



2024/25 ANNUAL REPORT

PETER LOUGHEED SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Photo Credit: Laughing Dog Photography

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

VALUES

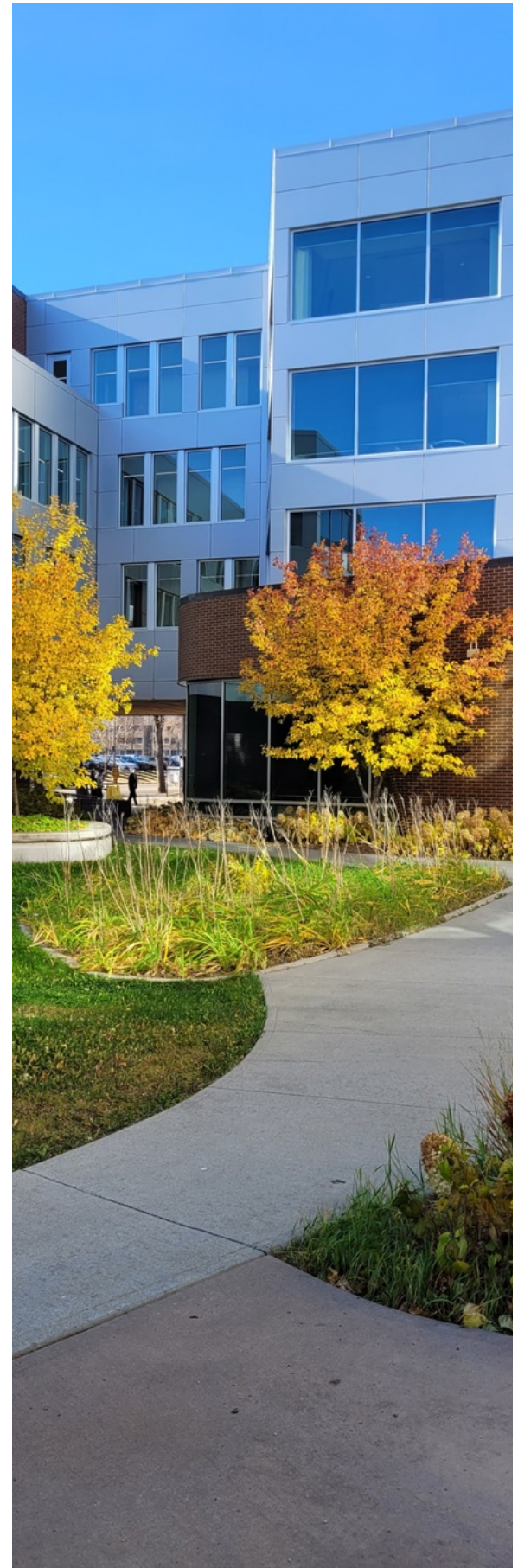
At the Peter Lougheed School of Leadership (PLSL), we seek to honour Mr. Peter Lougheed with our actions founded on values of Influence, Community, Inter- and Multi-Disciplinarity, and Caring.

VISION

Our vision is for students to find a home at the PLSL, learn and grow as leaders during their journey, have a significant impact on their communities, and when they graduate, their course grades will be the least important part of their résumé.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide wide access for undergraduate students to our four online leadership courses, which together form the Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies. We seek to build a community of students in each course by hosting engaging and interactive online synchronous seminars. We aim to increase a student's sense of belonging to the wider PLSL by hosting events where they can engage with each other across the courses. We support and encourage leadership practice and learning across all University of Alberta Campuses and Faculties by choosing to lead first and manage second.



Peter Lougheed Hall, Exterior Courtyard
Photo Credit: Angela Penny

A portrait of Richard Field, a middle-aged man with a white beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue blazer over a grey button-down shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred indoor setting with lights.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

A very sincere thank you to all who have contributed to the successes of our programs this past year at Peter Lougheed School of Leadership! To our wonderful team of course instructors and facilitators, teaching assistants, seminar leaders, program coordinators, project coordinators, content developers, and of course to the hundreds of students whom we have the privilege to serve, teach, and grow with.

We'd like to thank our donors: TELUS for their generous support of our student clubs and associations across the University of Alberta; Roger Phillips, Cathy Allard-Roozen and Ian Greene for their scholarship and award endowments.

We hope you'll join us in celebrating the achievements and successes of this past year that are highlighted in the following report, and we look forward to your continued support as we enter into another new year!

RICHARD FIELD
INTERIM DIRECTOR

OUR TEAM



Dr. Richard Field

Interim Director



Dr. Erik DeJong

Course Coordinator



Dr. Leo Wong

INT D 407 Capstone
Course Professor



Rehma Khan

INT D 101
Co-Facilitator



Kendra Woodall

INT D 207 and INT D 307
Course Instructor



Angela Penny

Program Coordinator

OUR TEACHING ASSISTANTS & SEMINAR LEADERS

A special thank you to all of our hard-working teaching assistants and seminar leaders across each of our four interdisciplinary courses this past year - we could not run them successfully without you!

- Fleur Issac (TA)
- Dawn Abraham (TA)
- Pavan S Kala (TA)
- Prabhnoor Singh (TA)
- Amaan Sayyad (TA)
- Ishan Arora (TA)
- Pauleanne Codilla (TA)
- Samar Barazesh (TA)
- Grace Essuman (TA)
- Erin Ratelle (TA)
- Saliha Mukhi (TA)
- Albert Ntarmah (TA)
- Vini Oza (TA)
- Nikhil Bhatnagar (TA)
- Charvi Dhamija (TA)
- Aneerudh Aravindan (TA)
- Maria Sawiak (TA)
- Pedro Ribeiro Lopes Pinto de Almeida (TA)
- Chelseay Robles (TA)
- Krishna Makkar (TA)
- Stefanie Gajdecki (Seminar Leader)
- Mike House (Seminar Leader)
- Eugenio Coccimiglio (Seminar Leader)

ACCESS, COMMUNITY & BELONGING

Peter Lougheed School of Leadership (PLSL) is aligned with and rooted in the University of Alberta's deep commitment to community engagement and transformative collaboration. We work toward a university community where all have access to success and enjoy a meaningful sense of belonging.

PLSL is empowering our diverse audiences, students and staff to become leaders in the community. Utilizing interdisciplinary approaches, PLSL endeavors to remove barriers faced by historically marginalized and racialized communities by developing leaders who understand wide-ranging approaches, take risks, and act on values firmly anchored in ethical and social responsibility. By incorporating the voices and perspectives of a spectrum of genders, ages, sexual orientations, abilities, cultures, and ethnicities into all our practices, PLSL works towards creating an inclusive, representative, responsible and innovative future. At PLSL, diversity is our strength.

Students on UofA North Campus, Photo Credit: Richard Siemens





Students on North Campus Quad, UofA, Photo Credit: Jordon Hon

QUICK STATS

(SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025)

2121

Students who successfully completed 100 to 400 level INT D coursework

\$50K

Funded to student clubs and associations

\$62.7K

Awarded to students through scholarships and awards

32

Graduates of the Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies

LOUGHEED SPEAKER SERIES

Lougheed Speaker Series are free sessions open to all students, staff, faculty and members of the public. Speakers and facilitators, and the topics they cover, are selected to represent diverse perspectives and provide inclusive content that's relevant to the spectrum of audiences that PLSL welcomes and attracts.

This year we hosted:

- Emily Salmon: Inclusive Business Leadership (November 2024), supported by the Indigenous Drummers of Adrian Lachance
- Drew Dudley: Leadership as an Everyday Practice (November 2024)
- Emerson Csorba: Preparing for Canadian Geopolitical Independence: How We Prepare for an American Annexation and Pursue Unconventional Alliances (February 2025)
- Myeong-Gu Seo: The Psychology of Leadership: Unpacking Biases, Emotions, and Behaviours for Effective Leaders (March 2025)

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**



PLLC Leadership Speaker Series
Thursday, February 27th
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Location: CCIS 1-160
Preparing for Canadian Geopolitical Independence: Dr. Emerson Csorba on How We Prepare for an American Annexation Attempt and Pursue Unconventional Alliances
Join us for a lecture with Dr. Emerson Csorba, a business executive and expert in geopolitics. In this lecture, Dr. Csorba explores the growing need for Canada to assert its independence, especially in the face of increasing American aggression and US-China competition.
Drawing from his leadership experience at the University of Alberta's Campus Saint Jean (including serving as U of A Students' Union Vice-President Academic), Oxford University, and his work in geopolitics, Dr. Csorba will discuss the risks of Canadian annexation by the U.S. and the importance of diversifying alliances. In a recent Globe & Mail article, Dr. Csorba advocates for Canada to seek ways for Canada to strengthen global standing and reduce reliance on the U.S. This talk will highlight how Canada can navigate a changing geopolitical landscape, securing its sovereignty and future in a multipolar world.



Register here:

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**



PLLC Leadership Speaker Series
Thursday, March 20th
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Location: Peter Lougheed Hall Room 113
The Psychology of Leadership: Unpacking Biases, Emotions, and Behaviors for Effective Leadership
What makes an effective leader? Join the Peter Lougheed Leadership College as we welcome Dr. Myeong-Gu Seo, Professor at University of Maryland Business School for an engaging and interactive talk on the psychology of leadership. This highly interactive talk delves into the psychology behind leadership, exploring key theories, biases, emotions, and behavioural patterns that influence leaders in everyday settings. Through live discussion and hands-on exercises, participants will gain a deeper insight into their leadership style and learn strategies to strengthen leadership skills.



Register here:



PETER LOUGHEED LEADERSHIP COLLEGE (PLLC) LEADERSHIP SPEAKER SERIES
Date: Tuesday, November 26th
Time: 4:00pm
Location: CCIS 1-140
Join us for our empowering Leadership Speaker Series featuring Dr. Emily Salmon, assistant professor and advocate for Indigenous perspectives in business management, and Drew Dudley, Wall Street Journal Bestselling Author and renowned leadership educator. Emily will inspire inclusive business leadership and share critical insights on her research that showcases the importance of Indigenous perspectives in reshaping management and organizational practices while Drew will redefine leadership as an everyday practice and equip students with actionable strategies to lead effectively. You will gain valuable insights and practical skills for enhancing their personal and professional development. Don't miss this opportunity to gain new perspectives and practical tools for leadership that matters!
Register here: <https://forms.gle/qTUyCYyueYwWsKx88>



Dr. Emily Salmon
Inclusive Leadership
Dr. Emily Salmon from SFU's Beedie School of Business highlights inclusive leadership in business and explores new perspectives from Indigenous research that reshapes how we view management and organization. Emily inspires transformational change by integrating Indigenous perspectives into organizational practices to drive innovation and inclusivity.



Drew Dudley
Everyday Leadership
Drew Dudley, Wall Street Journal Bestselling author and leadership educator, fosters personal growth by breaking down ethical leadership as a values-driven practice. Drew reframes leadership as a daily practice, and will provide you with a roadmap to identifying, defining and executing on the behaviours that will set your leadership apart. Both TIME and Business Insider have identified his work as "one of the ten speeches that will make you a better leader."

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY TELUS PHILANTHROPIC INVESTMENTS

With appreciation for TELUS's ongoing support, \$50,000 was provided to 27 undergraduate student organizations at the University of Alberta this year. As compared to 19 organizations supported over the same period last year, we were honored to be able to support a growing number of organizations, which in turn broadened the impact and benefit of the TELUS investment.

These student organizations support student leadership and development in a wide range of faculties with ongoing benefits throughout the year. We aim to continue supporting these clubs and associations throughout the coming years.

We proudly supported the following organizations over the 2024-2025 academic year:

- Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association (APSA)
- Augustana Student's Association (ASA)
- Black Future Lawyers - UAlberta Student Chapter (BFL)
- Delta Upsilon
- Diversity in Engineering (DiE)
- Eating Disorder Awareness (EDAUA)
- Education Students' Association (ESA)
- Enactus UAB
- Entrepreneurship Club (eClub)
- Faculty of ALES Undergraduate Association (FaUNA)
- Heart of the City Music Program (HCMP)
- Indigenous in STEM Students Association (ISSA)
- Interdisciplinary Consulting Association (ICA)
- Kinesiology, Sport & Recreation Student Society (KSRSS)
- Men's Health Group (MHG)
- Native Studies Students' Association (NSSA)
- Network of Empowered Women (NEW)
- Organization for Arts Students Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS)
- Strategy, Leadership, Analytics & Management Club (SLAM)
- UofA Club Sports Department (UASCD)
- UofA Law Club (UALC)
- UofA Marketing Association (UAMA)
- UofA Outdoors Club
- UofA Real Estate Club (UARC)
- Women in Business (WiB)
- Women in Leadership (WiL)
- Women in Science & Engineering (WiSE)



STUDENT CLUB TESTIMONIALS

Men's Health Group Activity



With the support of the [Peter Lougheed School of Leadership], we were able to host a successful Movember campaign that would not have been possible without this funding. The grant enabled us to run awareness events, fitness challenges, and promotional campaigns that reached hundreds of students, encouraging important conversations about men's health. Beyond the events themselves, the initiative empowered our members to step into leadership roles — developing skills in marketing, event planning, and public speaking — while also strengthening their mental and physical resilience. The impact was clear: we saw a growing sense of self-confidence, purpose, and community among our group members.

- Roshant Vig, Co-President
Men's Health Group

Heart of the City Music Program, Year End Recital



Your sponsorship played a key role in helping us create a sense of community and fostering leadership within our group. Our Silent Auction and Year-End recital, where volunteers were able to display the results of their dedication and leadership over the semester, was a huge success. We were also able to hold more volunteer appreciation events and workshops this year due to the fund, and we could not be more thankful for your contribution.

- Kate Kolber & Ariana Xu, Program Coordinators
Heart of the City Music Program

Members of Enactus Club



With support from the [Peter Lougheed School of Leadership], Enactus UAB is proud to strengthen "Ultimate Pitch", our flagship social venture competition. This funding enables us to enhance the event's reach and offer meaningful resources to help students refine and launch their ideas. As a launchpad for Enactus UAB's most promising projects, "Ultimate Pitch" plays a pivotal role in developing entrepreneurial leadership and fostering impact across campus and our local community.

-Ananya Nandiraju, Co-President
Enactus

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMING

PLSL offers unique, experiential undergraduate courses open to all undergrads. Students actively apply course content through creative activities and facilitated discussion. Assignments are based on real-life situations and current events, engaging them to problem-solve and reflect on their leadership practice.

Interdisciplinary Leadership (INT D) Course Offerings

INT D 101: Inspired to Dream: Becoming a Leader

This course invites students to engage with impactful leaders from many backgrounds who have made a positive contribution to the world. By the end of the course, students will have been able to visualize their potential for leadership growth and be inspired to continue their journey to take action. This course is offered bi-choronously (students work online to study course materials and have some same-time seminars) and entirely online, with content delivered in multiple formats such as videos, animations and interactive web content. There were 762 successful completions of INT D 101 in Fall 2024, Winter 2025, and Spring 2025 terms.

INT D 207: Inspired to Lead: Skills You Need

Running now for two full academic years since Fall of 2023, this course invites students to learn about practical skills that are important to be successful in leadership across various organizational settings and situations. Reflection and self-development are key components of the course. This year we also included INT D 207 as a pre-requisite for enrollment in INT D 307. There were 779 successful course completions of INT D 207 in Fall 2024, Winter 2025, Spring 2025, and Summer 2025 terms.

INT D 307: Inspired to Lead: Your Leadership Canvas

Also running now for two full academic years since Fall of 2023, this course requires that leaders engage across many different domains, requiring them to understand multiple disciplines of thought. Students examine leadership in public, private and non-government cases, as well as their intersections. By the end of the course, students develop a strong understanding of their own leadership development path. This year we also included INT D 307 as a pre-requisite for enrollment in INT D 407. There were 477 successful course completions of INT D 307 in the Fall 2024, Winter 2025, Spring 2025, and Summer 2025 terms.

INT D 407: Inspired to Lead: Time to Practice

Newly available as of Fall 2024, this mostly online and asynchronous course provides students with the opportunity to engage with one another in project-directed groups, putting to use the leadership skills, theory, and research they have enacted and participated in during their leadership education journey. Real-world problems are presented, analyzed, and addressed head-on, offering real-world experiences aimed to motivate students to continue their leadership journeys beyond their time at the University. This course is offered as the capstone course for our Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies (CILS). There were 103 successful course completions of INT D 407 in the Fall 2024 and Winter 2025 terms.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE TESTIMONIALS

[INT D 101]....helped me find the courage to confront some hard truths...the confidence to speak up...and advocate for myself.

INT D 101

**-Kelly Pawlik, INT D 101 Student
(2025)**



Photo Credit: Christy Dean

INT D 407

I really enjoyed this [INT D 407] course. It was an opportunity to reflect back on previous INT D courses and implement the concepts found within them.

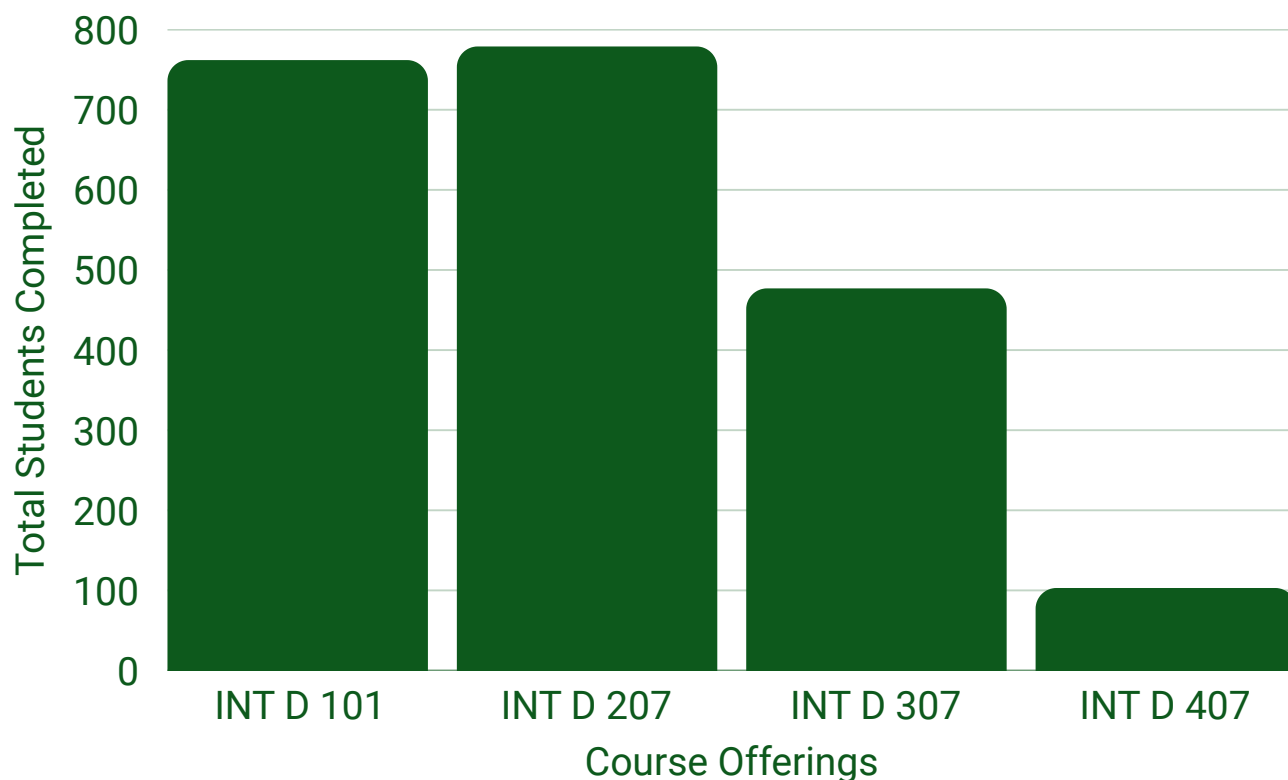
- PLSL Student (2025)

INT D COURSE STATS

2121

We now offer four interdisciplinary leadership courses in 100 to 400 levels to undergraduate students from diverse disciplines. Courses are delivered online through the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer Terms.

**TOTAL STUDENTS
SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING
INT D COURSES FROM
SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025**



CURRICULUM MILESTONES



UofA Business students, Photo Credit: Laughing Dog Photography

Fall 2022

INT D 101 Launched

100-level INT D course implemented to explore and ignite leadership thinking

Fall 2023

INT D 207 & INT D 307 Launched

200- and 300-level courses to act on and apply leadership skills

Fall 2024

INT D 407 Launched

400-level capstone course to fully integrate leadership mindset, skills and application

Summer 2025

INT D 100-400 Full Cycle Completion

All four levels of undergraduate interdisciplinary courses run full academic cycle

INT D 407 STUDENT PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

The inaugural INT D 407 capstone course, newly offered in both Fall 2024 and Winter 2025, showcases the application of interdisciplinary leadership. These projects demonstrate the students' ability to synthesize knowledge from diverse fields to address complex, real-world challenges. Highlighted below are just three of many impactful group student projects.

Glucare

Students hosted a workshop to educate their peers on Type 2 diabetes prevention and management, applying concepts they'd learned from previous INT D courses. They also discussed leadership skills needed to become effective advocates for diabetes prevention.

Empowering Local Flavours

This group tackled the question of "How can effective leadership training foster growth and innovation for Edmonton's local businesses?". They reached out to 50+ businesses, conducted 9 in-depth interviews as well as street interviews with customers, and hosted a panel discussion to learn about and apply leadership principles.

Informed Information Initiative

This group hosted simulation-style workshops for 12 to 17 year-olds to help them differentiate between facts, opinions, and misinformation in the media. The four workshops covered topics like media bias, AI-generated content, and leadership in online spaces. Content is anticipated to be used again for future workshops to educate and reach even more youth.



CERTIFICATE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP STUDIES (CILS)

The Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies (CILS) can be completed alongside any University of Alberta undergraduate program, uniting like-minded students from across campus to learn with and from one another. The program offers resources, awards, and opportunities for students to select according to their needs, accommodating current change-makers and aspiring leaders. Graduates of the program continue to employment or further education, ready to collaborate and lead.

Students must complete the following coursework (or pre-approved alternative courses) to be eligible for the Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies (CILS):

- Inspired to Dream: Becoming a Leader (INT D 101)
- Inspired to Lead: Skills You Need (INT D 207)
- Inspired to Lead: Your Leadership Canvas (INT D 307)
- Inspired to Lead: Time to Practice (INT D 407)
- NS 201 or Indigenous Perspectives MOOC



Photo Credit: Christy Dean

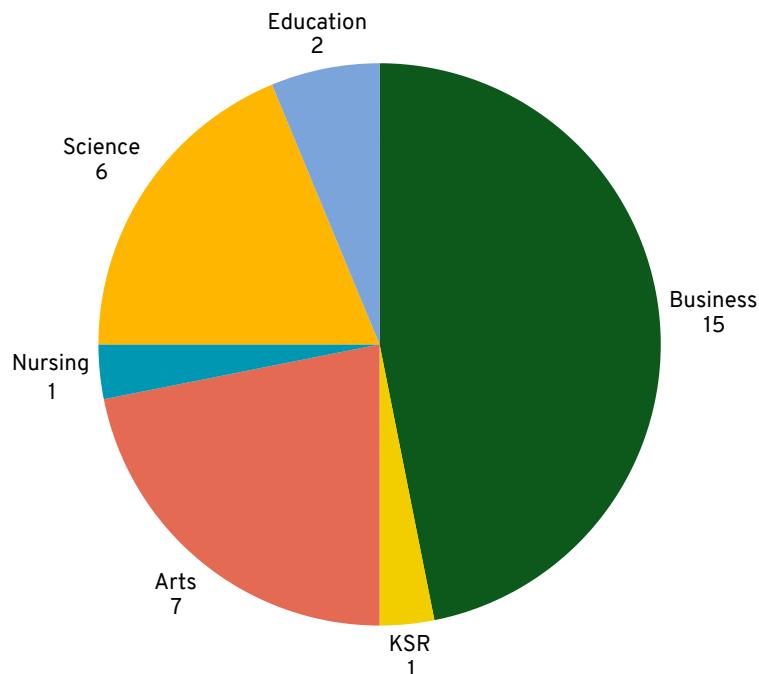
INTERDISCIPLINARY REACH

1 CERTIFICATE : 11 DISCIPLINES

Our Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies program attracts students from a remarkable range of disciplines, ensuring every graduating cohort is truly interdisciplinary. This year, our CILS graduates came from 11 different undergraduate disciplines!

- **Humanities & Social Sciences**
 - Political Science, Psychology, Arts, Criminology, Native Studies
- **Professional Fields**
 - Business; Education; Recreation, Sport & Tourism (KSR); Nursing
- **STEM**
 - Computing Science, Biological Sciences

DISCIPLINARY ORIGIN OF CERTIFICATE GRADUATES



STORIES OF SUCCESS: OUR CILS ALUMNI

The Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies has been one of the most rewarding parts of my undergraduate degree. It has helped me in many scenarios, such as my involvement in the University of Alberta School of Business student clubs, where I applied CILS skills to real leadership roles. The program pushed me to think critically about leadership and collaboration while connecting with peers from different faculties. Completing CILS has strengthened my confidence to take initiative, guide teams, and create meaningful change. I would recommend this program to any student eager to grow as a leader and community member.

-Nour Hegazy, 2025 CILS Graduate

Completing the Certificate in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies with the Peter Lougheed School of Leadership was one of the most fulfilling parts of my undergraduate journey in Computer Science. It broadened my perspective beyond technical knowledge and reminded me that leadership is not tied to any one discipline, it lives in every space we step into. My most meaningful experiences were completing the INT D 407 capstone project with Dr. Leo Wong, working alongside a diverse, cross-disciplinary group of students to explore leadership in Edmonton's small business community, and applying lessons from the INT D courses to my role as Co-Chair of the Women in Leadership Club. These experiences helped me uncover my own leadership style and grow into a more thoughtful, intentional leader. I truly believe this program has something valuable for every student, no matter where they come from or where they're headed.

-Charvi Dhamija, 2025 CILS Graduate



Charvi Dhamija,
2025 CILS Graduate

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

\$50K

Total awarded in 2024/25

\$10K

Total awarded in 2024/25

\$2.7K

Total awarded in 2024/25

Cathy Allard-Roozen Leadership Award

Awarded to students with satisfactory academic standing enrolled in any year of an undergraduate degree at the U of A who have completed Inspired to Dream (INT D 101). Selection of recipients of this award is based on academic standing and demonstrated leadership.

Roger Phillips Scholarship in Business

Awarded to a student with superior academic achievement entering any year of an undergraduate degree in the Alberta School of Business and who is Peter Lougheed School of Leadership student. Selection is based on academic standing and demonstrated leadership potential through involvement and participating in university or community organizations.

Ian Greene Leadership Award

Awarded to a student with satisfactory academic standing in any year of an undergraduate degree and who is a Peter Lougheed School of Leadership student. Based on academic standing, demonstrated leadership, community engagement, volunteerism, and/or involvement in extracurricular activities.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Background

Peter Lougheed School of Leadership (formerly Peter Lougheed Leadership College) was established in 2014 as an administrative unit at the U of A, funded by an endowment from the Government of Alberta and donor contributions. Through the work of its founding principal, the Right Honorable Kim Campbell, and Vice-Principal Martin Ferguson-Pell, the PLSL developed an undergraduate certificate. The Alberta School of Business is responsible for administration of the certificate. The certificate involves the completion of four courses and an Indigenous Studies component.

Purpose & Goals

PLSL has established an advisory committee to:

- Provide strategic advice, contribute ideas, and identify and refine opportunities for leadership programming,
- Advocate for PLSL and provide advice on enhancing the reputation and reach of PLSL, and
- Offer guidance, insight and support in the effort to ensure PLSL's long-term financial sustainability.



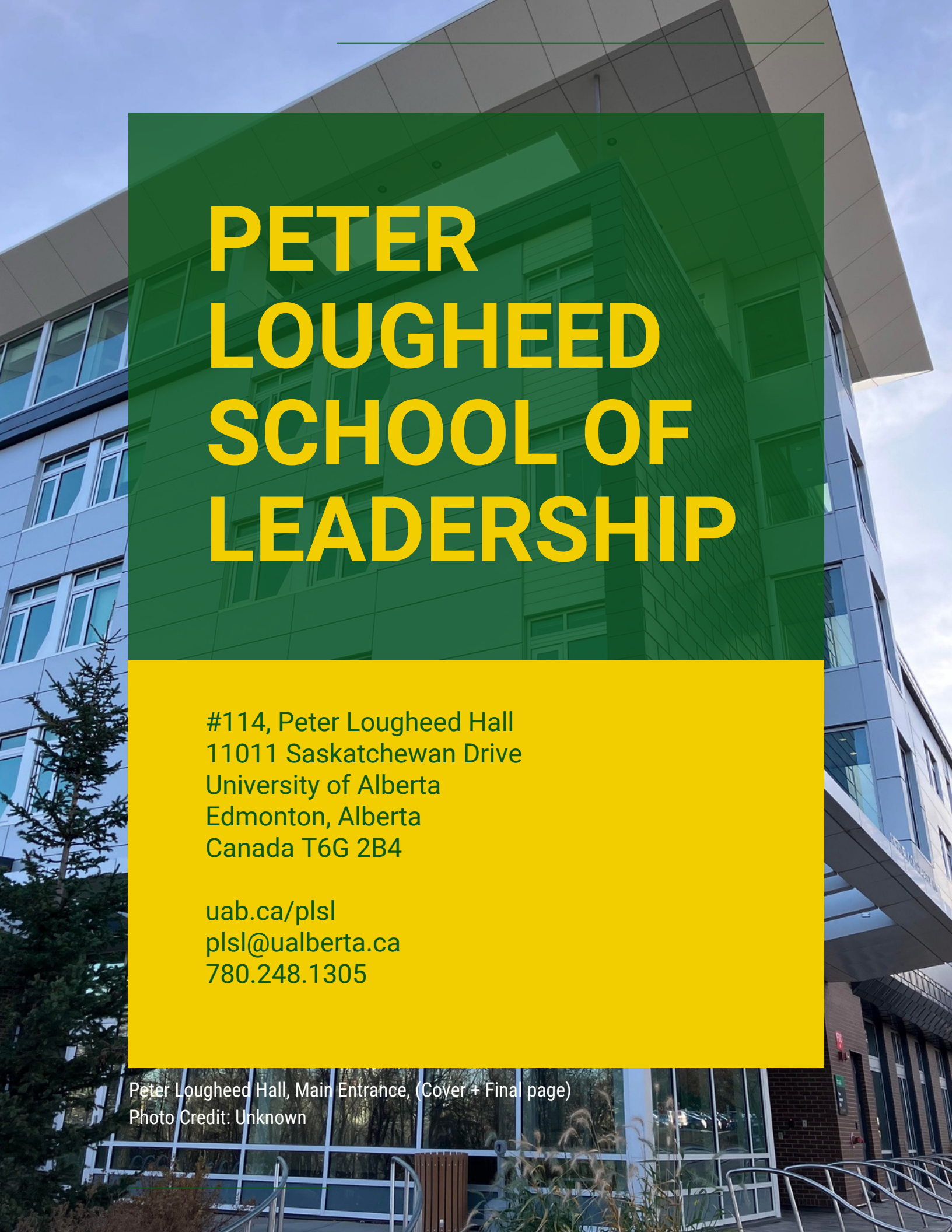
Photo Credit: Laughing Dog Photography

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Advisory committee members use their unique expertise to guide the PLSL towards better decisions in providing leadership programming to the PLSL's many and diverse students and audiences.

Our Membership

Dr. Chris Andersen	College Dean & Vice Provost, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Alberta
Dr. Richard Field	Interim Director, Peter Lougheed School of Leadership, University of Alberta
Dr. Shalene Jobin	Associate Professor, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta
Dr. Lianne M. Lefsrud	Risk, Innovation, & Sustainability Chair, Faculty of Engineering, University of Alberta
Dr. Sandra Rein	Associate Dean, Office of the Dean of Students, University of Alberta
Dr. Leo Wong	Associate Dean, Business Office of Education and PLSL INT D 407 Professor, University of Alberta
Kerrie Buckler	College General Manager, College of Social Sciences & Humanities, University of Alberta
Maite Gonazlez Latorre	PLSL Scholar and Bachelor of Education, University of Alberta; Master of Arts, Syracuse University
Harry Hothi	Digital Marketing Leader, Wealthsimple Bachelor of Commerce Graduate, University of Alberta
Zahra Somani	Chief Advancement Officer, Aga Khan University
Evan Ferguson	Associate Investment Advisor, National Bank Bachelor of Commerce Graduate, University of Alberta
Lindsey Rainbow	Senior Strategist and Trainer, Canadian Equality Consulting Bachelor of Commerce Graduate, University of Alberta
Rehma Khan	Course Instructor - INT D 101, PLSL Scholar, and MSc Candidate, School of Public Health, University of Alberta



PETER LOUGHEED SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP

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Peter Lougheed Hall, Main Entrance, (Cover + Final page)
Photo Credit: Unknown