding, and so much more.
“The financial support we’ve received for HOPES Health Centre has made a difference for our learning, and most importantly the people who are seeking services and support.”

Braydon Connell, second-year Medical student
EVERY SUNDAY, an inspiring example of collaboration emerges in downtown Halifax.

That’s when HOPES Health Centre opens the doors to its two locations at St. Andrew’s Church and Dalhousie Health Services. It’s here that students from an array of professional programs work together to create a supportive and healing environment for marginalized members of the community.

“People who are homeless or insecurely housed face many barriers when it comes to accessing health care,” says Braydon Connell, a second-year Medical student. Braydon along with Heather Webster, a second-year master of Health Administration and Law student, are co-executive directors of HOPES.

“As students, we don’t necessarily get to work with the population we’re serving through HOPES. The opportunity to help them is really amazing,” says Braydon.

HOPES started in 2013 as an idea amongst a small group of Medical and Nursing students. It has gained momentum over the last few years, in large part to the extensive planning and research done by the HOPES student-led executive committee. Earlier this year, a generous donation from Dr. Gerald Archibald (MD’55) enabled the Health Centre to open to the public in February. The support also enables HOPES to be sustainable for the next five years.

“We’re very grateful for the support we’ve received,” says Braydon. “Knowing Dr. Archibald believes in the initiative enough to financially support it adds value to our work. It also changes the way we are able to provide care to clients.”

HOPES involves more than 160 student volunteers in Dalhousie’s Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, and Health Administration programs, as well as Medavie’s Paramedicine and Mount Saint Vincent University’s Dietetics programs.

The Health Centre operates on a walk-in basis with no fees associated. After an initial assessment, clients are assigned to a group of students in the profession best qualified to address their concerns.

In addition to the student volunteers, all clinical work is supervised by an appropriate health care professional.

The opportunity to work together along with members of the greater community, many of whom are Dalhousie alumni, is proving invaluable to all involved.

“Our volunteers have commented on what a positive experience they’ve had working and consulting with community members about HOPES,” says Heather. “It’s a lot about relationship building; it’s good for everyone.”
FOURTH-YEAR Animal Sciences student, Holly Fisher, has found a solution to address global food shortages. Mealworms. Yes – mealworms.

While many are initially turned off by the idea, the flour that is produced by the mealworms is protein-rich and has a nutty flavour, similar to walnuts. Perhaps more importantly, it is a low cost, high-quality sustainable food source which can be added to most foods and easily shipped to places in need.

Holly first became interested in this field after giving a presentation on the subject in her Agriculture and Contemporary Issues class. Since then, she’s been able to turn an interest into a viable business – 3MEALS – thanks to the Agriculture Cultiv8 sandbox, support through the Norman Newman Centre for Entrepreneurship, and Dalhousie donors.

Since arriving at Dalhousie, Holly has been the recipient of five awards: the Chicken Producers of Nova Scotia Award, the AB Banks Memorial Scholarship, the Roger S Bacon Memorial Scholarship, the Atlantic Poultry Institute Scholarship, and the Phillip Stead Memorial Scholarship for Student Leadership.

She says the scholarships she’s received have been incredibly motivating. “They’ve inspired me to keep going with my education – an affirmation that I’m doing good work, and that there is a need for it.”

“I am incredibly grateful to every person who supported me throughout my journey at Dalhousie.”

Holly Fisher, fourth-year Animal Sciences student

ENCOURAGING INNOVATION

A 2015 report by the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada states that small businesses employ over 8.2 million individuals in Canada. Philanthropy is playing a role by providing spaces and supporting students as novel ideas are transformed into viable businesses.
Sandboxes are collaborative spaces that bring together students, mentors and external advisors to combine ideas with experience, and help take business concepts from idea to execution.

**CULTIV8**, the sandbox for Agriculture, is one of three current sandboxes at Dalhousie made possible through the support of the Province of Nova Scotia and private donors (the other two are **SHIFTKEY LABS** in Computer Science and **IDEA** in Engineering). From finding answers to global food shortages, to finding innovative uses for government data, to improving product design through collaboration with the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, these sandboxes are forging partnerships and allowing Dalhousie students a means to contribute in a meaningful way to our global community.

Her work, and the work of others, has been used to advance approvals of Black Soldier Fly Meal in salmonid diets through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency: something that is incredibly rare for an undergraduate student. It has also garnered interest from provincial Crown corporation, Perennia, which Holly plans to work with to produce and commercialize the flour.

This may have to wait a couple of years, however, and Holly is fine with that – right now, her focus is on her education.

In Fall 2017, Holly will continue her studies in a masters program through Dalhousie and Cape Breton University. She plans to continue her fourth-year research project of using Black Soldier Fly Meal for Atlantic salmon diets, and finding other ways to use this product to improve food source and nutritional profile for other fish.

She is quick to give credit to those who have helped her along the way.

“The donors I have met have all been so supportive and given me the determination to continue with my studies and extracurricular activities.

“I am incredibly grateful to every person who supported me throughout my journey at Dalhousie: they have made an immense difference in my life.”
“There is a wonderful role universities can play for communities. I want to add to that service component.”

Naiomi Metallic,
Chancellor’s Chair in Aboriginal Law and Policy
We want to ensure this is something that is more transformative,” she says.

Change is already taking place. In Fall 2016, she had more than 100 first-year law students take part in a Blanket Exercise, an experiential learning activity designed to increase awareness of Canada’s Aboriginal history. Professor Metallic would like it to become a mandatory course.

Committed to building stronger partnerships with communities, she envisions establishing a clinic that could offer Aboriginal groups and First Nations legal research and expertise. Building on relationships developed through her private practice in Aboriginal law, students are already working with communities in need of legal research.

“There is a wonderful role universities could play for communities,” says Professor Metallic. “I want to add to that service component that Dal has a long history of.”

Professor Metallic is also fostering collaborations. She is currently organizing an interdisciplinary conference on child welfare issues affecting marginalized communities with Dal’s School of Social Work, which is slated for Spring 2018.

Next Fall, Aboriginal lawyers from across the country will come to Dal when she hosts the Indigenous Bar Association’s annual meeting.

Professor Metallic knows that the diversity she brings to the law school is both needed, and valued. Her students know this, too.

“She is a role model,” says Belanger.

WHETHER IT’S MENTORING law students, providing legal guidance to Mi’kmaq communities, or creating new academic courses, Naiomi Metallic is deeply engaged in her work.

The Schulich School of Law professor is Dalhousie’s first Chancellor’s Chair in Aboriginal Law and Policy. Made possible through a donation by the Honourable Anne McLellan, Dal’s chancellor, Metallic returned to campus last July to take the position.

Pioneering roles aren’t new to Metallic. After graduating from Dalhousie’s Schulich School of Law in 2005, she later became the first Mi’kmaq person to be a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada.

“As an Indigenous woman, seeing another Indigenous woman in such a level of success is inspiring,” says Kristan Belanger, a second-year Political Science student. “She has definitely given me a reason to work harder.”

A Mi’kmaq student from Middleton, N.S., Belanger is now considering a law career after working for Professor Metallic on Dal’s implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action — in particular Action 28, which calls upon law schools to require all law students to take a course in Aboriginal peoples and the law.

“It is fascinating to be part of the process of adding Indigenous content to the law school,” says Belanger.

As part of a working group, Professor Metallic is developing a plan to implement changes to the curriculum and to help the law school, and beyond, become more mindful of Indigenous issues.

“We want to ensure this is something that is more transformative,” she says.

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Teaching and research is at the very forefront of Dalhousie’s mission. Endowed Chairs bring distinguished scholars and experts from around the globe to share their knowledge and perspectives. By contributing to Chairs, our donors are helping to enrich the educational landscape for all students, researchers and members of our greater community.
“The Sobey Fund for Oceans Scholarship is a reminder of the importance of our work and the impact it has on a local and global level.”

Leah Beveridge, PhD student

STRONGER TOGETHER

The Sobey Fund for Oceans, a partnership between the Donald R. Sobey Foundation, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-Canada) and Dalhousie University, is just one of the many examples of a partnership with global impact.

THOUSANDS OF NAUTICAL MILES from Halifax, in the Arctic region, sea ice is melting at an unprecedented rate. And with that comes opportunities and challenges.

It is a complex situation that involves many countries, levels of government, and academic disciplines, while linking the shipping industry and the northern people who rely on healthy Arctic ecosystems.

And right here at Dalhousie there are many people involved, including PhD student and Sobey Fund for Oceans Scholarship recipient, Leah Beveridge (MMM’13).

“I really believe in a holistic approach to ocean management,” says Leah. “Especially when considering the differing traditions, cultures, economies and political systems that make up the Arctic region, and the possible impacts on traditions and livelihood.”

Leah’s work focuses on multi-stakeholder management and cross-cultural governance for Arctic marine spaces, with an interest in Lancaster Sound, Nunavut.

While working on a previous project involving Arctic shipping, Leah looked at the risks to vessels, the environment from vessels, as well as the risks and opportunities created by an increase in marine traffic to the people who live in the communities surrounding the Arctic region.
It was during that time that her desire to work with both community and industry members was affirmed. “I learned the importance of being present, listening, and being respectful to all involved to ensure their insights and concerns were valued and considered.”

While the Arctic sea lanes still see less traffic than other routes, melting ice will undoubtedly change that in the years and decades to come. As is the case with any increase in development activity, it brings the potential for environmental impacts.

The work happening now is an opportunity to implement measures, precautions and regulations to minimize risks and maximize development.

“It’s an unique situation in that we are able to bring multi-stakeholders together to address issues before they happen,” Leah notes. “Collaboration is key – only by working together and having everyone connected will we make progress.”

And thanks to her Sobey Fund for Oceans scholarship, Leah is able to connect with key players, ensuring she is a part of the conversations and the ability to share her work.

“Without my scholarship support, it would be difficult to travel and attend conferences, discussions, or even just being in the community speaking with people. It’s crucial to build rapport with both industry and community members,” she says, “and it means a lot more when it happens face-to-face. People realize you are invested and interested, and in turn will be much more collaborative. It opens doors for me.

“I’m so grateful for my scholarship and the opportunities it has afforded me. The Marine Affairs program and its students are extremely fortunate to have this award – it’s a reminder of the importance of our work and the impact it has on a local and global level.”

Leading the way in oceans research

In September 2016, an unprecedented investment in Canadian ocean research was announced on Dalhousie’s campus: The OCEAN FRONTIER INSTITUTE (OFI). At its heart was a new partnership between Dalhousie, Memorial University and the University of Prince Edward Island, and two of the largest investments in Dalhousie’s history: $94 million from the Government of Canada through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, and $25 million from philanthropist John Risley to support OFI operations. Additional investments of cash and gifts-in-kind bring OFI’s funding to nearly $220 million, allowing for multi-year projects that will identify sustainable solutions for ocean development. The long-term impact of partnership and philanthropy through the OFI for all members of our community will be immeasurable. Learn more at www.dal.ca/ofi.

The Dal-headquartered OCEAN TRACKING NETWORK (OTN) continues to make news, thanks to a March 2017 announcement of $11.4 million in new funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation’s Major Science Initiatives Fund. OTN has been tracking aquatic animals since 2008, and sharing global knowledge on animals’ movements, migrations, interactions, habitat use and survival. It is an invaluable program for the Atlantic and space for learning and discovery for Dalhousie students. Learn more at www.oceantrackingnetwork.org.
“The Emera ideaHUB is where we can collaborate on ideas...and really get that link between industry, recent grads and students that’s so crucial to help build our engineering economy.”

Krista Prosser,
*fourth-year Engineering student*
THE BIG IDEA

From students to faculty members, individual donors to corporate sponsors, university administrators to multiple levels of government, hundreds of people have come together to nurture an idea into the IDEA Project.

EVERY GREAT ADVANCE, every big step forward, begins with an idea — or, in the case of Dalhousie’s Sexton campus, an “IDEA.”

The $64-million IDEA Project – which stands for “Innovation and Design in Engineering & Architecture” – will add advanced technology and design labs, state-of-the-art engineering facilities and modern teaching and learning spaces for students in the Engineering and Architecture & Planning faculties. Ultimately the upgraded facilities will give students more hands-on learning opportunities, providing them the tools to do what they do best – learning by doing.

And it also gives students a space dedicated to fostering innovation and collaboration. It’s called the Emera ideaHUB, made possible by a $10-million investment from Emera.

The Emera ideaHUB (housed within the Emera IDEA Building) will be a unique, collaborative environment combining mentorship and support with world-class engineering research infrastructure. Inside the 10,000-sq. ft. space will be testing and fabrication facilities, early stage funding supports and links with venture capital and accelerators.

Additionally, the Emera ideaHUB will provide support to local start-up companies and small businesses.

Starting in 2018, students will receive mentoring from business people and recent graduates, and be able to bring technology-based ideas to the market. About 15 startups will be housed in the Emera ideaHUB.

Supporting a space for innovation “makes perfect sense” to Bob Hanf, Emera’s executive vice-president of stakeholder relations and regulatory affairs.

The local energy company is a founding partner in the Emera ideaHUB, alongside organizations like Volta Labs, Innovacorp, Clearwater, Micco Companies and Build Ventures.

“It’s not every day a project comes along that will make such an incredible difference in the way new ideas are fostered and developed in this province,” says Hanf. “We’re very proud to be part of this collaborative effort it’s one I know will make an important difference for Nova Scotia students.”

Mechanical Engineering student Krista Prosser says even though she’s graduating from Dalhousie this year and won’t be able to immediately use the space, it will allow her to make an impact on the engineering community.

“I think it’s completely understood that, as recent grads, the Emera ideaHUB is as critical for us as it is for students,” she says. “That’s where we can connect with employers and students and we can collaborate on ideas and really get that link between industry, recent grads and students that’s so crucial to help build our engineering economy.”
“It’s incredible to know that there is funding available for artists like myself.”

Patrick McIntosh, second-year Music student
Setting the Stage for Success

The Fountain School of Performing Arts offers a rich student experience – one that's focused on unique programming, collaborative learning and performance excellence.

Patrick McIntosh has been singing to audiences since he was eight years old. But it was only when a high school voice instructor suggested he try singing opera that he found his true passion.

“I had listened to it all my life, but it didn’t really click with me until that moment,” Patrick says. “What drew me in was the expressiveness. Opera is more complex than most pop music today, so that intrigued me and I really connected with it.”

Currently in his second year of the Bachelor of Music program at the Fountain School of Performing Arts, this baritone singer has discovered a sense of family at Dalhousie, and gained a strong appreciation for what to expect from opera as a career.

“Each year, we've mounted a production, going from auditions to rehearsals to the performance,” Patrick says. “That’s been beneficial because you know what to expect of a real production. But it has also been beneficial to study with instructors who continuously work with you to enhance your voice and your performance, all the while encouraging you to go outside of your comfort zone.”

This summer, he will step even further outside of his comfort zone to attend a month-long summer study program at the Centre for Opera Studies in Italy. He was overjoyed to be selected and says this opportunity is possible thanks to support he received through the Fountain School of Performing Arts' Summer Award Program. The coveted award is made possible by the generosity of Fred, Elizabeth and Katharine Fountain.

“It would have been very challenging to raise the funds all by myself for both the trip and the tuition,” Patrick says. And he intends to make the most of the opportunity he’s been given.

“This is a chance to explore the roots of opera with world-class instructors, perform on an international stage, make connections that will help me in my career and challenge myself even more through the program at Dalhousie.”

Patrick hopes that this experience, and his continued studies at Dalhousie, will lead to a long career performing to audiences around the world. Whatever the future holds, he will never forget the generosity of donors such as the Fountains.

“It’s incredible to know that there is funding available for artists like myself because it enables us to expand our horizons musically, technically and culturally. Thanks to the Fountains, I will have a deeper understanding of and appreciation for opera and a better chance to make my dream a reality.”

Transforming Arts Education

Planning is underway for an expansion to the 45-year-old Dalhousie Arts Centre. The $27.7-million capital project will expand the scope of the Fountain School, including a new, 300-seat concert hall, space for Costume Studies, as well as new practice areas and teaching spaces. With more than 2000 students studying within the Fountain School of Performing Arts, this will make an incredible difference in their education and future in the arts.
In 2016–17, donors like you gave a record-breaking $67,188,381 to support student financial assistance, academic programming, research, student services, facilities and equipment, and special projects at Dalhousie.

FUNDRAISING BY DESIGNATION
FISCAL YEAR 2016–17

You are making a difference in the lives of students, families and communities. We are better for your partnership and support.

Thank you.

Learn more about how donors like you are making a difference at alumni.dal.ca/giving.

Share your story, or thoughts on this report, at donor.relations@dal.ca.