



## LAMBDA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION CANADA ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**President's Message:** I would like to dedicate this report to two former presidents of the Lambda Scholarship Foundation: Gary Sealy and Barbara Freeman. Gary, who passed on August 5, 2019 was one of Lambda's founders and former presidents. He's energy and contribution to our community is a major loss. On behalf of the board, I would like to extend my condolences to his partner, Hugh, his family, and his friends some of who include members of the board who knew Gary for a long time. Barbara, who stepped down as president in September 2018 and is now leaving our board as an active and committed member, is a force for in our community. Her dedication and commitment over the years to our foundation as a scholar and activist was tremendous. We hope that we can continue the wonderful work both these former presidents and activists laid down for us as we forge ahead.

I am delighted to report that we have an outstanding year in terms of donation growth. We have received several anonymous donations from estates and other sources enabling us to increase our base funding considerably. We hope to use these generous gifts will enable us to launch a new website, create fundraising initiatives, and advertise our awards and prizes in a consistent manner across our country. We continue to receive requests from potential donors interested in establishing awards and prizes at various universities for research and writing endeavours and as tuition awards. Please continue to visit our website for announcements of new awards and prizes.

In the meantime, I would like to thank Tuan, Jefferson, Cameron, Sara, Mike, our current board members for all their work and efforts. This foundation would not function without their ideas and activism.

### **Latest Lambda News**

**Passing of Gary Sealey:** We are sad to announce the passing of Mr. Gary Sealey, who was one of the Lambda Foundation founding members and an ex-president of the Board. Gary passed away on Monday, Aug. 5th, 2019.

**Memorial for Gary:** Mr. Hugh Nelson, Gary's partner and other civic leaders, are organizing a memorial event to remember and celebrate Gary's many contributions. The event will take place on Saturday, October 5, between 16:00 to 18:00h in the Councillor's Lounge at the Ottawa City Hall. *Gary was a strong supporter of the Lambda Foundation and requested that donations in his memory be sent to the Lambda Foundation.* The Lambda Foundation will a small table to accept donations that day.

<https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/gary-sealey-1076437904>

**Recipient for Lambda Tuition Award in STEM Studies:** We are very pleased to announce that as of September 2019, we have a recipient for the STEM award given to a LGBT person starting undergraduate studies at the University of Alberta. We hope this will be the first award in a series of tuition awards that Lambda Foundation is preparing to administer for outstanding LGBTI people who have contributed constructive energy to our community and want to take an undergraduate degree. Currently, the Lambda Board is in talks with another anonymous donor who would like to establish a similar award designed to assist incoming LGBTQI2 undergraduate students on an ongoing basis for the duration of their degree based on good academic standing. Stay tuned for more news on this exciting initiative!

**Lambda in the archives:** Thanks to Barbara Freeman, an historian, our historical records are now housed at the City of Ottawa Archives. This was an especially important initiative. This means that our history is safeguarded (not languishing in our basements!) and that future generations will be able to read and write about our history.

**First winner for our STEM award!** We are pleased to report that we have recipient for the STEM award established for a high school student registered at the University of Alberta. The winner is Spencer O'Hara who will be pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a specialization in Immunology and Infection. Spencer is also an active member of the queer and trans community. Congratulations, Spencer!

#### **Lambda's Awards for writing and research:**

Most of the money we raise at Lambda Foundation these days still goes into our LGBTQI2 writing and research awards at nine universities across Canada. Our research awards still operate through endowments set up with the universities concerned. When Lambda receives donations, we forward the funds to the host universities at the end of the year, and we also liaise with the on-campus development offices, professors, student associations and campus media to promote excellent applications. The universities invest the endowment funds carefully, each in their own way, and the annual payouts, that is, the interest they earn, constitute the awards. They do not touch the principal. The universities' awards committees (in some cases in consultation with Lambda), decide whose research on LGBTQI2 issues merit the awards.

Here are the endowment totals and the available awards (in rounded-off figures) as of April 30, 2019.

<b>Name of Award</b>
The Christian Landry Memorial Award, University of New Brunswick
Fonds des bourses Fondation Lambda, Université de Montréal
Gary Sealey and Friends of Lambda Award, Carleton University
Nicole LaViolette and Friends of Lambda Prize, University of Ottawa
Grant Halle Lambda Award, Laurentian University
Lambda Foundation Scholarship in Gay and Lesbian Studies, University of Guelph
Les McAfee Memorial Award, University of Manitoba
Candis Graham Writing Scholarship, University of Victoria

***Other awards/prizes:***

<b>Prix de la Fondation Lambda</b> , Université de Montréal
<b>Doctor Gary Gibson Award</b> at UBC/St. Paul's Hospital Foundation
<b>The Jack Hallam Human Rights Award</b> at Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) on Salt Spring Island, BC
<b>Lambda Tuition Award in STEM</b> at University of Alberta

***For our current award winners and their interests, please visit our website at [www.lambdafoundation.org](http://www.lambdafoundation.org) and check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Lambda-Foundation-Fondation-Lambda-47501658828/>***

**Our Members of the Board of Directors**

Our President is ***Patrizia Gentile***, is Associate Professor in the Human Rights & Social Justice/Women's and Gender Studies programs at Carleton University. Our former president, ***Barbara Freeman***, who is a media historian, will be stepping down as a board member as of September 2019. ***Cameron Aitken***, who has both theatre and fundraising experience, is our vice-president. ***Jefferson Morris IV***, who has worked with a number of LGBTI organizations, directs our social media and does outreach for our Francophone awards. Our other directors are our Secretary, ***Michael Graydon***, a Sociology professor at Algoma University, who also does our Anglophone awards outreach. ***Tuan Vu***, a financial expert, is our Treasurer. This past year, ***Meryn Stuart***, a retired Nursing professor from the University of Ottawa, and one of our

directors at large resigned from the board. We thank her for her service and commitment to our foundation.

**Outgoing Board member, Barbara Freeman, PhD.:** One of Lambda's former presidents (stepped down in September 2018) and longest running board member is leaving the foundation. Barbara, a recently retired professor in Communications at Carleton University, continued to contribute as a valued member of the board. In her last year on the board, Barbara continued to work tireless and with dedication for our foundation, especially in promoting the Lambda Tuition Award in STEM at the University of Alberta. Her tenacity, warmth, and commitment to the LGBTQI2 communities is steadfast and unwavering. She will be sorely missed but we know that Barbara always has our back! Thank you so much, Barbara, for your amazing spirit.

**New Board Member! Sara Bannerman, PhD:** We are excited to announce that in September 2018, the Lambda Scholarship Foundation welcomed our newest board member, Sara Bannerman, B.Mus., MA, PhD. Dr. Bannerman is Canada Research Chair in Communication Policy and Governance Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and Multimedia McMaster University. She is currently Co-Vice Chair of Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communications Research (IAMCR) and a Governing Board Member of the International Society for the Theory and History of Intellectual Property (ISHTIP). I have also served in the leadership of the Emerging Scholars' Network of the IAMCR, where I co-led the association's mentorship program and other activities aimed at supporting emerging scholars.

We also welcome new volunteers who are not on the board but want to assist Lambda in different ways. *Currently, we have two vacancies on our board.* All our directors and volunteers are members of the Lambda Foundation, and any of our donors are free to become members on an annual basis. There is no membership fee.

Thank you for your continuing support of Lambda Scholarship Foundation Canada.

Patrizia Gentile, President