Simon Fraser University was founded 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university – to bring an interdisciplinary rigour to learning, to embrace bold initiatives, and to engage deeply with communities near and far.

Our vision is to be Canada’s most community-engaged research university.

Embracing this vision, SFU is committed to marshaling all its resources – the learning energy of its students, the research creativity of its faculty, and the infrastructure of its iconic campuses – to engage with the communities at home and around the world where the University has deep relationships.

SFU believes our approach to engagement will pay enormous dividends – for individuals, institutions and society.

Today, SFU is Canada’s leading comprehensive research university and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia’s three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 130,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

WHO WE ARE:

SFU RANKINGS:

#1 Canadian comprehensive university
Maclean’s rankings 2015

#2 in Canada international student diversity
QS rankings 2015

#2 in Canada for research impact (citations per faculty)
QS rankings 2015
SFU “FIRSTS”
SFU has pioneered a number of program “firsts” in Canada and North America:

• Within the Beedie School of Business, the Executive MBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership and the Americas MBA for Executives are the first of their kind in Canada and North America.

• Core to its commitment to student engagement – SFU established B.C.’s first student business incubator via Venture Connection – with 3,100 participants since 2008.

• SFU’s School of Mechatronics Systems Engineering – another North American first – integrates mechanical, electronic and software engineering disciplines.

8,500 students enrolled in co-op

61% placement within the private sector

50% of BC’s population within 60 minutes of SFU

Only trimester system in BC ensuring year-round use of infrastructure
FAST FACTS

- SFU delivers 150 programs in eight Faculties, with over 70 research institutes and centres

**Faculties:**
- Beedie School of Business
- Faculty of Applied Sciences
- Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Environment
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Science

- SFU serves a highly diverse population and has one of Canada’s highest percentages of international students (19%)
ENGAGED.

Living its vision as Canada’s leading engaged research university means being a leader in knowledge mobilization and novel approaches to education.

- SFU provides educational opportunities that “connect the dots” between classroom learning and community problem-solving, with a local to global focus. The University encourages students and faculty to engage across traditional disciplines and boundaries for a rich learning experience that provides students with a range of skills needed for career readiness in the global economy.

- SFU’s Information Systems program is a joint program between the Schools of Computing Science and the Beedie School of Business that enables students to combine computing science with business experience. This is one of seven joint majors with the Beedie School and other faculties at SFU.
• As the first of its kind in North America, the School of Mechatronics Systems Engineering, integrates mechanical, electrical and software engineering to meet the increasing demand for engineers who can work across domains.

• The Centre for Coastal Science and Management focuses on marine and coastal ecosystems and resource conservation through interdisciplinary research and learning that integrate social and natural science with local experiences and expertise.

• SFU’s NeuroTechLab, a joint SFU/Surrey Hospital venture, brings together research, medicine and business in developing new technologies and products to improve health care.

• SFU’s Goldcorp Centre for the Arts is a significant focus for the City of Vancouver – home to SFU Woodward’s Cultural Programs supporting performers and artists in the community.

• In 2014 the School of Computing Science at SFU established one of the first master’s degrees in Big Data, embracing the importance of understanding and utilizing large quantities of data to improve quality of life. SFU provides the computational power for storing and analyzing the data and has pioneered visual analytics as the best method for quick examination of complex data.

• A Canadian leader in developing international field schools, SFU offers two week to full term programs abroad that begin at an SFU campus and involve traveling overseas. Recent destinations include France, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Ghana and Indonesia.

• SFU’s Semester in Dialogue encourages students to examine how they can improve society. Launched over 10 years ago, the highly successful program brings together students to identify how to make a difference in an assigned area such as environment, religion, health care or food policy.

• In 2012 the Beedie School of Business established the Americas MBA for Executives program – the first of its kind – in which 60 students from partner institutions in Canada, the US, Mexico and Brazil work together, studying management issues in each of the four largest economies in the Americas.

• For more than 10 years, SFU has jointly offered dual degree programs in Computing Science with Zhejiang University in China. These programs have won the following awards: 2013 CBIE Panorama Award for Outstanding International Education Program in the Academic Category and the 2012 BC Council for International Education Award for Outstanding Program in International Education.
The greatest innovations in history have come from people bold enough to explore possibilities and take novel approaches. SFU is built on this premise.

SFU supports students and faculty to address challenges in novel ways and apply creative solutions – in the classroom, in their research, in a work placement or starting a new organization or business.

SFU fosters an entrepreneurial culture that transforms ideas into action – beyond traditional business and technology entrepreneurs to include social innovators – all focused on solving global problems.

Under SFU Innovates, a university-wide innovation strategy launched in 2015, SFU will mobilize its creative minds and research strengths to contribute to economic, social and environmental wellbeing.
• VentureLabs®, part of the BC Acceleration Network, was launched in 2013 by SFU and institutional partners and is the province’s leading accelerator for job creation and capital formation. In 2015, SFU expanded VentureLabs® by opening a new facility in downtown Vancouver focused on digital technologies. Now the largest business accelerator in British Columbia, VentureLabs® is part of a pan-Canadian business accelerator network and links internationally to Zone Startups India, a Canadian-led incubator/accelerator in Mumbai.

• Venture Connection® is a student business incubator program delivered in partnership with Coast Capital Savings that has trained over 3,100 future leaders and innovators and supported over 120 early-stage startups since 2008.

• The RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator will enable SFU to help develop a new generation of Aboriginal leaders in the realm of entrepreneurship and innovation.

• 4D LABS is SFU’s world-class applications and science-driven research institute for advanced materials and nanotechnology advances.

• RADIUS (RADical Ideas, Useful to Society) is a unique community-based social innovation lab and venture incubator launched by the Beedie School of Business in 2013. Other Beedie student accelerator programs include Change Lab for addressing social and environmental challenges, and Technology Entrepreneurship @SFU offered in partnership with the BC Innovation Council to create market-driven technology products.

• Innovation Boulevard is a healthcare partnership founded by SFU, the City of Surrey, and Fraser Health that is driving the development of health technologies, jobs, and academic-industry partnerships. SFU’s Digital Health Hub, an Innovation Boulevard partner, is using advanced computing and applied research to provide mobile health technologies and innovative care solutions for real-world applications.

• In 2015, SFU launched a Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship that is open to undergraduate students from all faculties and provides hands-on experience, foundational entrepreneurship skills, and exposure to sector-specific knowledge. SFU also offers a Graduate Certificate in Science and Technology Commercialization and a Management of Technology MBA.

• In 2014, SFU launched an international semester in sustainable innovation with the Grenoble Ecolé de Management.
SFU’s ranking as a leading research university is rooted in academic excellence coupled with a decades-long track record of community-based research and knowledge mobilization.

SFU’s global perspective ensures relevant approaches to learning in the 21st century through strong linkages with other countries, with a particular focus on India, China and Asia Pacific nations. SFU’s India Advisory Council was the first of its kind in Canada, and is just one example of the University’s commitment to engaging with communities at home and around the world.

SFU reaches outside the traditional boundaries of universities to share and apply the knowledge and expertise of students and faculty solving problems in the community and around the world.
• SFU has one of the most extensive co-op programs in the country – with more than 8,000 students annually working with thousands of businesses and organizations across sectors, including technology firms (such as Google and Twitter), mining, utilities, health care and non-governmental organizations. SFU’s Work Integrated Learning department is devoted solely to assisting with co-op placements and transitions to work.

• SFU promotes opportunities for students and faculty to share their knowledge and experience with communities. The Friends of Simon program connects university students as literacy tutors with children and youth in the Lower Mainland. The University sponsors Aboriginal Youth Camps with a particular focus on math skills. Science in Action, a science outreach program, creates a positive science experience for children and youth.

• In 2011 SFU established the Executive MBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership – the first in North America and the second in the world.

• In partnership with the Tula Foundation, SFU’s Hakai Network for Coastal Peoples, Ecosystems and Management brings together an interdisciplinary team that undertakes research, training and education to support sustainability and conservation in Coastal British Columbia.

• Through the BC-India Mobility Initiative, SFU students work on projects and activities in India in areas such as clean energy, new media, film, and life sciences. SFU was the first university in the country to develop an India Strategy and related Advisory Council.

• SFU serves as the International Secretariat Support Office for the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development bringing high-level international experts to advise the Chinese government on environment and sustainable development.

• SFU Public Square was launched in 2012 to meet SFU’s commitment to promote inclusive, relevant and solution-oriented discussions of complex issues on the Canadian and global agenda. Each year SFU Public Square sponsors a Community Summit to encourage debate and dialogue. In partnership with SFU’s VanCity Office of Community Engagement, it also sponsors the SFU Vancouver Speakers Series.

• The Institute for Diaspora Research and Engagement, established in 2013, links interdisciplinary research to community-based innovation and dialogue on migration, identity and sustainable development.
ENGAGING THE WORLD SINCE 1965.

As Canada’s engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is a leader amongst Canada’s comprehensive research universities and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia’s three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 130,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

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