



DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S TRANSPORTATION LEADERS

2026

TAC FOUNDATION

YEAR IN REVIEW



Message from the President



"I extend my sincere appreciation for the continued generosity and confidence in our mission."

The TAC Foundation exists for one purpose: to develop tomorrow's transportation leaders. Each year, our scholarships help talented students pursue careers that will shape the transportation systems on which Canadians depend. It is a mission that has never been more important.

I am pleased to report that, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the Foundation awarded 20 scholarships this year to exceptional students from across the country. These awards recognize academic excellence and a commitment to advancing the transportation sector. More importantly, they represent an investment in the people who will become tomorrow's engineers, planners, researchers, and transportation leaders.

This success is only possible because of our donor organizations and individual supporters. On behalf of the Foundation's Board of Directors, I extend my sincere appreciation for the continued generosity and confidence in our mission. The support is changing lives and strengthening the future of our profession.

While we celebrate these achievements, we must also acknowledge the reality we face. Like many charitable organizations, the TAC Foundation has experienced several years of increasingly challenging fundraising conditions. Economic uncertainty and competing priorities have made it more difficult to secure the financial support needed to sustain our work over the long term.

Rather than standing still, the Foundation has taken this as an opportunity to strengthen our organization. Over the past two years, the Board has carefully reviewed strategies and operations, and is implementing measures to reduce costs, simplify processes, and improve efficiency. These changes are intended to ensure that as much of every dollar as possible is directed toward what matters most – supporting students through our scholarship and outreach programs.

The Board remains committed to preserving these programs and building a Foundation that is financially sustainable for years to come. We know that achieving this goal will require continued collaboration with our donors, volunteers, and partners across the transportation community.

Every scholarship awarded represents opportunity, every donor contribution represents confidence in the future, and every volunteer contribution reflects a shared belief that investing in people is one of the most meaningful ways we can strengthen our profession. Together, we are helping to build the next generation of transportation leaders for Canada.

Gerry Chaput, P.Eng.
TAC Foundation President

Introduction

The TAC Foundation is a registered charity established in 2003 to address the challenges associated with a shortage of skilled people available for planning, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining Canada's transportation infrastructure.



Vision

A robust and diverse Canadian transportation workforce.



Mission

Developing tomorrow's transportation leaders.

Strategic Priorities

Board optimization

Resource development
excellence

Brand building
and communication

Fundraising

Fundraising is a critical priority for the Foundation. Members of the Board invest significant energy in establishing and nurturing relationships with current and potential donors and communicating the value of supporting students in transportation-related programs of study. Those efforts have resulted in donations to the Foundation totaling approximately \$4.12 million since its establishment in 2003, with an additional \$36,000 committed for future years.

The Foundation is grateful for the support received in 2026 from governments, private sector companies, associations, and individuals that provided for a generous scholarship program and enabled the Foundation's operations. Current donors and their cumulative contributions are listed later in this report.

Communications

The main goals of the Foundation's communications are to raise the profile of the TAC Foundation, enhance collaboration and broaden outreach efforts. We aim to promote the Foundation's activities to attract valuable donors and high-caliber scholarship applicants.

The communications strategy includes multiple messages promoting the programs to universities/colleges and TAC members in the educational institution category and encouraging active participation from scholarship recipients to promote the success stories of the Foundation's work. General and targeted posts are made across various platforms, including TAC News and the Foundation's own LinkedIn account.

Programs

Scholarships

Since the academic year 2004/05, the Foundation's Scholarship Program has awarded 697 scholarships valued at almost \$2.9 million to students at the graduate, undergraduate (university and college) and entrance level in transportation-related disciplines.

In 2026, the Foundation was pleased to award 20 scholarships totaling \$96,725. A list of the 2026 scholarship recipients is contained herein and is also available on the Foundation website.

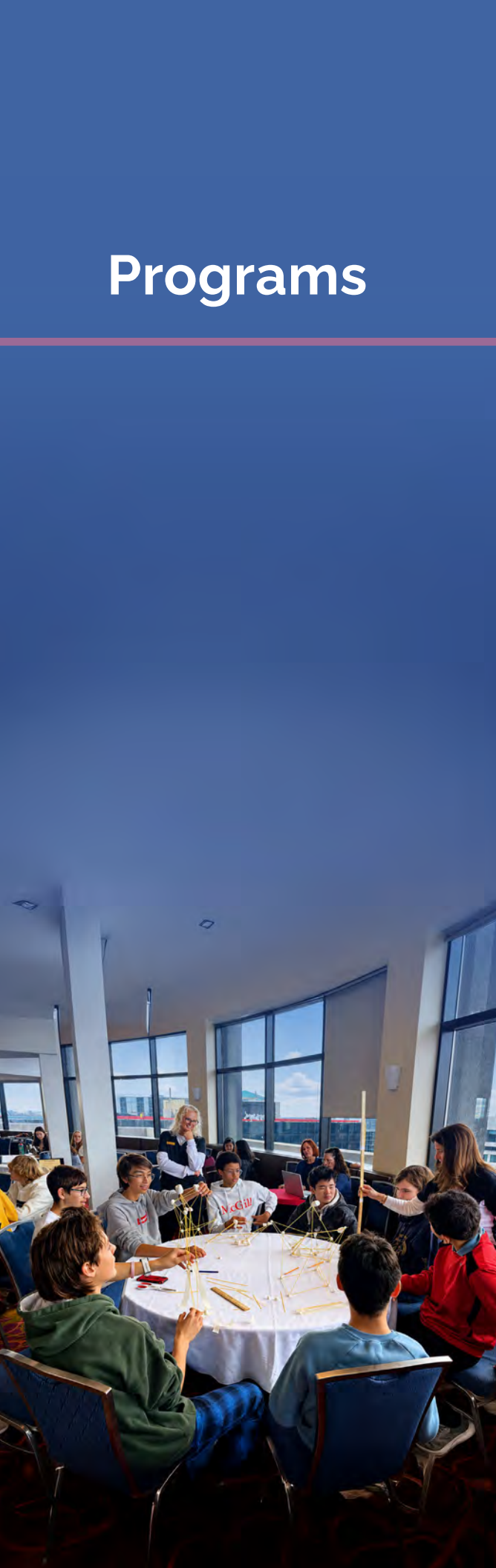
The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the leadership of Janelle Warren and Rebecca Farrugia and the contributions of almost 70 volunteers who reviewed scholarship applications this year.

Student Outreach

The Foundation has championed the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) STEM Outreach Solutions (formerly TRAC) program in Canada. Day-long sessions offer hands-on activities to introduce high school students to the world of transportation design and engineering, seeking to inspire them to consider related careers. A successful event was held in Ottawa in November 2025 with support from Englobe, the Cement Association of Canada, TAC, and the Ottawa Carleton District School Board.

Another outreach event is being planned for 2026.

For 2026, the Foundation has allocated \$1,200 to its Student Activities Fund. Applications can be submitted by individuals or clubs/teams/associations pursuing field trips, educational experiences, and infrastructure or equipment, enhancing real-life learning opportunities and encouraging involvement in and selection of transportation-related studies and careers.



Leadership

The Foundation’s Board of Directors currently comprises six leaders in the transportation sector who support the Foundation’s mission. They are:

Board of Directors

(as of June 2026)

Gerry Chaput

Arcadis,
Foundation President

Scott Stewart

Scott Stewart and Associates,
Foundation Treasurer

Keith Foster

Englobe

Frédéric Pellerin

Québec Ministère des
transports et de la
mobilité durable

Janelle Warren

Trojan Technologies

Sarah Wells

Transportation Association
of Canada

Officers

Gerry Chaput

President

Scott Stewart

Treasurer

Committee Leaders

Keith Foster

Student Outreach

Janelle Warren

Scholarships

Financial Highlights

Since 2005, the Foundation has awarded almost **\$2.9 million in scholarships to 697 students.**

The TAC Foundation holds some assets in reserves, including an endowment fund and a long-term capital fund, and works on a break-even basis for its annual operational expenses. The 2025 audited financial statements can be found online at tac-atc.ca/tac-foundation.

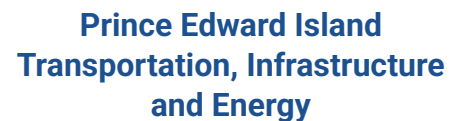


Donors

Platinum* | \$50,000 or more



Gold* | \$25,000 - \$49,999



Silver* | \$15,000 - \$24,999



Bronze* | \$1,000 - \$14,999



*Cumulative contributions over multiple years

TAC Foundation Scholarship Recipients in 2026

\$6,000 ▶

The Esch Foundation

Majdi Flah

Doctor of Philosophy, Civil Engineering,
McMaster University

The Esch Foundation

Broderick Flannigan

Bachelor's Degree in Urban Studies,
University of Quebec at Montreal

The Esch Foundation

Félix Malhaire

Bachelor of Electrical Engineering,
Université de Sherbrooke

The Esch Foundation

Azaria Ng

Master of Applied Science, Civil Engineering,
University of Waterloo





\$5,000 ▶

AtkinsRéalis

Briar Harshaw

Bachelor of Applied Science, Civil Engineering
Queen's University

CCMTA Road Safety Scholarship

Mariam Ayoub

Bachelor of Science, Life Science
University of Toronto

EllisDon Corporation, in honour of Stephen Damp,
past TAC Foundation President

Trevor Jones

Doctor of Philosophy, Civil and Mineral Engineering,
University of Toronto

Stantec Women in Engineering

Bella Walker

Bachelor of Applied Science, Civil Engineering,
Queen's University

TAC Foundation, in honour of Dr. Ralph Haas

Tate Anhorn

Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering,
University of Calgary

TAC Foundation

Chaitanya Ahuja

Doctor of Philosophy, Civil Engineering,
University of Toronto

TAC Foundation

Ariane Bouffard

Doctor of Philosophy, Environmental Science,
Université du Québec à Montreal

\$5,000 ▶

TAC Foundation

Lucas Gaspari

Bachelor of Applied Science, Civil Engineering,
University of Toronto

TAC Foundation

Shiza Hirani

Bachelor of Business Administration and Economics,
University of Regina

TAC Foundation

Jessica Wei-Lin Lam

Doctor of Philosophy, Geography,
University of Saskatchewan

TAC Foundation

Syed Hamza Mustafa

Doctor of Philosophy, Civil Engineering,
Carleton University

TAC Foundation

James St. Marie

Bachelor of Applied Science, Civil Engineering,
Queen's University

TAC Foundation

Thomas Wall

Bachelor of Engineering, Civil Engineering,
University of Manitoba



A photograph of three students in a study hall. A young man in a red and blue plaid shirt is on the left, a young woman in a blue and white striped shirt is in the center, and a young man in a yellow shirt with headphones around his neck is on the right. They are standing around a table with open books. The background shows shelves with books and a white lamp.

\$2,725 ▶

Varamini Scholarship for Young Pavement Innovators

Kiefer Precious-Predinchuk

Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology,
Mohawk College

\$2,500 ▶

Colas Canada

Marina Cloutier

Diplôme d'études collégiales in Civil Engineering,
Cégep de l'Outaouais

Colas Canada

Kim Ha

Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology,
Mohawk College



For donor and volunteer enquiries:

development@tac-atc.ca

For scholarship applications and general enquiries:

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Transportation Association of Canada Foundation

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