



Bringing  
**WORLDS**  
Together



Dalhousie's campaign for transformational change



**Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders**

**p.2**

- 1. School of Real Estate — \$4M
- 2. Preparing students for multiple career pathways in design — \$2M
- 3. Addressing climate change through design and research — \$2.7M
- 4. Internationalization — \$2.7M
- 5. Equity, diversity and inclusion in designing sustainable communities — \$725K
- 6. Enhancing learning environments — \$600K



# Making a difference starts here

Dalhousie is home to the only Faculty of Architecture and Planning in Atlantic Canada. Our students experience a vibrant urban design approach within the context of an ocean environment. We provide an exceptional education so students learn to create healthy, dynamic buildings and communities for all. Since 1970, our outstanding co-op program has given students access to a network of industry professionals and employment opportunities around the world.

We are a collaborative community of forward-thinking leaders. We work together to make positive change, driving innovation in the built and natural environment. Our deep sense of social responsibility helps us meet the needs of a rapidly changing planet and build strong, accessible and sustainable communities. We bring global learning to our region while sharing our expertise with the world.

By blending hands-on education, the highest academic quality and the latest technology, we develop well-rounded, exceptionally skilled architecture and planning professionals. Our goal is for our graduates to have the skills, values, creativity, curiosity and desire to solve the world's most daunting challenges.

Through this campaign, we will develop and expand programs that inspire leaders and innovators. We will create opportunities that enhance global learning and address critical issues like climate change and housing. And we will foster more equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility within our professions, encouraging design of inclusive spaces that respect traditional and cultural methods and that reflect all members of our society.

# Enhancing our impact

## Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders

We aim to be the most student-centric faculty of architecture and planning in Canada, creating a community of global citizens who are skilled, innovative and socially conscious. With the initiatives funded through this campaign, our goal is for every student to have access to the cutting-edge facilities, innovative tools and responsive programming they need to be at the forefront of their field. We will provide the financial and academic supports that allow students to focus their energy on learning and growth. Enhancing experiential opportunities will give students the confidence to use their Dalhousie education to create the change they want to make in the world.

Ultimately, our initiatives will inspire leaders who are truly future-ready.

### 1. School of Real Estate — \$4M

Canada's population is expanding rapidly, with Moncton and Halifax the fastest-growing cities of all. Addressing housing needs in Canada is a multi-faceted issue that requires the best and brightest to align their talents to develop innovative solutions. To nurture and realize our region's remarkable potential, the Faculty of Architecture and Planning will work with industry and other Dalhousie faculties to establish a new School of Real Estate. We will start with a Master of Real Estate program, with long-term plans to offer undergraduate programming, non-degree certificates and microcredentials, professional development and evidence-based research to support the real estate industry and fill the talent pipeline. The Dalhousie School of Real Estate will be a leading voice for the industry, providing innovation and leadership to help Canadians seeking safe and sustainable housing for generations to come. This campaign will help fund infrastructure, research, experiential learning and academic programming.



**WE ARE READY AND EAGER TO SUPPORT THE REAL ESTATE ECOSYSTEM.**

—DR. GRAHAM GAGNON

**Where collaboration meets opportunity**

Dr. Graham Gagnon is the Dean of Architecture and Planning and an NSERC Industrial Research Chair.

“Real estate is an industry with almost limitless potential. Dalhousie Architecture and Planning is the perfect partner with real estate and development. We share complementary goals when it comes to the built environment, building design and community planning principles. Our alumni have deep, close-knit connections with the industry. With the breadth and depth of our in-house expertise, we are ready and eager to support the real estate ecosystem by training professionals to fill the talent pipeline and to help guide the industry — especially though the unprecedented growth of the housing market in our region.”

## 2. Preparing students for multiple career pathways in design — \$2M

In our post-pandemic world, design-based solutions address everything from our new work-from-home reality to customer delivery and health-care service. Housing, climate challenges, mental health issues and inclusivity are just a few other areas that can benefit from exceptional design. Our city, province and country need trained professionals to bring an innovative mindset to the design needs of our communities.

The Faculty of Architecture and Planning is developing robust new programs for creative design-focused students. We will create new career pathways in experiential design processes, design and computing, and landscape design to enable students to tackle the pressing design issues of our time.

This campaign will fund an Endowed Professor in Experiential Design, who will foster creative thinking and lead design-focused opportunities. Working with the Faculty of Computer Science, we will bring the worlds of creative design and data together through our Partnership Pathways in Design + Computing, with funding providing unique training opportunities and student supports. For our Partnership Pathways in Landscape Design, we have joined with the Faculty of Agriculture to develop a Master in Landscape Architecture degree and will aim to fund a new Professor in Landscape Design to support this highly sought-after program.

## 3. Addressing climate change through design and research — \$2.7M

In Nova Scotia, buildings and transportation represent two of the top three greenhouse gas-emitting sources. Today's community and building designers face an array of environmental considerations, such as how to lower carbon footprints, prepare for batteries and clean energy solutions, and guide coastal adaptations. There is an urgent need to develop solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Faculty of Architecture and Planning is committed to teaching students how to tackle pressing climate change issues. We have developed a climate research strategy with a strong commitment to community and culture. Campaign funding will support scholarships for climate change work in our new PhD program in the built environment. It will also fund research labs that support design and fabrication of sustainable materials for the built environment and a virtual reality interdisciplinary lab that combines hands-on learning with integrated digital predictions and solutions capabilities.



# Where hands-on experience meets sustainable impact

**Renita Kralik** (BSc'17, MPLAN'23) has always been passionate about sustainability. Now this recent Master of Planning grad has the motivation and knowledge to act on that passion, thanks to the hands-on learning experiences she accessed through the Faculty of Architecture and Planning.

One of Kralik's experiences involved working with the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to develop more cohesive and sustainable policies for the community. For Kralik, this was more than a chance to apply her learning to tackle the challenges of climate change. It also resulted in invaluable insights on how to educate communities on the importance of sustainability and the vital role that planners play in advancing this issue.

"The job of a planner is to build communities for the future," Kralik says. "It's up to us to advocate for including climate change adaptation and sustainability in our policies."

Kralik gained more insights on climate change and its impacts through the School of Planning's Earth Day celebrations. Working with a team, she helped create a video about an urban planning issue in the community related to the environment.

"It was a really interesting opportunity to learn about planning issues in the local area and research innovative solutions," she says. "As future advocates, we have a responsibility to continue educating ourselves and seeking out opportunities."

Buoyed by her experiences, Kralik continues to expand her knowledge and apply what she learned at the School of Planning. She is currently working with Infrastructure Canada on a new initiative that will support communities in their transition to low-carbon, resilient infrastructure.

"The tools and education I have received will really enable me to advocate for more sustainability in both policy and building design, and to succeed in my career," she says.

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MORE SUSTAINABILITY.**

— RENITA KRALIK

#### 4. Internationalization — \$2.7M

Complex global issues — like climate change, the housing crisis and sustainable transportation — require solutions informed by global perspectives. Training our students to design and develop sustainable, vibrant, thriving communities requires international reach and experience.

Our “Internationalization” initiative will bring to life our Faculty’s proactive and ambitious strategy to double our international student enrollment, develop institutional partners abroad, establish our faculty and students on the world stage, and broaden the scope of our work. We’ve already made progress by recruiting faculty and students, leveraging academic partnerships and alumni networks, and participating in international missions. Now, we have even bigger plans:

- **International student support** will align recruitment, admissions, activities and graduation to ensure a full-cycle student experience for the best and brightest international students. We will prepare and foster these student leaders in housing and the built environment. And we will increase and enhance scholarships and bursaries to help eliminate financial barriers for the international students we attract, allowing them to focus on achieving academic and professional success.
- **Global relations and exchange** will see our students and faculty engage in scholarship and built environment solutions with global partners. We will support travel for exhibitions here and abroad as well as short-term exchanges with international partners.



**BEING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GIVES YOU A BROAD VIEW OF HOW MANY ELEMENTS INTERSECT.**

— ZAHRA WILLIAMS

**Where education meets global perspectives**

Zahra Williams (BEDS’10), a self-described global citizen and lifelong learner, grew up in Barbados and is a Principal and architect at zzap.

“Part of what I enjoy about architecture is how it brings together design, technology and engineering, but also other considerations, such as history, politics, geography, public health, sociology and climatology. Being an international student can provide alternate perspectives on how these many elements intersect. But there are also challenges with being “from away,” particularly the cultural adjustments, cultural specific education and pedagogy exposure. Ultimately, diverse student representation contributes to a layered and richly multi-faceted educational experience. That’s why I’m pleased to be an advocate for international students.”

## 5. Equity, diversity and inclusion in designing sustainable communities — \$725K

Communities, landscapes and buildings must be designed and built in ways that include the diverse perspectives of the individuals they serve. Architects and planners need training to respond to the varied needs of our diverse population. We are changing the landscape of design education by attracting a broader variety of students. More diversity will lead to communities that are designed to be more inclusive and to respect traditional and cultural methods, resulting in spaces that better serve community goals. A more diverse Faculty will allow students to learn from one another and nurture future designers who understand the importance of the built environment in all people's lives.

Our "Equity, diversity and inclusion in designing sustainable communities" initiative will provide funding and supports for students from equity-deserving groups, with a particular focus on African Nova Scotian and Indigenous students and communities. An EDIA Navigator will create pathways and engage youth from these communities, and encourage them to consider careers in architecture or planning. We will also develop programming such as Free Lab design build projects to support students working on projects that serve diverse communities.

## 6. Enhanced learning environments — \$600K

To become the best architects and planners they can be, students need exposure to real-world situations and problems.

The Faculty of Architecture and Planning has a long and proud tradition of learning by doing, with hands-on activity emphasized in every step of a student's education. Drawing, model making, digital fabrication, design build projects, co-op education and community projects are all essential elements of a Dalhousie design education.

Now, we are expanding our experiential programs and resources, giving students even greater access to labs and equipment, with more opportunities for transdisciplinary collaboration and community partnerships.

This campaign will allow us to enhance both the Free Labs Program and the Digital Fabrication Lab. This will help build community engagement and a deeper understanding of community needs, and expose students to new technology and situations they will encounter in practice — preparing them even better for their chosen careers.



# Building a better tomorrow, together

The **Bringing Worlds Together** campaign will help us create new ways to offer an exceptional student experience that will ultimately help us build a better world.

Internationalization will help us respond better to local and global needs. Our commitment to EDIA principles will bring more diversity to our faculty and inspire more inclusive design work for our communities. And by enhancing our technological and experiential learning offerings, we will prepare our students to become well-trained, compassionate professionals who are confident and ready to make a real difference.

With your support, we will achieve lasting and positive change with wide-ranging benefits.

Together, we can transform not just the lives of our learners and scholars, but also the communities we serve here and around the globe — communities that are counting on our graduates to bring innovative design solutions to create a world that is more inclusive, sustainable and responsive to their unique needs.

With your gift, that bold bright future is not just possible — it is within our reach.

To learn more about the future the Faculty of Architecture and Planning is building, please contact us.

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