A recap of 2023 at U of A:
Crossword edition

By The U of A Internal Employee Communications Team

ACROSS

1. This faculty, once called FGSR, is home to more than 500 graduate programs in 300 research areas, changed its name in October 2023 (abbreviation). (3)

2. The Faculty of Native Studies and Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research celebrated the arrival of a new one of these, an important physical symbol of Métis presence and community relations that stands in front of Pembina Hall (three words). (3,5,4)

3. Red River Cart.
A Red River Cart has stood in front of Pembina Hall since June 2016. The cart signifies the important relationship between the Métis Nation of Alberta, Rupertsland Institute and the Faculty of Native Studies. When the life cycle of the first cart ended, a new cart was purchased through a generous donation from the Rupertsland Institute. View a picture or check it out in person in front of Pembina Hall on North Campus.

4. The _____ Strategy is a deliberate plan to ensure that the U of A is a place where our faculty and staff can thrive and flourish. (6)

5. In June, the Faculty of Native Studies and Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research celebrated the arrival of a new one of these, an important physical symbol of Métis presence and community relations that stands in front of Pembina Hall (three words). (3,5,4)

6. The University of Alberta strategic plan, Shape, outlines a bold vision for the University of Alberta's future. Read more about the launch of Shape or view photos of the launch day celebration.

7. Forward.
Forward with Purpose is U of A's first pan-institutional strategic plan for research and innovation. This plan for 2023-2028 identifies four goals and six areas of research. These areas of global excellence and growth, alongside strategic goals for research and innovation, will help further the goals of A as a global leader that is addressing critical challenges within society. Read more about Forward with Purpose.

8. Three.
Three newly named Canada Excellence Research Chairs will be joining the U of A in 2024: Kalyan Das – CERC in Antiviral Drug Design (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, College of Health Sciences) and Rebecca Hill-Meichle – CERC in the Islet Microenvironment (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, College of Health Sciences). Shinshi Nakagawa – CERC in Open Science and Synthesis in Ecology and Evolution (Faculty of Science, College of Natural & Applied Sciences) is joined by three newly-named Canada Excellence Research Chairs.

9. The number of newly named Canada Excellence Research Chairs who will be joining the U of A in 2024. (5)

10. The U of A strategic plan, launched in September 2023. (5)

11. Shape.
Shape, the University of Alberta's strategic plan, was launched on Sept. 19, 2023. Shape outlines a bold vision for the University of Alberta's future. Read more about the launch of Shape or view photos of the launch day celebration.

12. Titled _____ with purpose, this strategic plan guides U of A's research and innovation. (7)

13. A building, known for its central North Campus location and proximity to transit, will have accessible entrances, all-gender washrooms and student-focused spaces (abbreviation). (8)

14. UCommons.
The University Commons (UCommoms) building will be one of the most accessible spaces on North Campus with sight lines that travel all the way through the space, at-grade or accessible entrances on all sides, all-gender washrooms and spaces on every floor for all members of the community, including students, faculty, staff and visitors. In 2023, the community learned more about the project in a video preview in this video preview, learn more on how UCommons was shaped by students and will have a dedicated student-centric space with all the core, supportive, student services available in one place. Watch the most recent video on University Commons.

15. The name of the program by the Fyrefly institute that supports 2SLGBTQ+ community members who are experiencing houselessness (abbreviation). (4)

16. This faculty, which is part of the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, is home to the first U of A UNESCO World Chair and one of the world's most cited researchers (abbreviation). (4)

17. ALES.
The Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences (or ALES for short), which is part of the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, is now home to the first U of A UNESCO World Chair. In addition, ALES researcher Michael Gänzle was named one of the world's most cited researchers.

18. This building, known for its central North Campus location and proximity to transit, will have accessible entrances, all-gender washrooms and student-focused spaces (abbreviation). (8)


In this video, University of Alberta students, faculty and staff will have a dedicated student-centric space with all the core, supportive, student services available in one place. Watch the most recent video on University Commons.

Read more about GPS.

Read more about U of A.

Read more about FGSR.

Read more about Forward with Purpose.
In early 2023, U of A created The Geoffrey and Robyn Sperber Health Sciences Library (or Sperber for short) officially opened to the U of A community on Sept. 30, 2023. The reimagined space includes quiet and group study areas, virtual reality and media labs, an Indigenous learning space, Indigenous Healing Collection and an exhibit from the Dentistry Museum Collection. Tour the new Sperber library through photos.

In September 2023, the U of A announced the transition of First Peoples’ House into a newer and larger space. At the project kickoff, a group of U of A employees were led in a pipe ceremony by Elder Francis Whiskeyjack and cultural helper Elder Elsey Gauthier. This First Peoples’ House led in a pipe ceremony by Elder Francis Whiskeyjack, and cultural helper Elder Elsey Gauthier, guided a group of U of A employees in a pipe ceremony to launch the new Sperber library.

In March 2023, the Vikings stole one point against the Niagara Knights, Sudbury, Ont., for nationals. In November, marking the first time that a majority of women will sit on Canada's highest court.

In 2023, U of A ranked seventh in the world by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. (7)

The name of the multi-factor authentication application that U of A uses as an effective control against account compromise (first word of name). (3)

Duo.

To safeguard sensitive information and data within the University of Alberta, the university implemented Duo Mobile MFA authenticator app. Duo Mobile MFA is safe and secure and adds a second layer of security when logging in to a U of A system or app.

Read more about Duo, the multi-factor authentication application used by U of A.

1 In early 2023, U of A created a new taskforce on this topic to better understand its impact on learning environments across our campuses (two words). (10,2)

Generative AI.

With the growth of generative AI like ChatGPT, Lex.page DALL-E2, Google BARD, Microsoft Bing and similar applications, U of A created the Provost’s Taskforce on AI and the Learning Environment to provide recommendations on how best to deal with the opportunities and challenges of generative artificial intelligence in the learning environment. This task force will also contribute to society’s broader conversations about the role of artificial intelligence in society’s learning environment and beyond.

Read more about U of A’s generative AI taskforce.

5 Cette Alumna (nom de famille) du Campus Saint-Jean fut nommée en novembre au plus haut tribunal du Canada. This Campus Saint-Jean Alumna (last name) was appointed to Canada’s highest court in November. (6)

Moreau.

Mary Moreau fut nommée en novembre à la Cour suprême du Canada, il s’agit de la première fois qu’une majorité de femmes siègera au plus haut tribunal de système judiciaire canadien. Mary Moreau was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada in November, marking the first time that a majority of women will sit on Canada’s highest court.

The college that houses the Black-led Research Network Initiative (abbreviation). (4)

CSSH.

The College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH) houses the Black-led Research Network Initiative. The initiative recently hosted its first Visioning Workshop to create a unified vision and lay the foundation for structural capacity for Black-led research at the U of A.

Read more about the Black-led Research Network Initiative.

7 The college that houses the Black-led Research Network Initiative.

8 This artist (last name) joined U of A community members at the First Peoples’ House Orange Shirt Day events at the U of A Bookstore. (9)

Whitehead.

In September, Jerry Whitehead attended First Peoples’ House’s Truth and Reconciliation Week events at the U of A Bookstore, painting with community members in honour of Orange Shirt Day. That same week, the U of A launched its Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report to the Community.

11 in the _______ of radicality, the spoken word poem by School of Business grad Nisha Patel, was performed at the launch of Shape. (8)

Practice.

In honour of Shape, the U of A commissioned a spoken word poem from School of Business grad Nisha Patel. Nisha performed the poem during the launch of Shape on Sept. 19, 2023. Read in the practice of radicality.

12 U of A's global ranking by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. (7)

Seventh.

In 2023, U of A ranked second in Canada and seventh in the world by Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings for the university’s ongoing efforts to tackle the United Nations Sustainable Development goals. Read more about U of A’s ranking.