



KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION GRANTS

Terms of reference and application process

The Killam Research Fund supports research that aligns with the University of Alberta's and with the Killam Trusts' priorities to promote and achieve **Research Excellence** by increasing external funding, attract and retain **Research Talent** by funding research at all career stages, and advance **Institutional Research Goals** (i.e., [Forward with Purpose](#)) by building capacity for the large-scale, interdisciplinary research required to compete in the areas of global excellence and growth.

Knowledge Mobilization Grants are funded through the Killam Research Fund. They are designed to support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences, including but not limited to, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Indigenous Studies, or Law. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and engage with participants on research issues they value. Events and outreach activities funded by a Knowledge Mobilization Grant can often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term externally funded projects.

1. Knowledge Mobilization Grants (\$1,500 - \$10,000)

- a. **Purpose:** Support activities like hosting workshops/conferences, attending a conference to present works that have not been previously published or presented externally, creating podcasts or films, or developing other tools to exchange knowledge, engage collaborators, or connect with new audiences.
- b. **Duration:** Maximum 1 year. Extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Eligibility

- The Knowledge Mobilization Grant is meant to supplement other sources of funding for knowledge mobilization activities. Preference will be given to applicants with other confirmed sources of cash or in-kind support. Letters of support are required at the time of application to confirm amounts and types of contributions. Clear justification must be provided if other sources are not available.
- Applications must propose knowledge mobilization activities in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences, including but not limited to, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Indigenous Studies, or Law.
- Primary applicant eligibility for funding is typically restricted to tenure/tenure-track

faculty. Please refer to the University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online (UAPPOL) document entitled "[Eligibility to Apply for and Hold Research Funding Policy](#)".

- Graduate students are not eligible to apply.
- Successful applicants must wait two fiscal years from the award date before applying for another Knowledge Mobilization Grant. Unsuccessful applications may be resubmitted in the next funding cycle.
- Funding can be used to support knowledge mobilization activities, including, but not limited to:
 - Hosting for events, workshops, conferences
 - The applicant must be an organizer or co-organizer of the event to be eligible.
 - Travel to present works that have not been previously published or presented externally to an academic conference.
 - Previously presented work with substantive new findings or significant expansions to earlier research may be considered.
 - Preference will be given to applicants with other confirmed sources of funding (e.g. PER, other internal/external sources).
 - Priority will be given to refereed, peer-reviewed presentations and invited keynote addresses.
 - Conference Travel is limited to one destination
 - Developing tools to exchange knowledge, engage collaborators, or connect with new audiences. Examples include:
 - Creating podcasts or films
 - Artistic exhibits, performances or festivals
 - Development/use of interactive technologies, audiovisual products or software including license fees
 - Other direct expenditures deemed necessary to carry out the knowledge mobilization activity. Examples include:
 - Student salaries
 - Minor equipment, materials, or supplies
 - Subvention or other costs related to the publication of research
 - Translation expenses

- Funding for indirect costs, costs that other internal or external funds cover, activities related to an association's business meetings, grant preparation, and grant writing costs are not eligible.
- Knowledge mobilization activities must be scheduled for a minimum of 90 days after the application deadline. Funding for activities that have already occurred or will occur within 90 days of the deadline will be deemed ineligible.
- Projects whose primary objective is to conduct research activities (e.g., literature reviews, field work, data collection, interviews), curriculum development, or preparation of teaching materials are not eligible for funding. Direct research costs can be applied for through the Cornerstone Research Seed Grant or Catalyst Grant program.
- The Knowledge Mobilization Grant may be used to support budget items that are also included as part of the cash contributions in an external grant application, provided this use complies with the external funder's rules. Its award is not contingent on external funding results. For projects where the primary intent is to secure institutional matching (e.g., required or contingent matching commitments), please apply through the [Strategic Research Initiatives Fund](#) (SRIF).
 - Where Knowledge Mobilization funds are proposed as part of a matching package for an external application, this should ideally be planned and disclosed at the time of application with a clear, non- duplicative budget across all sources.

Application process

To apply, log in using your CCID to submit an [Application Form](#). An [application working copy](#) is available to work on your responses offline before submission. Only applications that are approved for funding need to be submitted for approval through the Researcher Home Page. Submission instructions will be included in the funding notification.

Applicants are encouraged to include specific actions to advance institutional strategic goals and objectives, such as those indicated in [Shape: A Strategic Plan of Impact](#), [Forward with Purpose: A Strategic Plan for Research and Innovation](#), [Changing the Story: An Integrated Action Plan](#), or [Braiding Past, Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan](#).

All applications must outline steps to engage with and be accessible to diverse academic and/or nonacademic audiences (see the [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research Resource Page](#)).

Selection process

The Knowledge Mobilization Grant is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research) or delegate. The committee includes up to five members from the university's research community who are suitably representative of the institution's diversity and who conduct research in the designated fields of Humanities and Social Sciences, including but not limited to, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Indigenous Studies, or Law. All adjudicators complete unconscious bias training.

The following criteria are used to evaluate the applications:

- **Challenge: The quality and significance of the research being mobilized**
 - Originality, significance and expected contribution to the preservation of, access to and/or mobilization of research knowledge within and/or beyond the humanities and social sciences
 - Activity is likely to yield a major grant, significant dissemination and/or publication activity in the field, and enhance the University's reputation
 - Activity aligns well with the University's and Killam Trusts' priorities
- **Feasibility: The plan to achieve excellence**
 - Appropriateness and diversity of engagement strategies for reaching target audiences, which may include academic and/or non-academic participants
 - Appropriateness of the proposed timeline and probability that the objectives will be met
 - The efficacy, justification, and adequacy of the budget to support the proposed knowledge mobilization activities, including a demonstration of realistic financial planning
 - Indications of other planned resources, including identification of opportunities to leverage cash and/or in-kind support from internal or external sources, or appropriate justification where support from other sources is not available
- **Capacity: Expertise to succeed**
 - Quality and significance of experience and published and/or creative outputs of the applicant and any co-applicants, relative to their roles in the event or activity and the stage of their career
 - Evidence of past knowledge mobilization activities (e.g., films, performances, commissioned reports, knowledge syntheses, experience in collaboration / other interactions with stakeholders, contributions to public debate and the media) and of impacts¹ on professional practice, social services and policies,

¹ [Forward with Purpose](#) defines impact broadly and inclusively to recognize the validity of different dimensions and interpretations of impact across disciplines, research programs and all related scholarly

etc.

Demand for funds typically exceeds the available funding, so not all meritorious projects can be supported. Priority will be given to the following applicants:

- New and junior faculty
- Indigenous faculty and faculty in Equity-denied groups²
- Knowledge mobilization activities that will lead to larger, externally funded projects
- Applicants who have not received previous grants from the Killam Research Fund (Knowledge Mobilization, Cornerstone, or Catalyst).

Grant Administration

- All conditions (such as [Research Ethics](#)) on awards must be cleared within six months from the award date, unless an exemption from this requirement is sought and obtained from the Office of the Vice-President (Research). Requests for exemption should be sent to killamresearchfund@ualberta.ca with justification for the request. If this guideline is not met, the award will expire.
- Awardees grant the OVPR and the Killam Trusts the right to publish the name of the PI, Project Title, and amount of funding received. This information may be used to manage administration of the researcher's grant funding and Killam reporting purposes.
- The OVPR and Killam Trusts must be acknowledged in communications, publications or conferences arising from funded knowledge mobilization activities.
- Recipients must notify killamresearchfund@ualberta.ca if they have or will receive funding from another source for the same project or scope of work, providing justification for why Killam funds are required beyond other funding received.
- Any funds remaining at the end of the project term will be returned to the source.
- One-time extensions of up to one year may be requested by emailing killamresearchfund@ualberta.ca to initiate the extension request.

activities. These include short- and long-term economic, environmental and social impacts and engagements. See the [Declaration on Research Assessment](#).

² [Forward with Purpose](#) indicates that equity-denied groups also include women, visible minorities, researchers from Black, 2SLGBTQ+, francophone and diasporic communities, and persons with disabilities or who identify as disabled.

- The PI must submit a final report to killamresearchfund@ualberta.ca within 30 days of the project's end date, explaining how funds were spent to support the project. Reporting templates will be provided, including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:
 - How your project has helped advance the University of Alberta's and the Killam Trusts' priorities, including: **Research Excellence** by increasing external funding, attract and retain **Research Talent** by hiring students or research staff at various career stages, and advance **Institutional Research Goals** (i.e., [Forward with Purpose](#)).
 - Summary of funded activities, including any resulting revenue generation from external funding sources or improved the competitiveness of the project for future funding applications.
 - Evidence that your project enabled researchers and the institution to engage with diverse academic and/or nonacademic audiences.
 - Any other outcomes resulting from your projects, such as new knowledge, models, policy, practices, training and mentorship of students, or innovation and commercialization of products.
 - Recipients who do not meet the final report deadline are ineligible to receive future funding until the outstanding report has been submitted.

Submission Deadlines

Intake of applications will normally occur twice each fiscal year (Summer and Fall). Upcoming deadlines are as follows:

Application Deadline	Adjudication Period	Notice of Results
July 3, 2026	July 6 – August 21, 2026	August 28, 2026
November 6, 2026	November 9 – December 11, 2026	December 18, 2026

Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the [Access to Information Act](#) (ATIA) and [Protection of Privacy Act](#) (POPA).