



YOUR GIFT, GIVING BACK

Durham College COVID-19 pandemic frontline heroes in the field.





LETTER FROM

DON LOVISA AND LINDA FLYNN

At Durham College (DC), we often talk about “the greater DC community.” It’s a community that spans more than neighbourhoods; it extends across provinces, countries and even continents thanks to the constellation of donors, alumni, partners and families who generously support our students and employees in countless ways everyday.

Navigating the COVID-19 pandemic together has shown us time and again the strength of the greater DC community and all that we can achieve when we work together and care for one another. We’ve witnessed remarkable acts of innovation, kindness and service by our DC frontline heroes and behind-the-scenes heroes alike.

On-campus operations remain quieter than usual. A notable exception remains the steady progress of construction at the Whitby campus. The activity around the 60,000-square-foot addition to the Skills Training Centre has been vital to keeping us all looking forward to a day when there is a full return to learning on campus.

When completed, the addition will house our electrical, elevating, and plumbing programs and provide a spectacular facility for showcasing skilled trades. More importantly, it will help address the demand for skilled trades education that was exploding before COVID-19 and will undoubtedly continue as our economy begins to recover and more skilled trades professionals are needed to keep pace with new projects.

This much-needed expansion will double the college’s industrial skilled trades training capacity and continue to position DC as a leader in post-secondary and apprenticeship training in Ontario and Canada. As with all capital projects, this one wouldn’t be possible without the investment of our municipal partners, industry and individuals who share our vision.

Our optimistic outlook despite current events is both needed and warranted. Over the past year we helped many students in financial need thanks to donors who gave directly to student awards. These contributions make it possible for our students to worry a little bit less, and focus more on learning valuable skills that will help them succeed in the workplace.

To each of you who gave to DC over the past year, please accept our sincere thanks. We hope you’ll enjoy this latest glimpse into the ways in which your generosity is benefiting our students, employees and greater DC community.

Sincerely,

Don Lovisa
President, Durham College

Linda Flynn, CFRE
Executive Director, Durham College Foundation
Associate vice-president, Office of Development
and Alumni Affairs, Durham College



2019-2020

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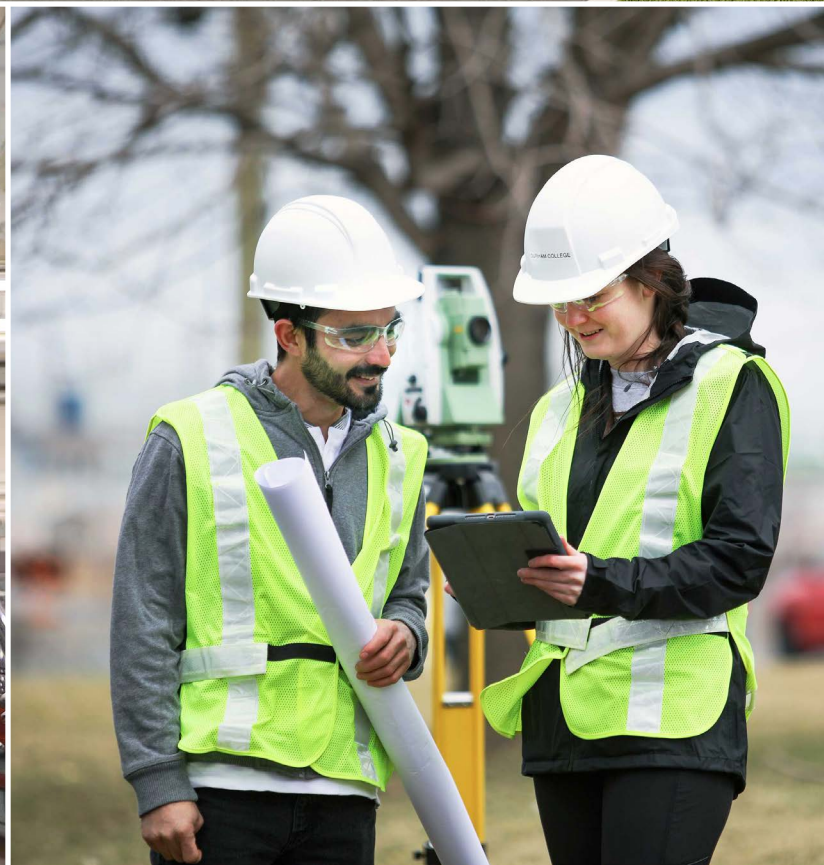
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WHITBY CAMPUS PHASE IV EXPANSION UPDATE

BUILDING FOR SKILLS: DC'S WHITBY CAMPUS IS GROWING AGAIN!

The Durham College (DC) Whitby campus is further expanding, shining a spotlight on skilled trades training, innovation and education.

With new health and safety protocols in place to address COVID-19, construction on the Phase IV Whitby expansion resumed in June after a brief pause. The skilled professionals working on the much-needed addition to the existing Skills Training Centre are steadily bringing the new learning hub for their own industry into reality.

While an unprecedented academic year is well underway, on-campus operations remain quieter than usual. A notable exception remains the steady progress of construction at the Whitby campus. The activity around the 60,000-square-foot addition to the Skills Training Centre has been vital to keeping us all looking forward to a day when there is a full return to learning on campus.

This project is the latest in the development of the college's Whitby campus, which has seen a 130 per cent increase in student population over the past 10 years. Growing alongside the increasing number of learners and apprentices has been the location's physical footprint.

Given the skilled labour shortage both locally and nationally, the timing of this new project could not be better. Skills Canada estimates that over one million skilled workers are currently needed across Canada and that 40 per cent of new jobs created in the next decade will be in skilled trades. Colleges Ontario forecasts that by 2030 the province will face a skilled labour shortage of more than 500,000 workers.

In addition, the college continuously hears from its partners that they need more skilled workers and would like new programs developed to focus on emerging industries.

With 60,000 sq. ft. of dedicated space to focus on high priorities, the phase IV expansion is designed to significantly increase DC's industrial skilled trades training capacity.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

ROCKY SIMMONS AND LOUVAIN PIGGOTT

As Louvain (Baldwin) Piggott reflects on her childhood in a South Wales mining hamlet, two independent but equally indelible impressions left on her memory become clear: the value of applied learning and the inequity of so few opportunities being available to the girls and women in her community.

“Every man in my family – every man in my village – worked in the mines, and instead of having formal training, they learned on the job,” Louvain recalls. “Coal was everywhere but so were the dangers of mining, which kept it categorized as ‘men’s work.’ Unfortunately, there wasn’t much thought given to the work girls and women could learn or do outside the home.”

Years later, after leaving their small mining community and arriving in Canada, Louvain and her first husband, Allen Piggott, found themselves overwhelmed by the opportunities available to each of them, solidifying a deep appreciation for all that their new home had to offer.

“We both took notice of the ways in which education could open doors for young people, including young women, which was so different to our earlier experiences,” says Louvain. “Most families back in South Wales couldn’t afford to send their kids to college or university, and that’s another reason why I’m now so passionate about helping to make post-secondary education accessible to more people.”

It’s a passion Louvain shares with her husband, Dr. Phillip “Rocky” Simmons. Rocky also grew up in a working-class family, giving him exposure and appreciation, similar to Louvain’s, for hands-on learning and skilled trades.

The couple are longstanding supporters of Durham College (DC), with ties that go back nearly two decades to Rocky’s service on what was then the Board of Governors for both the college and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, now known as Ontario Tech. They’ve also made past significant contributions to DC, including a major gift in support of the college’s Centre for Collaborative Education.



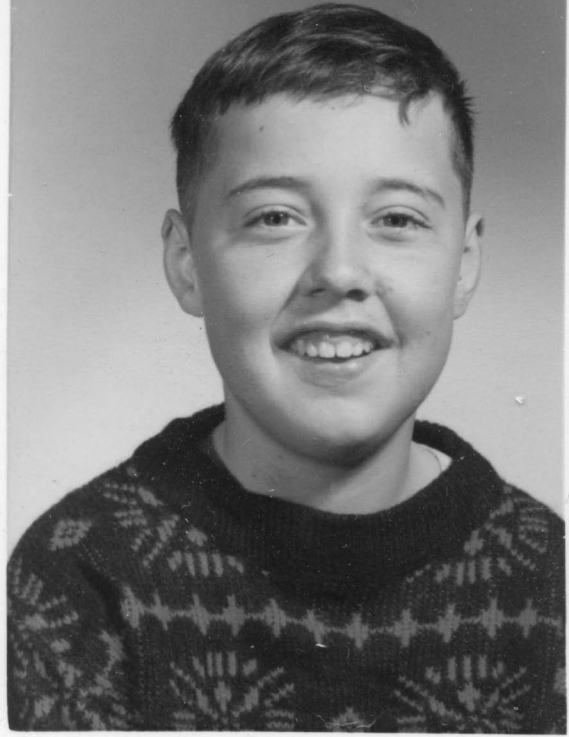
For their next act of philanthropy, Louvain and Rocky found inspiration in Louvain’s Welsh mining roots, as well as their shared experience and values connected to applied learning and skilled trades in particular.

“The mining industry that was once everything in South Wales eventually collapsed and left communities quite devastated,” says Rocky. “We found it interesting to think about the loss of those hands-on jobs and the livelihoods they provided, and how here in Canada, including Durham Region, there’s instead a huge need for more skilled trades professionals – machinists and welders among so many others – and the hands-on learning needed to prepare them for satisfying careers.”

In late 2019, Louvain and Rocky established the Piggott-Baldwin Families Fund with an endowed gift of \$50,000, and named in honour of Louvain’s kin. Invested rather than spent outright, a portion of the income earned on their gift will be used each year in perpetuity for its intended purpose. The remaining income will be reinvested maintaining the real value of their gift.

The Piggott-Baldwin Families Fund will support DC’s highest priorities, with preference given to those impacting skilled trades, science or engineering technology. The timing of Louvain and Rocky’s generous donation couldn’t be better with the college’s Phase IV expansion of its Whitby campus underway, which is designed to shine a spotlight on skilled trades training, innovation and education.

“Where I grew up, we didn’t have a lot but we always shared what we had,” Louvain recalls proudly. “This endowed gift is a way for me and Rocky to share what we have and to give back to the community that’s given us so much.”



DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

CAROL GIFFORD AND THE CAROL RAE AND GARRY LLOYD GIFFORD AWARD

As a primary school teacher whose family has lived in the Durham area for generations, Carol Gifford has dedicated her career to guiding Durham students, preparing them for their future and encouraging their dreams. Now retired from the classroom, she plans to continue making a difference in the lives of local students, and strengthening the Gifford family legacy in Durham Region, through the Carol Rae and Garry Lloyd Gifford Award at Durham College (DC).

"I was the first of my generation to attend post-secondary education and earn a degree, so I understand the barriers that exist that keep students from pursuing education past high school," said Carol. "I want all families from any socioeconomic background to feel that education is attainable – and having financial support can help them reach that goal."

Named in memory of her late brother, Garry, the award will be established through a future gift in her will. By endowing her gift, the awards will be distributed annually on an on-going basis, making post-secondary education more easily accessible for students from any of the college’s programs who demonstrate financial need.

"When students have less financial stress, they spend fewer hours working a part-time job or worried about money and more time focused on their studies," Carol remarked. "This kind of support not only has a positive effect on a student’s success, career and independence, but also encourages a mentality that sees learning as important, which will continue to trickle down to future generations."

Carol has always felt strongly about supporting students in the community in which she and her family have lived, worked and thrived. When it comes to giving back, she is passionate about ensuring as many students as possible can make the dream of pursuing post-secondary education a reality.

"It’s important that education and service to our community be the Gifford legacy," says Carol. "I hope this gift will continue to benefit students at DC for many years to come."

If you’re interested in leaving a gift in your will or learning more about the benefits of doing so, please contact Jennifer Clark, senior development officer at jennifer.clark@durhamcollege.ca or 905.259.4598.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

PRINCESS AUTO FOUNDATION

The Princess Auto Foundation (PAF) is dedicated to providing financial support to pre-employment skilled trades and technology students enrolled at Canadian colleges.

Since its founding in 2007, PAF's goal has been to provide opportunities for tradespersons by enhancing education. They have since distributed more than \$4 million in bursaries to schools across Canada, including Durham College (DC).

Recipients of PAF awards have an unmet financial need and are recognized for demonstrating strong academic skills that give them a high probability of successfully completing their program.

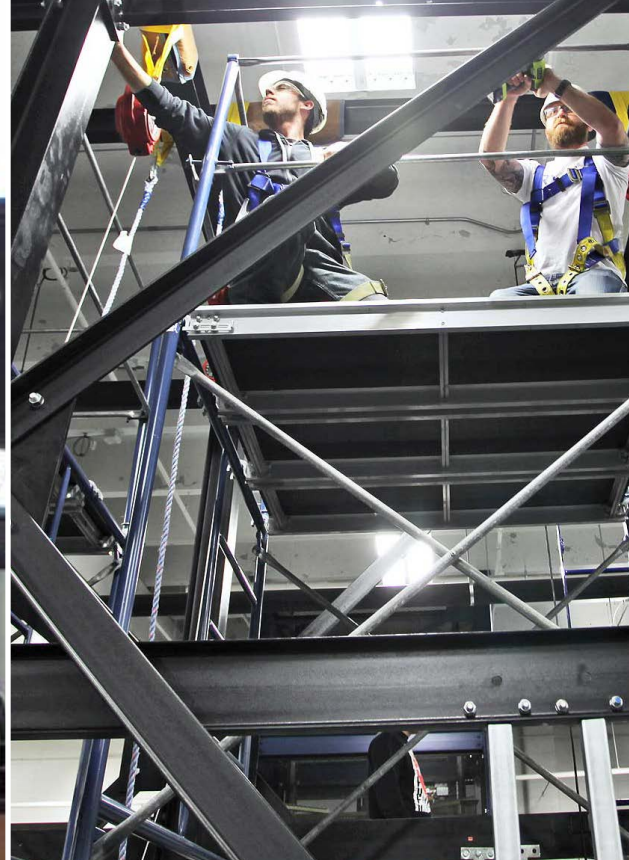
"During these challenging times, we must all work harder to support one another. At the Princess Auto Foundation, this is job one!"

– David Shnider, director, The Princess Auto Foundation

Among the programs of focus for PAF are the following, which are all offered by DC:

- Automotive Technician – Service and Management (Motive Power Technician)
- Building Construction Technician
- Carpentry and Renovation Technician
- Crane Operation, Rigging and Construction Techniques
- Electrical Engineering Technician
- Electrical Techniques
- Gas Technician 2
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Techniques (HVAC)
- Mechanical Technician – Elevating Devices
- Mechanical Technician – Millwright
- Mechanical Techniques – Plumbing
- Power Engineering Techniques – Fourth Class
- Trades Fundamentals
- Welding Engineering Technician

PAF is funded through Princess Auto Ltd., the Princess Auto Charity Golf Classic, special events and private donors. These awards are provided annually as a valuable resource for eligible DC students.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

ARAS JANELIUNAS

THE RISE OF A FUTURE ELEVATING DEVICES TECHNICIAN

For first-year student Aras Janeliunas, the opportunity to work hands-on with machinery at the Whitby campus is one of the many reasons why he chose to attend Durham College (DC) and study in the Mechanical Technician – Elevating Devices program.

"I've always had a strong interest in elevating devices," says Aras. "Seeing all of the buildings that keep popping up ignited my interest in this field. When I found out that DC was offering this program, I knew it was exactly where I wanted to start my post-secondary journey."

Aras admires how dedicated DC employees are to ensuring that the student experience comes first. From the moment he stepped on campus, he was struck by the abundance of information, resources and helpful people all dedicated to helping students.

"Even as a prospective student exploring DC during an open house event, I was overwhelmed by how much time and attention faculty and staff showed me, walking around and explaining everything – it made me feel so welcome," he says.

A recipient of a Weston Family Scholarship in the Skilled Trades, Aras is recognized for his demonstrated desire and motivation to build a successful career related to his program, as well as his commitment to mentoring other skilled trades students and engaging with prospective students through recruitment activities.

"DC is a very welcoming place to learn. On the first day of classes, I walked into the shop, saw all of the machinery and thought, 'What did I get myself into?'" he recalls. "But the faculty quickly put my mind at ease – it didn't take long to realize how inviting and down to earth they are."

Being able to physically operate and learn the machinery is what most excited Aras about starting his program. He spent his first year working on pumps, bearings, and a variety of machines including a lathe and drill press, learning how to take them apart to fix any problems.

"I really enjoy attending DC. There is such an amazing family built by both teachers and students, and I look forward to commencing my second year of studies in the fall," says Aras.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

SHAUNA MOORE

WHY A DC EMPLOYEE GIVES BACK TO MOVE EDUCATION FORWARD

"Giving what you can opens doors."

This is how Shauna Moore, a Durham College (DC) employee with the Office of Student Diversity, Inclusion and Transitions, sums up her approach to also being a DC donor.

In her first role at DC as a learning facilitator with the Community Integration Through Cooperative Education (CICE) program, Shauna supported students with intellectual disabilities and significant learning challenges in the classroom across a variety of academic programs. Her experience with CICE deepened her passion for ensuring education is accessible to all.

Now, as a student success coach and coordinator of the college's RISE program (Reach, Include, Support, Elevate), Shauna sees first-hand each day the broader types of barriers students face when pursuing post-secondary education.

Making a regular donation through the college's employee payroll contribution program is one of the many ways in which Shauna is helping to build the accessible, inclusive campus and availability of post-secondary education that she wants to see in her community.

"DC has made great progress in making college a more welcoming and accessible space for marginalized people," says Shauna. "As an inclusion champion and an educator, I'm excited to see how those advancements are going to expand next. True accessibility extends beyond the bricks and mortar of a well-designed building – it's about each step of someone's learning journey being designed in a way that helps lift them up and create a brighter future for themselves through education."



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

GILLIAN POPE

GENEROUS BURSARY A SECRET INGREDIENT TO DC CULINARY STUDENT’S SUCCESS

Gillian Pope doesn’t hesitate for a second when asked about the highlight of her student experience at Durham College (DC).

“Hands down, it was the trip to Peru!” shares the recent graduate of the Culinary Management program. “It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that would never have been possible for me if it wasn’t for the generosity of DC donors.”

Gillian received a bursary from the Chew Family Fund at Durham Community Foundation, which was established by Randy and Margaret Chew to give back to Durham Region in gratitude for their positive experience of raising their family here.

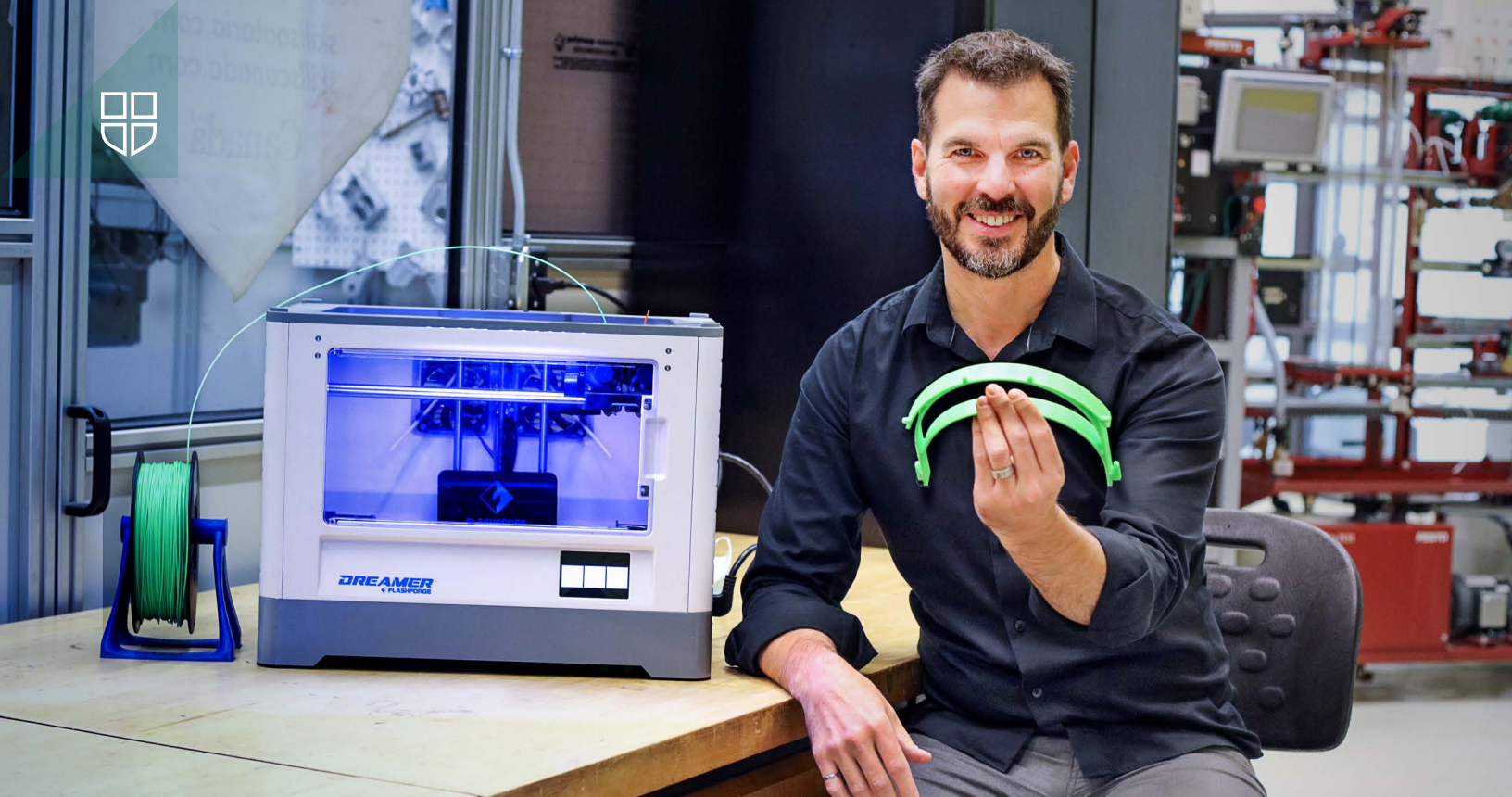
Thanks to the bursary, Gillian was able to travel as part of a group of DC students and faculty to Lima, Peru, where she grew her appreciation for international culinary techniques while learning how to cook traditional Peruvian cuisine while studying abroad.

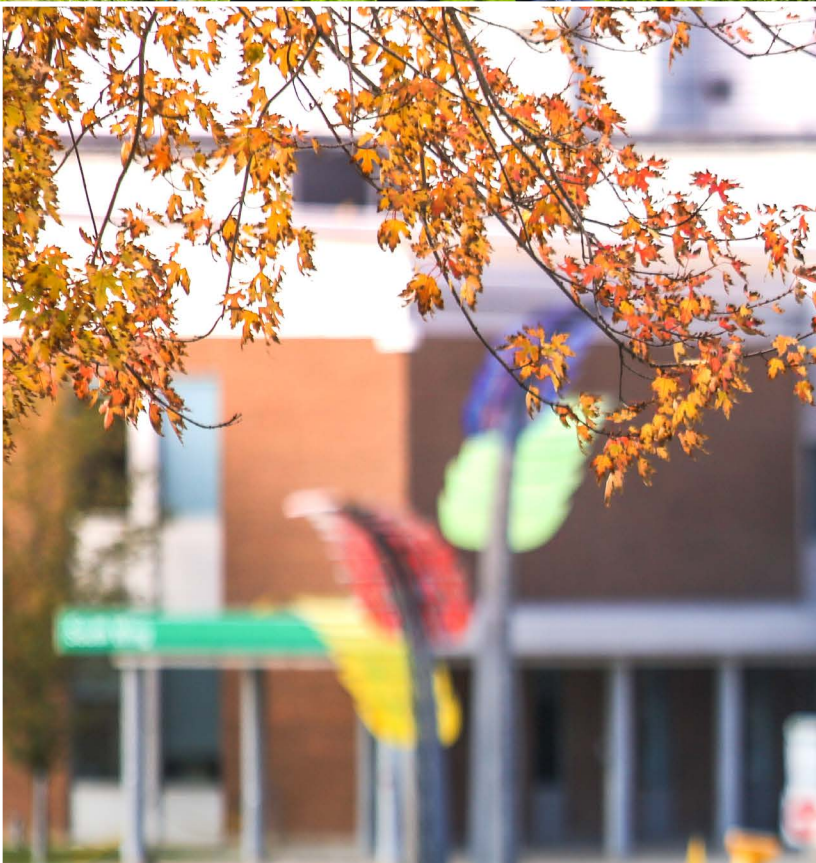
As a mature student and a mother of two, Gillian’s expenses went well beyond tuition and books. Thanks to the bursary she received, she was able to avoid the stress of taking out a loan to cover her learning.

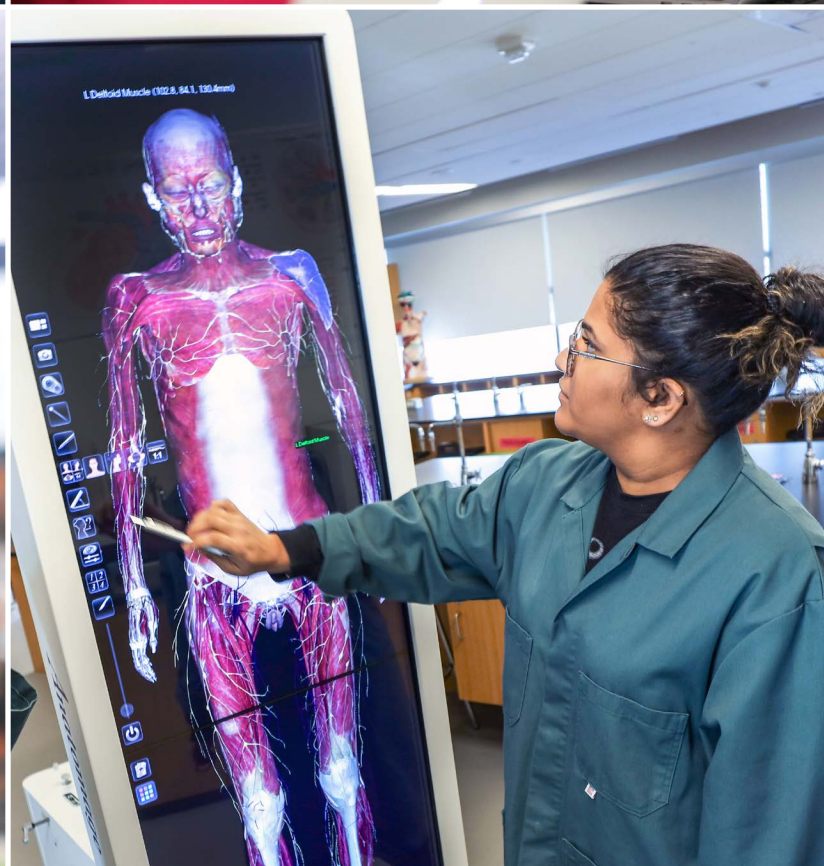
Gillian was one of more than 500 DC students who received financial aid from 350 bursaries and 165 scholarships. In fact, over \$500,000 was distributed to students in the form of scholarships or bursaries this past year alone. Such forms of non-repayable financial aid are vital to helping alleviate the financial stress felt by students when figuring out how to pay for post-secondary education. With their financial pressures minimized, students are able to worry less about money and focus more on achieving their academic goals.

“I know it’s a big group of people that come together to make it all happen but for students like me, it really does start with the donors,” says Gillian. “Just knowing that financial support is available can be the difference that helps someone believe post-secondary education can be for them.”

While her final semester was impacted the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw her learning quickly move online, Gillian enjoyed every last minute of her DC experience and she’s already reaping the rewards of her academic efforts; not long after graduating from her program, she’s already launched her career working at a bakery.









GIVING TO DC BY THE NUMBERS



CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

\$1,898,818



STUDENT AWARDS:

\$887,033



TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED:

\$4,581,746



NEW PLEDGES:

\$2,219,473



TOTAL ENDOWMENT:

\$16,911,572



DONOR DIRECTED FUNDS



STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED FUNDING:

516



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED:

165



BURSARIES AWARDED:

351



TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED TO STUDENTS:

\$552,550

2019-2020 DONORS

We are incredibly thankful to all our donors, the list below captures those donors who have contributed \$500 or more between April 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020.

\$250,000+

Estate of Ralph Newton Jennings	The Regional Municipality of Durham*	W. Garfield Weston Foundation*
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\$50,000-\$249,999

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	Regional Chair's Classic in memory of Roger Anderson	

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\$1,000-\$4,999

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Many of the photos in this publication were taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you require an alternative format of this publication, contact marketing@durhamcollege.ca.