



LAMBDA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION CANADA ANNUAL REPORT 2020

President's Message: As I write the report, we are experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic, resistance and protest against racial injustice on the national and global stage, climate emergency, and significant growth in economic inequities. The board of the Lambda Foundation recognizes the ways in which this global crisis requires a sincere, grounded, and organized effort to fight these challenges and the pain, trauma, and violence they engender. As an organization, we will strive to show our solidarity with marginalized communities. While we have written and posted a solidarity statement to show our support the end police brutality and anti-Black racism, this is but a small gesture when we consider the work and action needed to dismantle the racial and class power structures that sustain the violence against Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) communities every day. This year, one of Lambda's main objectives will be to implement necessary anti-racist policies and initiatives regarding board membership, donations initiatives, and scholarship support that will demonstrate significant commitment towards dismantling and abolishing violence against BIPOC communities.

I am delighted to report that we have had a successful 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, including funds collected at one of Lambda's founding members and former president Gary Sealey's Memorial celebration. We used these generous gifts to launch a new website 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, including a new award at Concordia University. Please continue to visit our website for announcements of new awards and prizes.

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

Latest Lambda News

New Scholarship at Concordia University: The Lambda Scholarship Foundation is very pleased to announce a new scholarship made possible by the generous donation of an anonymous donor. The Lambda Scholarship Tuition Award valued at \$2500 renewable for up to 3 years and is open to an active member of the LGBTQ2I communities especially through their service and activism.

We are very grateful to our anonymous donor for their commitment to our community.

We have a new website! We are pleased to report that we have a new and improved website located at lambdafoundation.org. The revamping and wording of the new website was largely conceptualized and authored by Patrizia Gentile, Lambda's president, but the construction, design and implementation of the site was accomplished by two Carleton University students: Oliver Debney (Social Work) and Kit Choky (Communication Studies). We would like to extend a big thank you to Oliver and Kit for their assistance and enthusiasm! Finally, the website, new and old, would not be a continued success if not for the tireless work regarding technical upkeep and updating information of two Lambda board members, Jefferson Morris IV and Sara Bannerman. Thank you so much, Jefferson and Sara for your efforts!

Application for the Status of Women's LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund: On the initiative of our Vice-President, Cameron Aitken, the board supported a decision to apply for the LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund in June 2020. We are awaiting a reply but are excited about the possibility this funding would provide in terms of sustainability and future plans. Our application included a request for the hiring of full time staff to assist and facilitate the organization's infrastructure needs as well as building strategic planning. Thanks to Cameron Aitken for all his work on this application completed with the help of Patrizia Gentile, Mike Graydon and Tuan Vu.

Liability insurance: Please note that the Lambda Foundation purchased new Directors and Officers Liability insurance policy provided by Victor Canada, effective for one year from March 17, 2020.

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 available awards (in rounded-off figures) as of April 30, 2020.

Name of Award
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
NEW! Lambda Scholarship Tuition Award, Concordia University

Other awards/prizes:

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

For our current award winners and their interests, please visit our website at 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***, Associate Professor in the Human Rights & Social Justice/Women's and Gender Studies programs at Carleton University. ***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. **Sara Bannerman**, CRC in Communication Studies and Governance is Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and Multimedia at McMaster University.

New Board Member! We are excited to announce that in September 2019, the Lambda Scholarship Foundation welcomed our newest board member **Dillon Black**, M.S.W. Dillon (they/them) is a gender-nonconforming feminist anti-violence & 2SLGBTQI+ rights advocate is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Criminology at the University of Ottawa working on (trans)gendered violence & human rights policy. For the past 8 years Dillon has been working with the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW) on improving institutional accountability in responses to gender-based violence to meet the needs of marginalized communities both locally and nationally. Currently, Dillon is coordinating a groundbreaking project to support communities across Canada to pilot Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review (also known as the Philadelphia Model) led by National Expert Sunny Marriner. Dillon has served the last two years on Minister on the Status of Women's Advisory Council to Help Shape the Federal Strategy on Gender-Based Violence, and more recently Dillon was appointed by the Right Honorable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to the international Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada's G7 Presidency. In 2018, Dillon was named as one of the Top 100 Most Influential People in Global Policy on Gender Equality.

We also welcome new volunteers who are not on the board but want to assist Lambda in different ways. *Currently, we have three 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