

COMMUNITY TRUST ENDOWMENT FUND 2018-2019

SUPPORTING KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND MOBILIZATION THROUGH RESEARCH

The SFU Community Trust was established to oversee the planning and development of UniverCity. Revenues from the development have been used to establish the Community Trust Endowment Fund (CTEF) for the purpose of supporting knowledge generation and knowledge mobilization through research, scholarship and training.

The fund yields approximately \$5-million a year and is guided by six terms of reference which were most recently revised and approved by SFU's Board of Governors in 2018. Each of the terms of reference are listed below along with information about specific support that was made available through CTEF in the 2018-2019 year.

STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL SUPPORT

Funds allocated for student and postdoctoral support directly assist student researchers at SFU. This year, the fund provided \$75,000 to support a technician position as part of the *Silicon Quantum Leap: Tools to Building a Universal Quantum Computer* project. This is an ongoing salary for a four-year term; the total amount of support for this project is \$430,000.

In total, \$33,000 was allocated towards student and postdoctoral support. The remaining funds supported graduate fellowships, of which \$50,000 directly supports a postdoctoral fellow in imaging research.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

A total of \$40,000 was allocated to Marianne Ignace's project *First Nations Languages in the twenty-first century; looking back, looking forward*. The project documents and



preserves Indigenous languages, creating partnerships and tools necessary to keep languages alive. This \$2.5-million partnership brings together 22 Indigenous partner organizations that represent 12 Indigenous languages from B.C., the Yukon, and Alaska. In December 2019, Ignace received the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Award, recognizing her intellectual leadership, community co-operation and impact beyond the social sciences research community.

Over \$1.3-million was allocated towards strategic priorities and opportunities. These funds supported projects associated with AGEWELL, Kids Brain Health Network, MITACS, Royal Society of Canada and SSHRC Partnerships. The money also provided strategic support for new faculty members, research scholarships, installation of new equipment and international research collaborations.

RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Funds allocated to research equipment and facilities provide support for the operation and enhancement of core research facilities, equipment to support faculty research and external strata fees. A total of \$216,037 was allocated for upgrades to the water tower data centre and strata fees. Just over \$16,000 went directly to strata fees.

The remaining \$200,000 was allocated for upgrades to the water tower data centre, which houses Supercomputer Cedar—Canada's most powerful academic supercomputer. The upgrades include a 22,000 sq. ft. renovation, 510 tons



of mechanical cooling, sensorless pumps and a tie-in to the existing operational data center. The total cost of the renovation was \$1.4-million.

INNOVATION ACTIVITIES

A total of \$3.1-million was allocated towards the Surrey Space, also known as Innovation Boulevard. These funds were used to purchase additional research space for the university. This allotment of CTEF funds was an unspent balance carried forward from previous years.

Innovation Boulevard is a joint initiative with the City of Surrey, Fraser Health Authority and SFU. This initiative adds economic and social value to the larger community and fosters an environment of innovation.

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The engaged scholarship fund is allotted for projects involving community-engaged research or knowledge mobilization. For the 2018-2019 year, there were no projects under this term of reference that required CTEF funds.

SEED FUNDS FOR RESEARCH

A total of \$90,000 was allocated towards Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Travel Grants for faculty in the social sciences and humanities. This contribution provided travel grants for faculty in areas supported by SSHRC to attend North American and international conferences to present papers, serve as a keynote speaker or present creative work to a peer group.

Knowledge generation and knowledge transfer through research, scholarship and training are fundamental to the mission of the university. The SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund contributes to the university's support of research, scholarship and learning in perpetuity.