

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: January 29, 2019

### GENERAL

In December 2018, the Cyclical Motion: Indigenous Art & Placemaking project was completed. This initiative, funded by the University's Indigenous Initiative Fund, engaged a team of leading Winnipeg Indigenous artists to create a series of informal, semi-permanent artworks throughout the Fort Garry campus. Centered on themes such as transportation and cycling, land, water rights, student advocacy, language, and traditional medicines, the pieces interpret the campus in a new way, making these issues and experiences visible in the campus environment.

([http://umanitoba.ca/admin/campus\\_planning\\_office/indigenous\\_art/](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/campus_planning_office/indigenous_art/))

On November 26, the University of Manitoba welcomed The Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada and University of Manitoba Honourary Degree recipient (May 30, 2013). Her Excellency visited the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals and the Centre for Earth Observation Science as part of her first visit to Manitoba in her role as Governor General.

*Expedition Churchill: A Gateway to Arctic Research* was launched on November 30, just prior to the first passenger train leaving for Churchill since spring of 2017. The project is a creative public education and outreach campaign to share the world-leading Arctic climate change research done in the Churchill and Hudson Bay region by University of Manitoba scientists and collaborators. The interactive project was developed by the University in partnership with VIA Rail, The Town of Churchill, the Churchill Northern Studies Centre (CNSC), Assiniboine Park Zoo and Travel Manitoba. The project includes a visual multimedia e-book and interactive kiosks located across Manitoba, including: the Zoo's Journey to Churchill Exhibit, Travel Manitoba at the Forks, James Richardson International Airport, The Town of Churchill, the Churchill Northern Studies Centre, and in the Wallace building on the University of Manitoba campus. A unique feature of this initiative is the use of the dining car of a VIA Rail passenger train that travels between Winnipeg and Churchill as a platform to communicate and promote awareness. The project was led through the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources with all marketing and communications work, technology development, media outreach and launch event planning managed by External Relations. For more information visit [expeditionchurchill.ca](http://expeditionchurchill.ca)

The November 20 provincial Speech from the Throne referenced recent reforms to scholarships and bursaries and expressed the provincial commitment to an enhanced promotional effort to attract more matching contributions from the private sector, ensure alignment to labour market and community needs, and improve student access through a streamlined portal. Additionally, the government emphasized they plan to welcome international students through the new International Student Entrepreneur Pathway and Graduate Internship Pathway.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence will take place May 8, 2019. This year celebrates the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Distinguished Alumni Awards. As announced on January 19, the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients include:

- *Lifetime Achievement* – **Dr. Hersh Shefrin, B.Sc. (Hons)/70**
- *Professional Achievement* – **Marcia Nozick, BA/75, M.C.O/88**
- *Community Service* – **Gemma Dalayoan, B.Ed./83, M.Ed./90**
- *Service to the University of Manitoba* – **Romel Dhalla, B.A/99, B.Comm.(Hons)/04**
- *Outstanding Young Alumni* – **Lindy Norris, B.A/07, B.Comm. (Hons)/09**

Hartley Richardson will be presented the University of Manitoba's International Distinguished Entrepreneur Award (IDEA) on May 23, 2019. In celebration of Richardson and the transformative impact he has had as a business and community leader, Arni Thorsteinson and Sandy Riley are launching the *Hartley T. Richardson Student Support Fund*. A \$2 million goal has been set by Thorsteinson and Riley to honour their friend and his two key priorities: youth and education.

## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Digvir Jayas, biosystems engineering and Vice-President (Research and International), has been named by Engineering Institute of Canada as the recipient of the 2019 K.Y. Lo Medal for significant engineering contributions at the international level.
- Frank Hawthorne, geological sciences, was awarded the Buerger Medal from the American Crystallographic Association at their Annual Meeting. The Award is "to recognize scientists who have made contributions of exceptional distinction."
- Kristen MacMillan, plant science, was recognized by the American Society of Agronomy Extension Education Community with a 2018 Certificate of Excellence in Extension Educational Materials for her work on Soybean and Dry Bean Growth Staging Guides and Soybean Maturity Guide.
- The provincial government invested \$25,000 to support a project called *Circles of Reconciliation*, a program created and coordinated by Raymond Currie, sociology. In conversations led by facilitators, five Indigenous and five non-Indigenous people meet to discuss the meaning of land to Indigenous people, residential schools, intergenerational trauma and the Sixties Scoop. In just two years, they've hosted 430 circle meetings — and it has expanded nationwide.
- Robert Mizzi, educational administration, foundations & psychology, has been appointed the editor of the *Canadian Journal for Adult Education*.
- Mostafa Fayek, geological sciences, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences and will serve in the role of Director International.
- Maryanne Crockett, pediatrics and child health, medical microbiology and community health sciences and researcher at the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, was named to the 2018 Canadian Women in Global Health list by the Canadian Society for International Health.
- Ian Jones, physician assistant, received the 2018 Physician Assistant Educator of the Year Award from the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants and the Canadian Physician Assistant Educator Association.
- Tanjit Nagra, business graduate student, was selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award. Nagra recently served as president of the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU), and oversaw University of Manitoba Students' Union's (UMSU's) contribution of \$16.2 million toward the university's Front and Centre campaign. Outside of the university, Nagra fundraises for Heart and Stroke, collects food donations for Winnipeg Harvest and serves on the Library Advisory Council.

- Asper’s MBA Business Planning team placed second at the DeGroot MBA Case Competition, hosted by McMaster University. The two-day competition explores how organizations can leverage technology and digital innovations to improve their businesses and its products and services.
- Janet Lee, education student, was part of Team 3Streams, which placed second in the University of Manitoba’s Game Changer competition. This is the first time in recent history that a student from the Faculty of Education has placed in this competition.
- The Janet Mackenzie Watson Travel Award has been established to support Bachelor of Education students who take their practicum courses in Northern Manitoba schools and communities. This initiative will hopefully encourage more newly graduated teachers to consider positions in northern and rural communities where the demand for teachers is great.
- Gordon Fitzell, music, was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.
- Camryn Dewar, music student, received a 2018 Royal Conservatory of Music Gold medal in Level 8 Voice for Manitoba.
- Christopher Briggs and Lucas Vasas, fourth-year students at the Max Rady College of Medicine, won a University of Manitoba health advocacy award for their work lobbying Manitoba Pharmacare to join programs in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia in covering the cost of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), an antiviral medication to prevent the contraction of HIV for at-risk individuals.
- The Rady Faculty of Health Sciences has launched “Women in Science, Development, Outreach & Mentorship” an initiative which aims to boost the numbers, retention and status of academic women scientists through networking, mentorship, professional development and advocating for gender equity policies.
- The College of Pharmacy recently celebrated its 10th anniversary in the Apotex Centre, and the launch of its new Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) undergraduate degree program.

## **RESEARCH MATTERS**

- Distinguished Professor Dr. Digvir Jayas was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada on December 27, 2018. This honour is in recognition of his advancements to agricultural practices worldwide, and for his promotion of academic and scientific research in Canada. Jayas is a former Canada Research Chair in Stored Grain Ecosystems and a world-leading expert on grain storage and spoilage. The Order of Canada was created in 1967, and is one of our country's highest honours, recognizing individuals whose contributions have enriched the lives of others and have taken to heart the motto of the Order: *Desiderantes Meliorem Patriam* (“They desire a better country”).

- Dr. Marcia Anderson (Rady Faculty of Health Sciences) was named among Women’s Executive Network (WXN)’s 2018 Canada Most Powerful Women: Top 100 award winners. Anderson was recognized for bolstering Indigenous medical education and health care delivery in Northern Manitoba. Dr. Anderson, a Cree-Saulteaux woman with roots in Norway House Cree Nation and Peguis First Nation, is the Executive Director of Indigenous Academic Affairs in the Ongomiizwin Indigenous Institute of Health and Healing. Her research interests in Indigenous health include urban Indigenous youth health, primary health care, and medical education. Throughout her career Dr. Anderson has advocated for a more robust curriculum in Indigenous health and changes in the admissions process that would support the successful recruitment of increased numbers of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. She was recognized for her efforts in 2011 with a National Aboriginal Achievement Award (now known as the Indspire Awards), the highest recognition bestowed by the Indigenous community upon their own people.
- More than 125 University of Manitoba undergraduate students had the opportunity to practice their presentation skills at the annual 2018 Undergraduate Research Poster Competition, now in its thirteenth year. The format provides a unique opportunity for students to present their research in an event that focuses on the discoveries these students are making. Judges assess each project based on official judging criteria determining winners for cash prizes in five different categories: applied sciences, creative works, health sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences and humanities. The competition is sponsored by the office of the Vice-President (Research and International).
- The 2018 edition of Game Changer: Manitoba’s Idea Competition, wrapped up last week with an exciting round of presentations from the three finalist teams. Each had chosen to tackle a different one of the five problems identified in Phase 1 of the competition (Education, Environmental, Societal). Team Bee Box captured the grand prize of \$5,000 as well as the People’s Choice award of \$500, for their proposed solution to the Environmental problem: How can we offset the mass collapse of bee colonies in a natural and sustainable way? Their solution is a monthly subscription box where consumers can sponsor a beehive and in return, receive various bee products from local provincial partners. A portion of each Bee Box’s profits will be contributed to support a local bee apiary, “Beeproject Apiaries,” to increase the number of bee hives in Manitoba. Team members were University of Manitoba undergrad students Alexandria Townsend (Faculty of Education), Jacquelyn Townsend (Asper School of Business), along with Hannah McCutcheon (Asper School of Business).

Team 3Streams captured \$2,500 in 2nd place and Team Framed placed 3rd with \$1,000 in cash. 3Streams team members were University of Manitoba students Nicholas Duan (Faculty of Science), Elizabeth Ng (Asper School of Business) and Janet Lee (Faculty of Education). They proposed a solution to: How can the school system be moulded to have the classroom fit the student and not vice versa? Their approach would provide a learning platform for students to do work placements in a series of three industries over the course of nine months, for a fee.

Team Framed was made up of University of Manitoba students Travis Cook (Faculty of Science), Sarah MacDonald (Asper School of Business), and Edno Mesquita (Centro Universitario Anhanguera). They embraced the challenges of solving: How can artists bridge the combination gap between art and society? Their solution was described by the team as “IMDB for art.”

- The first annual Research and Scholarly Excellence Celebration took place on December 5, to honour the 2018 inductees of national academic societies, new and renewed sponsored and endowed research chairs, new Distinguished Professors, and other special awardees. Twenty-six honourees in total were recognized. They were: Drs. Naranjan Dhalla, David Barnard, Frank Plummer, Gordon Fitzell, Pamela Perkins, Adele Perry, Grant Pierce, Julienne Stroeve, Philip Ferguson, Marcia Friesen, Meghan Azad, Janilyn Arsenio, Trust Beta, Nediljko Budisa, Annette Desmarais, Colin Gilmore, Pourang Irani, Nancy Kang, Lorrie Kirshenbaum, Kiera Ladner, Lorenzo Livi, Lisa Lix, Sabine Mai, Puyan Mojabi, Roberta Woodgate, and Guozhen Zhu
- The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) appointed University of Manitoba Vice-President (Research and International) and Distinguished Professor Digvir S. Jayas as Interim President of NSERC. The appointment is on a part-time basis, for the period Nov. 8, 2018 to Nov. 7, 2019 (or until such time as a new President is appointed, whichever occurs first).
- The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Sport, was on the University of Manitoba campus on Nov. 14 to announce investments in the Canada Research Chairs Program, of which the University of Manitoba is a major recipient, with 10 Chairs awarded. Seven of the 10 new chairs named at the University of Manitoba are held by women. The CRCs are receiving a total of \$9.5 million in funding. The chairholders are:
  - **Janilyn Arsenio** (Internal Medicine), Chair in Systems Biology of Chronic Inflammation
  - **Trust Beta** (Food and Human Nutritional Sciences), Chair in Grain-Based Functional Foods
  - **Nediljko Budisa** (Chemistry), Chair in Chemical Synthetic Biology
  - **Annette Desmarais** (Sociology and Criminology), Chair in Human Rights, Social Justice and Food Sovereignty (Renewed)
  - **Colin Gilmore** (Electrical and Computer Engineering), Chair in Applied Electromagnetic Inversion
  - **Nancy Kang** (Women's and Gender Studies), Chair in Transnational Feminisms and Gender-Based Violence
  - **Kiera Ladner** (Political Studies), Chair in Miyo we'citowin, Indigenous Governance & Digital Sovereignities
  - **Lorenzo Livi** (Computer Science), Chair in Complex Data
  - **Lisa Lix** (Community Health Sciences), Chair in Methods for Electronic Health Data Quality
  - **Sabine Mai** (Physiology and Pathophysiology, Research Institute of Oncology and Hematology, CancerCare Manitoba), Chair in Genomic Instability and Nuclear Architecture in Cancer
- Thirty-eight research projects led by twenty-five investigators received a total of \$1,695,376 in funding from multiple sponsors. Those projects receiving more than \$25,000 are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Afifi, Tracie (Community Health Sciences)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM)	Examining the relationship between adverse childhood experiences and developmental outcomes: A longitudinal study of child maltreatment and protective factors	\$36,750

Brownell, Marni (Community Health Sciences/Manitoba Centre for Health Policy)	Mitacs Inc.	Developmental Health of Children Participating in Out-of-School Programs	\$30,000
Burgess, Jacob (Physics and Astronomy)	Research Manitoba	Harnessing magneto photonic hybridization at THz frequencies harnessing magneto photonic hybridization at THz frequencies	\$50,000
Cha, Young Jin (Civil Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Deep semantic segmentation learning-based structural health monitoring using autonomous UAVs	\$50,000
Dakshinamurti, Shyamala (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM)	How does hypoxia inhibit adenylyl cyclase activity in the hypertensive pulmonary artery? Investigating the role of cysteine nitrosylation	\$36,750
Ding, Hao (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics)	University of British Columbia - Canadian Rare Disease: Models and Mechanism Network	To study the function of the disease gene PRUNE1 in the mouse model in association with PRUNE neurodevelopmental disorder	\$25,000
Doucette, Christine (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM)	Understanding the mechanisms of insulin secretion	\$25,000
El-Gabalawy, Hani (Internal Medicine)	Arthritis Society	Role of microRNAs in preclinical rheumatoid arthritis	\$60,000
Ferguson, Steven (Centre for Earth Observation Science)	Earth Rangers Foundation	Abundance and species diversity hotspots of Arctic marine mammals across the Arctic: Implications for conservation in a warming world	\$30,000
Gamble, Julia (Anthropology)	Research Manitoba	Developmental insights into sex differences in stress and health, past and present: Building an integrative bio archaeology / human developmental biology research program to explore the development of sex differences in stress response through hard tissue microscopy	\$39,861

Gardiner, Phillip (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba) Inc.	Effects of daily exercise on the changes induced by thoracic spinal cord hemi-section on locomotion, neuropathic pain, and gene expression in motoneurons, dorsal root ganglia, and spinal dorsal laminae I-III in rat	\$49,953
Herbert, David (Chemistry)	Research Manitoba	Platinum complexes for cancer theranostics	\$130,000
Ho, Ngai Man (Carl) (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Advanced galvanic isolated solar micro-inverter	\$50,000
Kidane, Biniam (Surgery)	Research Manitoba	Understanding the mechanisms of harmful ventilation during surgery: The u-vent study	\$130,000
Klonisch, Thomas (Human Anatomy and Cell Science)	Cancer Research Society, Inc.	Highly selective targeting of c-Abl in human glioblastoma	\$60,000
Leung, Carson (Computer Science)	NSERC - Engage	Predictive analytics of driver turnover	\$25,000
Mackay, Dylan (Community Health Sciences)	Mitacs Inc.	Evaluation of the clinically management weight-loss program at Wellness Institute at Seven Oaks Hospital	\$53,333
Shankar, Jai Jai (Radiology)	Canadian Stroke Consortium	Catalytic research capacity for acute ischemic stroke (AIS) care in Winnipeg	\$50,000
Sibley, Kathryn (Community Health Sciences)	Deer Lodge Centre Foundation	Advancing balance measurement and treatment in geriatric rehabilitation	\$25,000
Thomson, Douglas (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	NSERC - Engage	Acoustic emission from tendon wire breaks in post tensioned concrete girders	\$25,000
Ursel, Jane (RESOLVE (Research & Education for Solutions to Violence))	Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc	Building relationships	\$245,833

Wang, Jun-Feng (Pharmacology and Therapeutics)	Alzheimer Society of Canada	Txnip as a potential novel therapeutic target for Alzheimer's disease	\$149,900
Wilkinson, Lori (Criminology and Sociology)	European Commission - Jean Monnet Project	Youth, migration and the European Union: Policy and practical lessons learned from the humanitarian crisis	\$89,667
Wu, Nan (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Development of high efficient blade-less wind energy harvester with smart materials and artificial intelligence	\$50,000

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- With the Director of Student Advocacy, the Legal Office presented two sessions on Conducting Fair Hearings for academic administrators that deal with student discipline issues.
- The Copyright Office, in conjunction with the University of Manitoba Libraries and National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), prepared and submitted two briefs to the Federal Industry, Science and Technology Standing Committee for the first review of the *Copyright Act*. The brief on behalf of the University of Manitoba advocated maintaining “education” as a fair dealing exemption, and highlighted the University’s copyright safeguards and practices.
- In 2018, the Access and Privacy Coordinator at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation completed 40 requests that were submitted by residential school survivors and their families for access to residential school records. Each request resulted in a package of records that was sent out to the survivors and/or their families.
- The Access and Privacy Officer was invited by the Vice-President Academic, Assiniboine Community College to provide a workshop for faculty and management on Post-Secondary Institutions and Privacy in December of 2018.
- Under the Accessibility for Manitoban’s Act (AMA) public sector organizations are required to develop a plan to identify, prevent and remove barriers to accessibility. The Human Rights and Conflict Management Office as co-chair of the Accessibility Steering Committee along with the AVP of HR have completed the latest Accessibility Plan 2016-2019 and it has been uploaded to the [website](http://umanitoba.ca/human_rights/accessibilityplan), ([http://umanitoba.ca/human\\_rights/accessibilityplan](http://umanitoba.ca/human_rights/accessibilityplan)) meeting the AMA legislative requirements.
- In November 2018, representatives from the Office of Human Rights and Conflict Management attended the University of British Columbia for the second meeting of the Western Canadian Sexual Violence Summit first launched by the Office of Fair Practice and Legal Affairs in June 2018. Partner institutions continue to exchange valuable information and resources, with the University of



Manitoba playing a leading role in shaping the development of future tools and government relations guidelines for use in addressing sexual violence at post-secondary institutions.

- The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education formally announced that the University of Manitoba has moved from a Silver designation to a 'Gold' in their Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). STARS is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. A higher level of recognition represents increased sustainability leadership and a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community.
- With funding from the Wellness Grant, two outdoor restorative spaces were implemented, repurposing boulders and other natural materials to provide outdoor seating spaces that allow the campus community to take in the riparian forest. In both instances, the installations also support outdoor gathering spaces. The location east of the Asper School of Business provides a small outdoor classroom environment and the placement of rocks at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation provides seating for elders so they can more easily participate in cultural activities along the riverbank at the teepee.
- December 2018 completion of the U5 power line replacement has restored redundancy to the areas impacted by power outages on campus last spring.
- Banner, the University of Manitoba student information and finance system, completed a successful major upgrade from Nov 21-25, 2018 to Banner 9.
- Former MLA Kevin Chief joined over 25 alumni of the UM Leaders Learning Program (UMLLP) on December 3, 2018 to present a workshop on Indigenous perspectives on leadership. Chief shared lessons on how all leaders can follow Indigenous ways of leadership to join together to build community. The UM Leaders Learning Program Alumni group gather several times throughout the year to learn and discuss ideas about leadership.
- Learning and Organizational Development and the National Center for Truth and Reconciliation have entered into a partnership to produce videos that will help University Faculty and Staff to consider ways that they can support the process of reconciliation. This is one of the many ongoing projects in HR that are focused on supporting indigenous achievement.

## **EXTERNAL MATTERS**

- The new year opened with a story about our 99<sup>th</sup> Rhodes Scholar on the cover of the January 4<sup>th</sup> Globe and Mail. This feature story included a spotlight on University of Manitoba alumna Annette Riziki, a Faculty of Arts graduate who will study in the area of human rights. This story is a welcome juxtaposition on the run of challenging UM news stories at the end of 2018.
- The University of Manitoba is on track to meet its 2018/2019 campaign benchmark of \$45,000,000. The last Front and Centre Campaign total, announced on May 29, 2018, was \$466,495,719, including philanthropic gifts and the \$150 million commitment from the Province of Manitoba.

**Selected gifts and activities in the last reporting period include:**

- The Alan Klass Medical Humanities Program and the Alan Klass Memorial Program for Health Equity were supported with a commitment of \$752,307 from an anonymous donor.
  - Beverley Delamere made a gift of \$500,000 to establish the Bruce Whittlesea Graduate Scholarship supporting graduate students in Psychology.
  - Elizabeth Marr (BComm(Hons)/1979) and Nicholas Slonosky (BComm(Hons)/1976, LLB/1979) have made a gift of \$275,000 to create a new award supporting Law students on an international exchange, and to enhance the Elizabeth Marr and Nick Slonosky International Travel Bursary in the Asper School of Business.
  - Richard J. Bird (BA/1969) has made a gift of \$125,000 to establish an endowed bursary for Indigenous engineering students in memory of his father, Robert Allen Bird (BSc(CE)/1948). He made an additional gift of \$5,000 to the first award can be disbursed in 2019.
  - Sidney R. Leggett (MSc/1980) has made a gift of \$120,000 to establish an endowed, renewable bursary named for his family that supports an undergraduate student in Geological Sciences with financial need.
  - Harvey Bergner (MD/1961) and Irene Bergner (CertNurs(T&S)/1959) generously gave \$101,500 to create a scholarship and a bursary in the College of Nursing.
  - The Polish Fraternal Aid Society of St. John Cantius made a gift of \$100,000 to support the Polish Studies Endowment Fund, helping to preserve and enhance Polish studies at the University of Manitoba.
  - Pam Isaak (BSA/1984, MSc/1988) and Greg Kiessling have supported Indigenous achievement with a gift of \$100,000 to the Indigenous Success Fund.
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- On November 18, an alumni event was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Fifty-five alumni and friends were in attendance, including Chancellor Harvey Sectar, President and Vice-Chancellor David Barnard, Board of Governors Chair Jeff Lieberman, and Vice-President (External) John Kearsley.
  - On November 20, Jeff Lieberman, Chair of the Board of Governors, announced the election of Anne Mahon as the University of Manitoba's 14th chancellor. Effective June 1, 2019 for a three-year term, she succeeds the current chancellor, Dr. Harvey Sectar.
  - Following the November 20th branding initiative presentation to the board, which was based on research results of outreach to 6500 participants, the brand strategy phase has been completed. The project remains on track, with phase 3 commencing mid-January.
  - On November 26, Dr. David Barber appeared before the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development regarding their study on Canada's sovereignty in the Arctic.
  - On November 27, Dr. Barnard and Mr. Lieberman met with Ms. Colleen Kachulak (Assistant Deputy Minister, Post-Secondary Education) regarding board governance changes.
  - On December 10, The Honourable Cameron Friesen, Minister of Health met with Dr. Barnard, Mr. Kearsley, Dr. Postl and Mr. Soubry to discuss the Province's commitment to the Front and Centre Campaign. A follow-up meeting is planned for the end of January with the Minister of Education, Minister of Health, Minister of Finance and the Deputy Premier.

- On December 13, the Next Generation Web Experience (NGWE) finalized the direction on the new website's Information Architecture. To accomplish this, the NGWE project team connected with several hundred stakeholders in the University of Manitoba community from a variety of academic and administrative areas, and conducted multiple sitemap tests with over 500 user groups that included prospective and current students, alumni, faculty and staff, parents, and industry partners. The NGWE project will now move forward to wireframes, templates, content, and the initial site build.