



Bringing
WORLDS
Together



Dalhousie's campaign for transformational change

Making a difference starts here

Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine is committed to driving excellence in health and health care through world-class medical education and research. Our MD program, which delivers cutting-edge curriculum and superb clinical training, applies the latest in evidence-based education methods and practices. Our postgraduate training, continuing professional development programs, and solutions-focused researchers are supported by state-of-the-art facilities and equipment to produce the highly skilled doctors and innovative researchers needed for a better tomorrow.

Our vibrant and collaborative research community is addressing challenges like rapidly aging and ailing populations, and limited access to medical professionals and services head on. Together we are developing new and better ways to detect, diagnose, treat, and prevent our region's most prevalent diseases and conditions.

At Dalhousie, our success has always been linked to the relationships we have built with the communities we serve. Educating the physicians of tomorrow, driving systems change, discovering new medical advances, and viewing health outcomes through the lens of diversity and inclusion are integral to all that we do. With the help of our generous donors, Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine is poised to play a leading role in improving health outcomes for the people of the Maritimes and beyond.

The **Bringing Worlds Together** campaign will enable us to innovate, educate, and foster a stronger, healthier, and more prosperous community for generations to come.



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Enhancing our impact

Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders

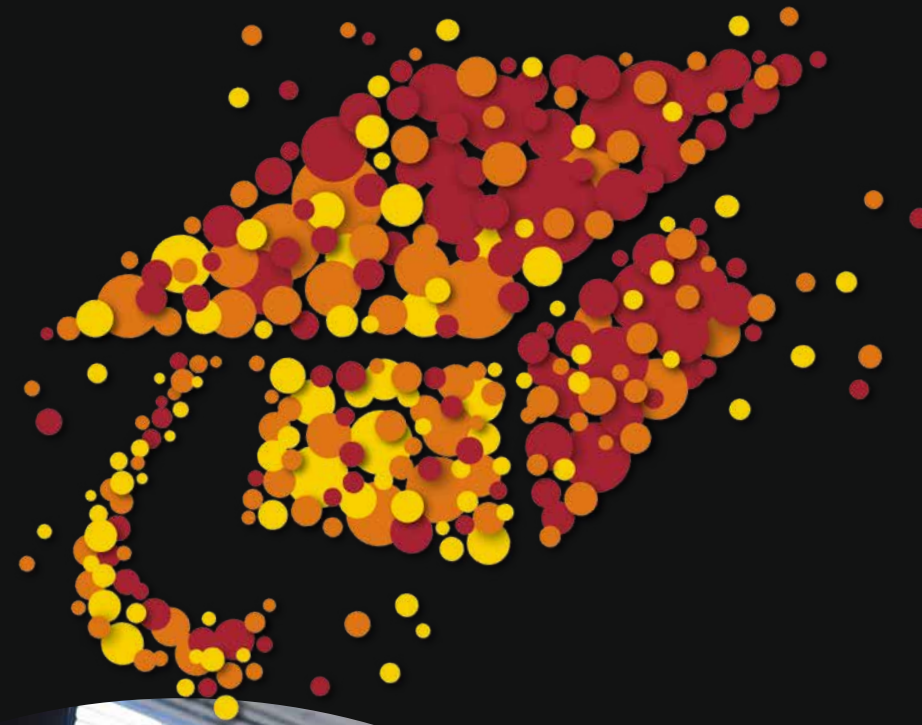
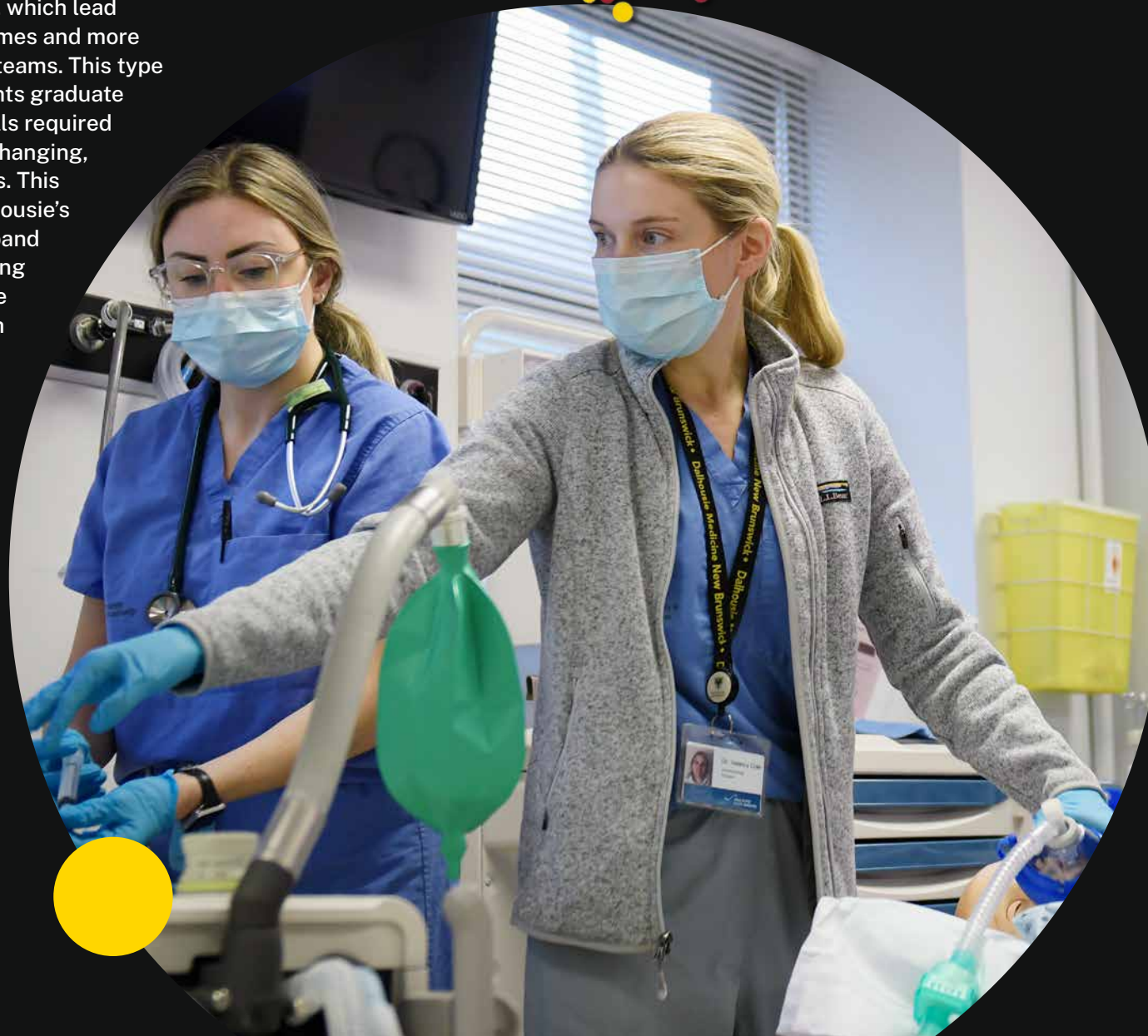
Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine attracts some of Canada's best students, physicians, and medical researchers, and we are committed to inspiring future-ready leaders. By investing in student support and state-of-the-art training facilities, we are ensuring that more students have access to exceptional medical education, and that they become highly skilled, collaborative medical professionals, ready to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

1. Investing in students — \$20M

By increasing financial support to Dal medical students — particularly those who want to practise in the Maritimes — we will help address the physician shortage in our region. The average medical school graduate amasses more than \$160,000 of debt throughout the course of their studies and this will only increase as we increase our number of students and existing funding is spread further. This factor greatly impacts their decisions about what and where they practise upon graduation. With the help of our donors, the Faculty of Medicine is committed to removing financial barriers to medical education. In particular, we will focus on increasing financial support for students from underrepresented and equity-deserving groups, and those wanting to practise in rural areas of the Maritimes.

2. Simulation training facilities — \$15M

Innovative, specialized skills training and experiential learning opportunities are critical to produce highly skilled doctors. Clinical simulation has become an essential tool in medical education and plays a crucial role in providing safe learning experiences, which lead to improved patient outcomes and more collaborative health-care teams. This type of learning ensures students graduate with the expertise and skills required to perform complex, life-changing, and life-saving procedures. This campaign will enable Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine to expand its simulation-based training and testing facilities at the Halifax campus and enrich simulation capabilities at health facilities all across the Maritimes where health professionals are training in clinical settings that were not designed for education.



CLINICAL SIMULATION HAS BECOME THE GOLD STANDARD IN MEDICAL EDUCATION.

—DR. STEPHEN MILLER

Where innovative training meets saving lives

Dr. Stephen Miller (MD'93, PGM'96) is the Associate Dean of Continuing Professional Development & Medical Education in the Faculty of Medicine. He oversees the Clinical Simulation Program.

“Clinical simulation has become the gold standard in medical education and plays a crucial role in providing safe learning experiences, which leads to improved patient outcomes across the region. In order to prepare the next generation of physicians to provide highly skilled patient care, we need to allow them to make mistakes, ask questions, get feedback, and incorporate new knowledge when they try again. This type of learning ensures physicians graduate with the expertise and skills required to perform complex, life-changing, and life-saving procedures.”

Where financial support meets improving student outcomes

Kaylin Dean (BA'19) may have taken a winding path to medical school, but now she's where she was always meant to be. A first-generation university student and descendent of the Acadia First Nation, Dean scored well on the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) on her first try — a rare achievement — and began Dalhousie Medical School at age 30.

Dean graduated from Dalhousie with a degree in performing arts in 2019. She then spent several years working in customer service and hospitality jobs before considering medical school.

Growing up, becoming a physician wasn't part of the dialogue in Dean's house. Being the first in her family to graduate from high school and attend university was already a point of pride for her loved ones. Graduate school just wasn't on the horizon. After a lot of research and even more conversations, the narrative in Dean's head changed from, "Could I be a doctor?" to, "I'm supposed to be a doctor."

Dean was the recipient of the Dr. Richard Goldbloom Bursary, something that means more than financial support. "That funding helps to feed me, house me, gets me that coffee when I'm working a night shift in the emergency department. But more than that, it's knowing someone believes in you, that you are supported, that you belong," she says. "We all know life is getting more and more expensive, and every time I buy something I can't help but add it to the debt running in my head." Student funding has meant that part of that mental burden is relieved for students like Dean, who hopes to practise family medicine in Yarmouth, the central hub of her Indigenous ancestry.

"The study of medicine is daunting, and a large contributor of that is the financial burden," says Dean. "Costs of living are rising, and it becomes a challenge not to worry about the debt waiting on the other side of the Hippocratic Oath when our focus must be on our training. Scholarships and bursaries are an incredible weight off our shoulders."

Passionate about helping others and education, Dean says she's "all in" and is committed to giving back to her community, just like those who give to support students. "I'm giving it my all. They bet on the right horse."



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SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES ARE AN INCREDIBLE WEIGHT OFF OUR SHOULDERS.

— KAYLIN DEAN

Engaging in High-Impact Research

Dalhousie medical researchers are solving the health challenges impacting people in our region and around the world. Medical research changes and saves lives. Not only can it provide faster diagnoses, better treatments, and enhanced quality of life, but it also influences the health, wellness, and economic prosperity of our communities. Research is an integral part of Dalhousie Medical School's mission to advance the quality of health and health care in the Maritimes and beyond.

1. Transformational research investments — \$30M

The Maritime region is home to Canada's fastest-aging population, the highest rates of age, obesity, and inactivity-related chronic disease, as well as some of the highest rates in Canada of a variety of cancer types. Strategic investments in Dalhousie's nationally and internationally leading researchers will accelerate groundbreaking discoveries with impacts here and around the world. Our researchers are curing cancer, drastically reducing deaths and morbidity from heart attacks and strokes, and helping people age well at home. Dalhousie boasts medical research excellence in the areas of inflammation, immunity, infectious diseases, and vaccinology (I3V), neuroscience (including Alzheimer's and mental health), and genomics in medicine, to name a few. This campaign aims to support our leading research teams by investing in people, infrastructure, and research programs.

2. Biomanufacturing Infrastructure — \$35M

Dalhousie's Biomanufacturing Infrastructure is Atlantic Canada's missing pathway for health innovation. This specialized, small-scale GMP biomanufacturing facility, with highly skilled personnel who can help bring medical research from the lab to the clinic, will enable Maritime-born medical breakthroughs to transform health-care outcomes regionally and globally. By investing in critical infrastructure and health research ecosystems, this campaign priority will bring research discoveries to fruition, enabling small-scale first-in-human clinical trials — leading to new vaccines for current and future deadly illnesses, new personalized cancer treatments, targeted therapies for rare diseases like cystic fibrosis, and more. Biomanufacturing facilities of this type are rare across Canada and do not yet exist anywhere in Atlantic Canada.



BIOMANUFACTURING INFRASTRUCTURE WILL PROVIDE THE ECOSYSTEM FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION.

—DR. EILEEN DENOVAN-WRIGHT

Where groundbreaking research meets better health-care outcomes

Dr. Eileen Denovan-Wright (BSc'89, PhD'94) is the Associate Dean of Research at Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine. Her mandate is to advance Dalhousie's innovative medical research agenda through the recruitment and retention of top-tier research personnel and facilities.

"We have world-leading health research right here in Atlantic Canada. Biomanufacturing Infrastructure will provide the ecosystem for medical innovation in our region. It will bridge the gap between discovery research and clinical trials by offering the critical backbone of infrastructure, processes, and personnel that currently do not exist in the region and are scarce across the country."

3. Digital health data research — \$10M

Digital health data research has the potential to transform the health sector by answering key questions about our health, risk factors, and disease, and by supporting clinicians in delivering the best care in the most affordable way. Traditional approaches to health data storage, management, and analysis can result in health-care systems that are inefficient and less effective, leading to slower access to care, poor patient experiences, duplicated work, and increased costs. Health-care systems in the Maritimes are particularly vulnerable to these stressors, as our population is demographically older and sicker, and our system has been slower to embrace digital data advances. Campaign support will fund interdisciplinary collaborations with the Faculty of Computer Science and our health authority and government partners, helping us work together toward solutions like the “One Person One Record” medical information system for Nova Scotia. Support for research chairs and trainees will enable critical development of common platforms to link and share health data across institutions and the region.



**EVERY EXPERIMENT
I CONDUCT, EVERY
BREAKTHROUGH I
ACCOMPLISH, IS A
TESTAMENT TO THE
INVALUABLE ROLE OF
DONORS.**

— YIZHU MU

**Where generosity meets
research discovery**

Yizhu Mu is a microbiology and immunology student in Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine. Mu has received funding through the Harmonized Studentship Program.

“The funding I have received has been an incredible catalyst for my work in microbiology and immunology. It is not just financial support but also a support in spirit. With this funding, I am able to turn hypotheses into discoveries and ideas into solutions. Every experiment I conduct, every breakthrough I accomplish, is a testament to the invaluable role of donors in driving scientific advancement forward.”

Lifting Our Communities

Dalhousie University is committed to playing a leading role in the development of an equitable and inclusive model of health care, delivered by diverse, highly qualified health professionals that better serve the needs of all our communities. The Faculty of Medicine strives to improve health in the Maritimes in ways that exceed the traditional roles of educating physicians and conducting leading-edge research. Our intentions include examining and redefining the Faculty's relationships with equity-deserving communities and catalyzing systems change.

1. Indigenous medical education and research — \$10M

Indigenous perspectives and lived experiences are vital to create an inclusive and fully representative health-care system. The Faculty of Medicine recognizes that Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqiyik, Peskotomuhkati, and other Indigenous people face unique and unjust barriers in their journeys to medical school. We also acknowledge there are similar barriers to conducting Indigenous-led and Indigenous-governed health research that will positively impact the health outcomes of Indigenous people. With campaign support, we will expand Keknu'tmasiek Ta'n Tel Welo'ltimk — We are Learning How to be Well (KW) — our program aimed at increasing the number of Indigenous medical professionals in our region. It focuses on community engagement, student recruitment, and wraparound support during and after medical school. Additionally, the Faculty will invest in research positions and other supports to facilitate Indigenous research priorities led by Indigenous researchers, communities, and organizations.

2. African Nova Scotian medical education and research — \$10M

Nova Scotia is home to the largest population of Black communities in Canada. Dalhousie needs to lead the way in providing education and research for these important and historic communities. African Nova Scotians and other equity-deserving populations often face worse health outcomes than the general population and are underrepresented in the medical health professions in our region. A lack of diversity in health care and health research intensifies health disparities for racialized people. This campaign will enable us to expand programs that support Black learners aspiring to a career in a health profession. It will also provide support for Black and African Nova Scotian researchers at Dalhousie, which is essential for catalyzing systems change and improving health care access. Dalhousie is committed to providing culturally welcoming and collaborative environments, mentorship, and other research resourcing. Investing in health research that is focused on improving health outcomes for Black patients is critical.



**REPRESENTATION MATTERS...
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THAT
CHANGE AND IMPROVE
HEALTH OUTCOMES.**

—DR. LEAH JONES

**Where reducing barriers meets
better care for all**

Dr. Leah Jones is the first Academic Director, Black Health, at Dalhousie Medical School. Dr. Jones supports the Faculty's Promoting Leadership in Health for African Nova Scotians (PLANS) program, and recruits and engages African Nova Scotian and Black populations in the Maritimes.

"There is a significant lack of representation of Black learners within medical schools and, in turn, the Canadian medical workforce. Changing this starts with welcoming historically marginalized groups to medical school. It is an honour to lead the development of the Black Learners Admissions Pathway in the Faculty of Medicine. Representation matters, and it is lacking within the physician workforce in the Maritimes. I can't wait to see that change and improve health outcomes for Black communities."

Investing in our future

When we invest in the future of health care — in medical students, researchers, and vital infrastructure — we are investing in the future well-being of our communities, our families, and ourselves.

Our community of generous donors and strategic partners who believe in the power of medical research and education are needed now, more than ever, to support the innovative and important work carried out at the Faculty of Medicine.

You can be part of the transformational change we are creating in our community and around the world. Our goals are ambitious, but achieving them is within our reach — with your help.

To join us in leading the way to a better future, please reach out today.

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