

The U of A is aiming to raise over \$10 million in support of the U of A Innovation Fund and launched at \$5M
The Fund offers education, mentoring, funding, and global scale through access to strategic networks
Pay it forward: Gains are reinvested to sustain and grow innovation and entrepreneurship at the U of A

VENTURE PHILANTHROPY

Donors to the Fund include alumni, philanthropists, corporations and foundations.

Donations raised will be held by the University of Alberta and invested in companies within the Fund.

The Fund invests pre-seed up to \$250K and seed \$250K upwards alongside matching industry sector partner dollars with the potential for follow-on funding.

Equity investments will be generally made in the form of a Simple Agreement for Future Equity (SAFE) or equivalent instruments.

As a wholly-owned for-profit subsidiary of the U of A, an independent board oversees the strategy of the management team.

The Fund is supported by sector advisors, ambassadors, student involvement and alumni from around the world.

AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

One of Canada's top five research-intensive universities, the U of A has over \$500 million in research annually and more than 55,000 students, faculty and staff.

Leveraging the collaborative benefits of three colleges - health sciences; natural and applied sciences; and social sciences and humanities - the U of A has developed successful spin-outs and new ventures.

The Fund collaborates closely with Research and Innovation to ensure we capitalize on new innovations early on; and the Alberta School of Business ranks that first in Canada and provides entrepreneurship training and numerous student entrepreneurship and incubator hubs.

Ranking third in the world for artificial intelligence and partnering with the Alberta Machine Learning Institute (Amii), the University is set to innovate across multiple verticals.

Investments To Date:

\$500K invested to date in 3 companies from the U of A.

RL Core Technologies

RL Core is an AI company focusing on optimizing water treatment and management, with limitless applications for their AI technology in the future. The UA Innovation Fund invested \$100K and supported follow-on funding; facilitated a first customer in the utilities space; and promoted opportunities with the first nations communities for increasing access to clean drinking water in remote parts of Alberta. In collaboration with research and innovation, the team will host a demo of their technology for customers at Enterprise Square. The management of RL Core are world renowned machine learning leaders and consultants for Google's Deep Mind. Notable investors include Flying Fish VC.

Nanostics

Nanostics is working to provide a diagnostic test for prostate cancer that is non-invasive and provides early detection. The Innovation Fund invested \$200K and is supporting a further fundraise with investors in the USA and Canada, with introductions to health providers and top oncologists in the UK. Founder John Lewis is Professor at University of Alberta, Bird Dogs Chair of Translational Oncology and serial global entrepreneur. Notable investors include Alberta Innovates, Startup TNT and Bird Dog Angel Group.

Pulse Medica

Pulse Medica improves the quality of life for millions of people by building revolutionary technology to image and treat vitreoretinal disease. The Innovation Fund invested \$200K and is assisting with introductions to customers and other investors. Notable board members include VMS Threshold Impact founder and investor Ray Muzyka and Chen Fong, a global health thought leader based in Alberta. Other notable investors include UCEED (University of Calgary fund), Startup TNT, Yaletown Partners, Accelerate Fund and Scale Good Fund.



Community Building Innovation Portal

One-stop shop for all things innovation at the University of Alberta and the Province, where all stakeholders can access networks, events, resources, tools, funding, and service provider support.

Criteria for Funding

- Open to students, faculty, staff, alumni (connection to U of A preferred) and diverse teams
- Addresses a challenge that will result in positive social impact while leveraging our sector-focus areas of excellence
- Unconstrained growth potential in a large market

Smart Money and Scale-Up

- Access to follow-on funding and global networks for dealmaking and go-to-market opportunities
- Founder friendly and team-building through cohorts
- Office hours across campus and Alberta
- Community-building online and in person
- education will be provided, including topics such as entrepreneurship, "Perfect your Pitch," and financial literacy, delivered through boot camps, masterclasses and networking.
- Advisors and sector specialists to champion founders

Social Innovation

- Focuses on innovation that brings positive impact to Alberta and fulfills the philanthropic goals of the University
- Provides access and reaches various diverse communities

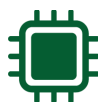
Access to Deal Flow

- Active outreach programs across faculty and students from the Research and Innovation Office and Technology Transfer Services
- Alberta ecosystem partnerships, including accelerators, investors and advisors, word of mouth

Outcomes

- Unlock the potential of new ventures from concept to reality, Lab2Market
- High-value job creation to build Alberta's economy
- Strengthen the university's position as a global leader in entrepreneurship
- Directly benefit provincial economic priorities, including the Alberta Recovery Plan and economic diversification
- All gains are reinvested to sustain and grow innovation and entrepreneurship at the U of A

FOCUS AREAS FOR INVESTMENT



AI

- Health
- Energy
- Agriculture
- Education technology
- Financial services technology
- Cybersecurity
- Blockchain
- Digitization
- Infrastructure
- Marketplaces
- Enterprise
- Mechatronics/robotics



HEALTH

- Biotechnology
- Pharmacy
- Natural health products
- Virology
- Vaccines and therapeutics
- Digital health
- Disease prevention
- Mental health



ENERGY

- Hydrogen
- Carbon capture
- Utilization/storage
- Greenhouse gas-abated fossil fuels
- Renewable minerals and metals
- Solar manufacturing
- Biomass
- Waste and nuclear
- Electric vehicles



AGRICULTURE

- Genomics
- Carbon sequestration and measurement carbon in soils
- Collision pieces including drones
- Environmentally contained agriculture
- Agriculture data analysis
- Logistics
- Agri-food diversification
- Forestry
- Land/water/energy efficiency

Student Involvement

- The fund has hired 20+ interdisciplinary students to conduct due diligence lite, marketing, and digital support.
- Together the team conducted due diligence on over 130 companies across the Province in preparation for the Investment Committee to review.
- Students are upskilled and encouraged to adopt and implement entrepreneurial thinking to real world applications.

For more information about the team and how to engage with the Innovation Fund please visit our [website](#).