

KEGS Foundation Announcement

Eighteen Graduate Scholarships Awarded for 2022/23

August 31, 2022, Toronto, Canada: The Directors of the KEGS Foundation are very pleased to announce the awarding of record scholarships totalling nearly \$20,000 to eighteen graduate students in geophysics at ten Canadian universities for the forthcoming academic year (2022/23). Details of an additional fifteen scholarship awards to undergraduate students totalling more than \$21,000 were provided previously in a separate announcement.

These awards mark the twenty-third year of the KEGS Foundation's scholarship program directed at fostering the education of future geophysicists in Canada. The large number of recipients (33) and record amount of total awards (\$41,000) reflect the number of well-qualified applicants and their evident financial need, amplified by the significant complications caused by the Covid-19 pandemic which affected many students' studies, research, internships and employment opportunities. The Foundation has endeavoured to respond positively to the applicants' circumstances in order to sustain students' focus on geophysics, aided by notable donations, continued support by sustaining donors and collective initiatives, redeploying a portion of income from the Collett Legacy gift that was not required for other programs that had been suspended or cancelled because of the pandemic. This included awards of three recently established scholarships, namely, the SKGS Scholarship, Michael and Patricia Carson Geophysics Scholarship for Indigenous Students and *Bourse des Pionniers de la Géophysique Québécoise* (see website for earlier announcements).

The **eighteen graduate recipients** of KEGS Foundation scholarships for 2022/23, comprising seven M.Sc. students and eleven Ph.D. candidates, include the following six awardees who received named scholarships supported by specific endowments*:

- Fateme Hormozzade Ghalati, Ph.D. candidate, Carleton University, was awarded the prestigious **Len and Genice Collett Graduate Scholarship in Geophysics** established in 2017 by a major legacy gift by Len and Genice Collett. Her research involves utilizing MT surveys at Mt. Cayley in southern B.C. as part of a multi-year integrated investigation of its geothermal potential.
- Camilla Tavares Rodrigues, Ph.D. candidate at Polytechnique Montréal, received the second award of the *Bourse des pionniers de la géophysique québécoise*, principally supporting students in geophysics in or from Québec. Her research is focused on improving the resolution of passive seismic investigations.

- Christopher Mancuso, Ph.D. candidate, Laurentian University, received the second award of the **Michael and Patricia Carson Geophysics Scholarship for Indigenous Students** studying geophysics or geophysical technology. Christopher is from the Sioux Valley Dakota First Nation in southern Manitoba. His research is focused on developing improved integrated interpretation of gravity data.
- Natalia Gomez Jaramillo, M.Sc. student at Western University who is developing improved seismic risk characterization, was awarded the **GSC Pioneers Scholarship**, which honours the many contributions of notable geophysical pioneers at the GSC.
- Neeraj Nainwal, Ph.D. candidate at Queen's University who is developing integrated systems for drone platforms, received the **CGG Scholarship**.
- Sarai Jireht Montañez Muñoz, M.Sc. student at Simon Fraser University who is investigating the gravity response of lava tubes, was awarded the second **BCGS Scholarship**.

The other twelve graduate students who received KEGS Foundation scholarships comprise:

five M.Sc. students:

- Simon Dourlet, Université Laval
- Brandon Hume, Université Laval
- Arya Kimiaghali, University of Toronto
- Oluwasanmi Orole, Western University
- Mark Lepitzki ^R, University of Saskatchewan

and seven Ph.D. candidates:

- Taylor Tracey Kyrliuk ^R, University of Ottawa
- Andrey Remorov, University of Toronto
- Fadhli Atarita ^R, Queen's University
- Siti Robiah Ummu Karomah Al Wardah, Queen's University
- Eric Lenhart ^R, Western University
- Sujan Adhikari, Western University
- Alireza Javanbakht Samani, Western University

^R denotes a repeat scholarship winner.

The scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$3,000, determined by the recipient's merit and need as well as by available financial resources, and are intended to supplement other major sources of funding. The Foundation has allocated an additional \$5,400 to help defray travel costs of the above awardees who attend the KEGS Geophysical Symposium and PDAC Convention, the BCGS Symposium, the AME Roundup or other relevant professional meetings in the coming academic year.

In addition, thanks to continuing generous support by KEGS, all of the above awardees will also receive free membership in KEGS and will be eligible for fully subsidized participation at the annual KEGS Symposium in March. All recipients are also strongly encouraged to participate in meetings of KEGS, BCGS or other local professional societies, and in other relevant geophysical meetings or symposia. Additionally, to assist awardees seeking to pursue further studies, research or employment, their C.V.s will be posted or linked on the Foundation's website, and networking opportunities will be offered where possible.

Presentation of the scholarship awards will be arranged during the fall semester, preferably at professional meetings, in conjunction with KEGS Special Lectures on relevant geophysical topics hosted by university departments, or at equivalent virtual events, typically with an opportunity for the recipient to present an overview of their thesis research. The details of each event and the particular recipients will be announced in advance.

The Directors extend their best wishes to all the above recipients for further success in their studies and future careers. We also offer our gratitude for the continuing support of the Foundation and its scholarship program by the Canadian exploration and geophysical community, including renewed major support by KEGS and the BCGS, recent very generous donations by Abitibi Géophysique, Géophysique GPR International – Géosig, Patricia Carson, Lamontagne Geophysics and Ronacher McKenzie Geoscience, as well as Phoenix Geophysics, Discovery Geophysics International and Dias Geophysics for their continuing support of several matching donation programs (see website for further details).

We look forward to meeting the latest KEGS Foundation awardees at various upcoming meetings, symposia and KEGS Special Lectures now that restrictions are largely ended, and learning more about their research and career plans.

Avec nos meilleurs souhaits à tous les lauréats**.

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*NB: **KEGS** is the well-known acronym for the Canadian Exploration Geophysical Society, the leading Canadian mining geophysics organization established in 1953 and based in Toronto. The **KEGS Foundation** was established as a federally chartered charitable organization in 1999 with the objective of fostering geophysical education and has provided approximately 300 scholarships to Canadian students since inception. Details of named scholarships can be found on the website. **BCGS** is the abbreviation for the BC Geophysical Society, a long-established professional organization based in Vancouver and focused on utilization of geophysics for mineral exploration, which has generously supported the BCGS Scholarship Fund. **SKGS** is the abbreviation for the Saskatchewan Geophysical Society. **WAMIC** is the abbreviation for the Women's Association of Mining in Canada, a long-standing organization supporting mining and mining-related education in Canada (the KEGS Foundation manages an endowment originally established by WAMIC to support a superior student in geophysics).

**Version française disponible sur le site Web.

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