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150 YEARS, A LOOK AT OUR  
OWN MILESTONES

AUTUMN 2017

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
ALUMNI MAGAZINE



**Risk Takers and Change Makers**

Titilope Sonuga and 20 more alumni who  
are overcoming obstacles, solving problems  
and quietly changing the world.

**(Go ahead, get inspired.)**

FACULTY EVENTS.FEST OF ALL-CLASS YEAR CELEBRATIONS  
CAMPUS TOURS.TURKEY TROT FUN RUN.GOLDEN BEARS  
FOOTBALL.ALUMNI WALLS.GREEN OLD DAYS SCIENCE TALKS  
OBSERVATORY VISITS.ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING: U.S.-CANADA  
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# ALL THAT

AND A BEAVER TAIL

ANNOUNCING  
THE 2017 ALUMNI  
WEEKEND LINEUP

SEPTEMBER 22 - 25, 2017

SEE INSIDE  
FOR DETAILS

[uab.ca/AW2017](http://uab.ca/AW2017)

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
ALUMNI

AUTUMN 2017  
VOLUME 73 NUMBER 2

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Shauna de Cartier, founder  
of Six Shooter Records,  
is ready for rain at the  
Interstellar Rodeo music  
festival in Edmonton this  
past July. Page 38.  
Photo by John Ulan



**ON THE COVER**  
Titilope Sonuga, trained as an  
engineer, has come to realize  
her art is central to who  
she is. It's one reason Sonuga  
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Photo by Niyi Okeowo

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ISSN: 0824-8125 Copyright 2017  
Publications Mail Agreement  
No. 40112326

If undeliverable in Canada, return to:  
Office of Advancement,  
University of Alberta, Third Floor,  
Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave.  
Edmonton, AB T5J 4P6

Printed in Canada

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## These Weren't the Good Old Days

By Sarah Pratt

Imagine going to the dentist and there is no anesthetic and little sterilization—a shot of whisky is your only hope for either. The art and science of dentistry has come a long way over the past century. As the School of Dentistry celebrates its 100th anniversary, we take in the U of A Dentistry Museum Collection, where professor emeritus Geoffrey Sperber explains how things used to be. Prepare to be grateful for modern dental technology.

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN

### • 1/ DIG, TWIST AND PULL

Meet the extraction key. The forked metal tails were forced beneath a rotten tooth, through the gums and around the roots. Then, with a twist of the wrist, the tooth was pulled from its socket. Another whisky, please.

• 2/ JUST ADD MERCURY

Dispersalloy fillings were created with the help of University of Alberta professor Ralph Yuodelis, '55 DDS. Dentists would add mercury to these copper and silver pellets to create an incredibly strong filling.

### • 3/ THOSE THAT CANNOT BE CLEANED

This ivory tongue scraper may look pretty, but there was no way to sanitize the ivory. (Definitely not pretty.) It was, however, part of the evolving field of dentistry. In the 1920s, modern toothbrushes replaced twigs, bird feathers and horsehair toothbrushes.

### • 4/ RECYCLED CHOPPERS

Before Vulcanite and acrylics, artful dentists carved teeth from hippopotamus ivory because it was denser than other ivory and didn't stink as badly. The teeth were cleaned with a dunk in port wine, hence the stains. Some dentures also contained real teeth. The larger set here is made up of teeth harvested from dead soldiers after the 1815 Battle of Waterloo.

To find out about the School of Dentistry's 100th celebrations and other Alumni Weekend events, visit [uab.ca/aw2017](http://uab.ca/aw2017).

**"The basis of dentistry is pain. Why do people go to the dentist? To relieve pain."**

Geoffrey Sperber,  
professor emeritus

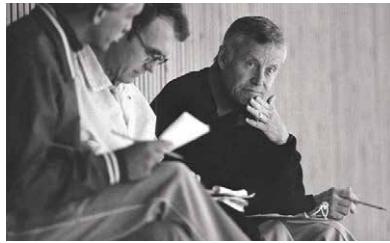
*Youch!*

### • 5/ IT'S JUST ELECTRIC

With this Cameron's dental lamp, you could just lie back and relax while the dentist had a peek with a lighted mirror—knowing that it provided a direct line from an electrical outlet to your mouth. Pain, however, is a powerful motivator and, while many people fear the pain of the dentist, it's often pain itself that gets us into the chair. Thankfully, modern anesthetics, antibiotics, implements and techniques help make a trip to the dentist infinitely less painful than in years past.

## UNIVERSITY NEWS

A brief look at what's new at the U



Clare Drake, far right

» **Former Golden Bears hockey head coach and legend Clare Drake, '58 BEd, '95 LLD (Honorary),** has been inducted into the 2017 Class of the Hockey Hall of Fame in the builders category. Drake coached the Golden Bears for 28 seasons, leading them to six national and 17 conference championships. Drake retired in 1989 and remains the winningest coach in Canadian men's university hockey history. He was also assistant coach with the Winnipeg Jets and Dallas Stars, and coached the Edmonton Oilers before they entered the NHL.

» **One of Edmonton's prominent Métis education leaders,** entrepreneurs and philanthropists died in July. **Herbert Belcourt, '01 LLD (Honorary),** was dedicated to helping Métis students succeed. He co-founded the Belcourt Brosseau Métis Awards, which have donated more than \$6.7 million to more than 1,100 Métis students studying across the province, including at the U of A.

» **The U of A's new sexual violence policy outlines the university's** intolerance for sexual violence and its duty to provide a safe learning and working environment. It included input from 27 student groups, university offices and external partners. Read it at [ualberta.ca](http://ualberta.ca).

» **Francophone and bilingual students can now apply to the U of A** online in French. Prospective undergrad students can apply for any program using this system, which went live July 1.

## SANDY MACTAGGART, FORMER CHANCELLOR AND U OF A SUPPORTER, DIES AT 89

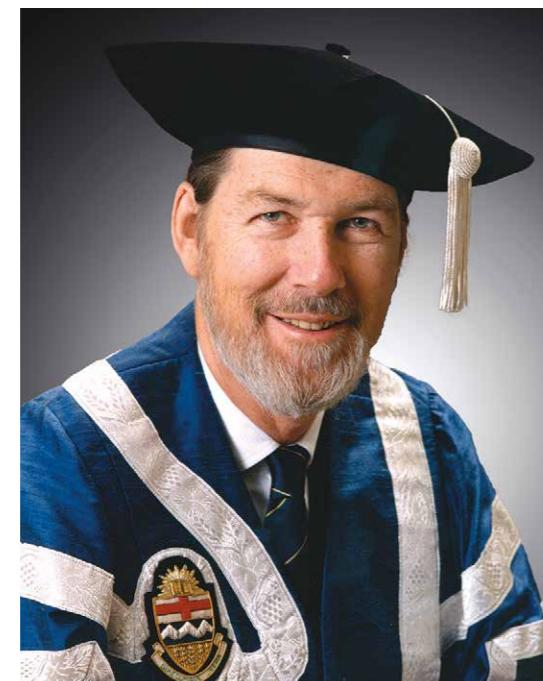
**Sandy Mactaggart, '90 LLD (Honorary),** former chancellor and supporter of the University of Alberta, died July 3. He was 89.

The retired developer and philanthropist, and his wife, Cécile, made many contributions to the U of A as citizens and donors. The Mactaggarts' gifts, combined with matching funds generated from government, equalled an unprecedented \$100 million for the university.

"The University of Alberta has lost a giant in our community," said David Turpin, U of A president.

Mactaggart served as the university's 14th chancellor and chair of the university senate, and served on the board of governors. He chaired the university's Real Estate Advisory Committee and was the first chair of the University of Alberta Foundation. During this time, together with the province, he donated the 103-hectare Mactaggart Nature Sanctuary to the university and city.

The Mactaggarts' other generous gifts include their Edmonton home, donated to the university in 2010. This was preceded in 2005 by a collection of more than 1,000 rare works of East Asian art and artifacts. The gift, worth \$37 million, matched in cash by the Alberta government, inspired the establishment of the U of A's China Institute. The institute and the Mactaggart Art Collection are key to promoting research, institutional partnerships and cultural exchanges. —BEV BETKOWSKI



(Left to right) Richard Sutton, Michael Bowling and Patrick Pilarski

## U of A Profs Will Lead AI Powerhouse

One of the world's leading artificial intelligence research companies, Google-owned DeepMind, opened its first research base outside the United Kingdom—in Edmonton. The lab, DeepMind Alberta, is led by U of A computing science professors Richard Sutton, Michael Bowling and **Patrick Pilarski, '09 PhD,** who will continue to teach and supervise graduate students.

DeepMind Alberta develops programs that can learn to solve complex problems without being taught how—known as reinforcement learning. You can already see this technology at work in self-driving cars.

DeepMind Alberta is the latest in AI-related news. The federal government's recent \$125-million funding through the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy strengthens the provincial government's 15-year investment of more than \$40 million. The strategy will enhance co-operation among Edmonton and Canada's two other centres of expertise: Toronto-Waterloo and Montreal. —WITH FILES FROM JENNIFER PASCOE

BOTTOM PHOTO (THIS PAGE) BY RICHARD SIEMENS; TOP PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN; BOTTOM PHOTO (FACING PAGE) BY LIFE ON WHITE / ALAMY

## It's Certain: T. Rex Had Scales, Not Fuzz

Recently discovered skin fossils in Alberta and South Dakota prove *Tyrannosaurus rex* hides were covered in small scales.

U of A paleontologists were part of an international team that made the discovery, which included other kinds of predatory tyrannosaurids, such as *Albertosaurus* and *Gorgosaurus*. Scientists were surprised by the scales, because many other carnivorous dinosaurs, including the *Velociraptor*, had feathers.

"Many scientists speculated that the T. rex had feathers as well," said **Scott Persons, '11 MSc, '16 PhD**, a paleontologist and collaborator on the study. The research findings were published in *The Royal Society Biology Letters* in June.

## Allergy Shots Could Change Your Life

Canadians might not need to scratch and snuffle their bleary-eyed way through allergies.

Many who suffer decide not to seek help from a doctor, or if they do, often aren't referred to an allergist, said Harissios Vliagoftis, a University of Alberta allergist in the Department of Medicine. "People with seasonal, cat and other environmental allergies should know that there are approaches that work when

existing medications don't," he said.

Vliagoftis is referring to allergy shots, the only treatment proven to change the immune system to prevent allergies and, possibly, asthma. "The subcutaneous injections change your immune system and improve the disease long-term," he said. Symptoms can be gone in as soon as a few months and stay away for 10 years.

If there's a solution, why aren't people lining up to

get on the wait-list to see an allergist? Lack of awareness, for starters, said Vliagoftis. Here's what else you need to know, just in time for those late-summer allergies:

### ► Can I get allergy shots?

Anyone with hay fever from certain pollens, or who is allergic to cats or stinging insects, can seek allergy shots. There is also a new form of pill-based immunotherapy available for people with grass allergies. You and your allergist will discuss relevant factors, including the length of your allergy season and the type and severity of your symptoms.

### ► What's the downside?

There are minimal side-effects, though there is a time investment. The shots are administered in-office in case of an anaphylactic reaction and you need more than one. The shots are given once a week for the first three to four months, and then once a month for the next three to five years.

### ► What'll it cost me?

The doctor's visits are covered by provincial health plans, but you'll need to check with your insurer to confirm the cost of the shot itself. The out-of-pocket cost is roughly \$250 annually.

—LESLEY YOUNG



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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
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The

21

## FIERCE. FRANK. FORWARD-THINKING. MEET YOUR EVERYDAY HEROES

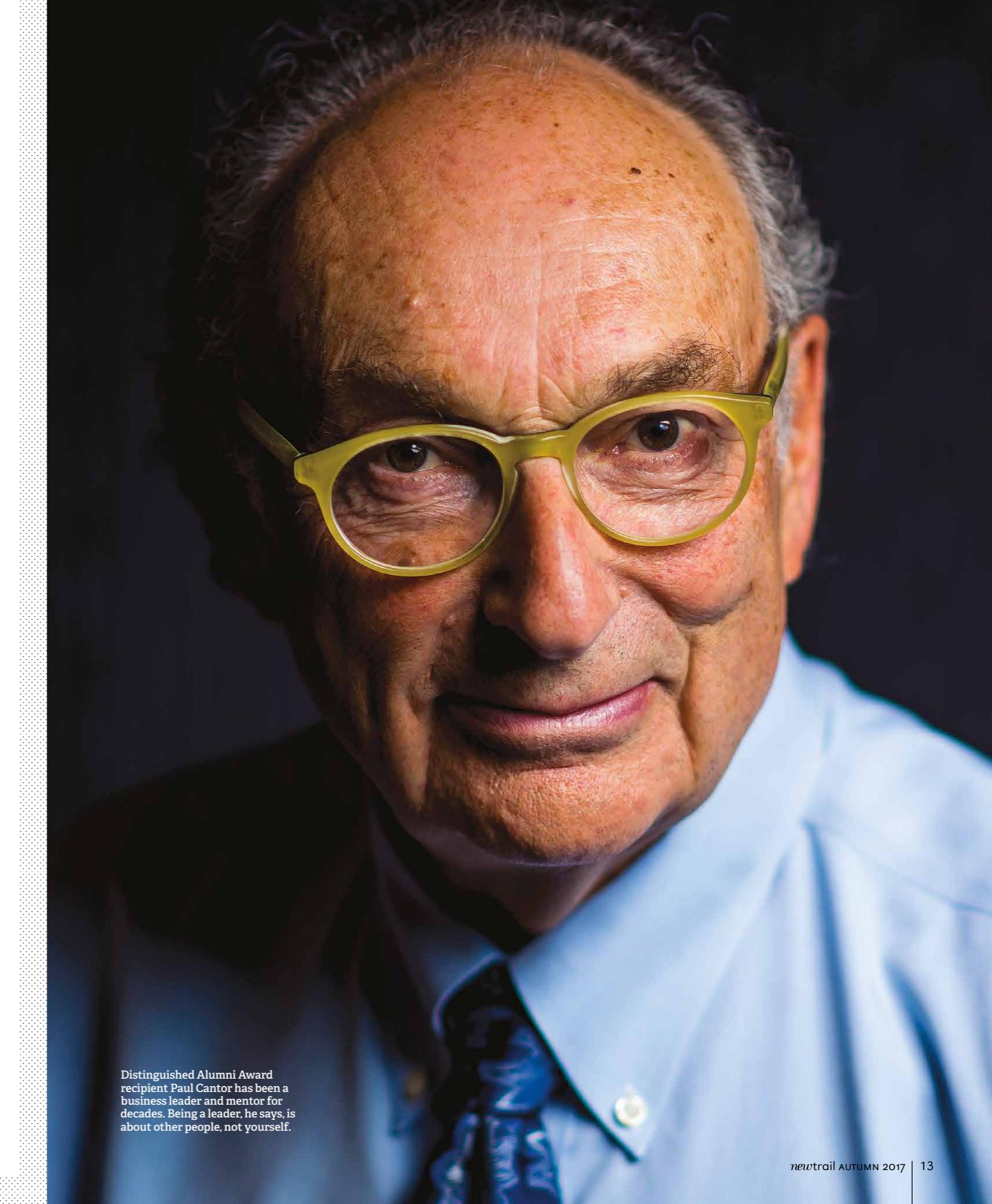
The alumni you see on these pages are not the kind of people who feel comfortable in the limelight — quite the opposite, really. They are more often found in the background, making sure everyone else gets their share of praise.

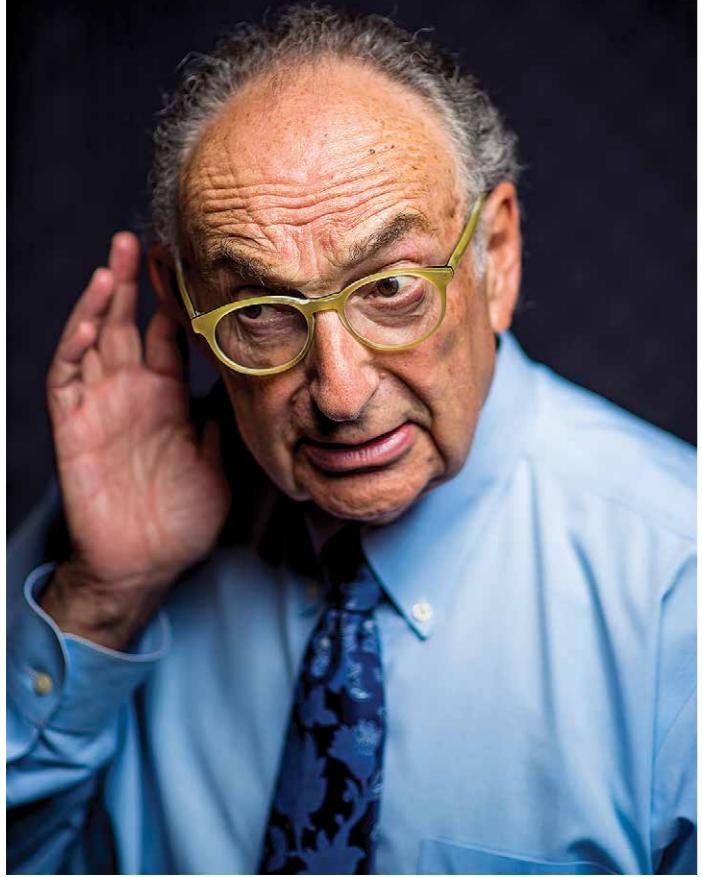
Well, this is our opportunity to shine a spotlight on these everyday heroes.

It's no coincidence that our Alumni Award winners are nominated by their co-workers, friends and family. They are the ones who most often witness the quiet acts of courage and compassion for which these award recipients are being honoured. The ones who see the fighter within the athlete, the community leader standing behind the counter, the humanitarian in the doctor and the lifelong impact of a kind word. Social injustice, climate change, mental health — in ways large and small, each one of the people on these pages has refused to walk past a problem. Read on to help us celebrate the accomplishments of these 21 remarkable alumni. It's time for them to step forward and finally be recognized.

▼  
By Sarah Pratt

Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Paul Cantor has been a business leader and mentor for decades. Being a leader, he says, is about other people, not yourself.





▼ DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

## For being a model of leadership

**Paul Cantor, '62 BA**

Investment banker, leadership trainer

→ Paul Cantor has been a leader for more than 50 years, beginning as a student when he was named chair of the fund drive for World University Service of Canada. These days, he is chair of QuadReal Property Group's board of directors. The financial expert and community-builder shares a few thoughts about leadership.

**Cantor credits his arts degree** with giving him a foundation from which to work. "It provided me with context for just about every decision I had to make later on in life," he says of his liberal arts education. "It made me understand the importance of putting issues in context and gave me the tolerance to be respectful of other people's opinions."

**He has learned to assess leadership.** "I made it my business to develop tools and methodology so that I would not have to trust my instincts to identify leadership. It is my view that people who trust their instincts to assess leadership usually end up duplicating themselves. We will never make progress in diversity and in merit appointments if we leave people to trust their instincts to make leadership decisions."

**Leadership, he says, is all about other people** and empowering them to achieve things on their own. "You have to articulate your vision in a way that inspires people," he says. "You can provide advice and guidance that allow people to work together and maximize their abilities. ... But leadership is not always a democracy, and sometimes you have to say to people: 'This is what I wish you to do.'"

▼ ALUMNI HONOUR AWARD

## FOR BEING A PILLAR OF LITTLE ITALY

**Teresa Spinelli, '83 BA**

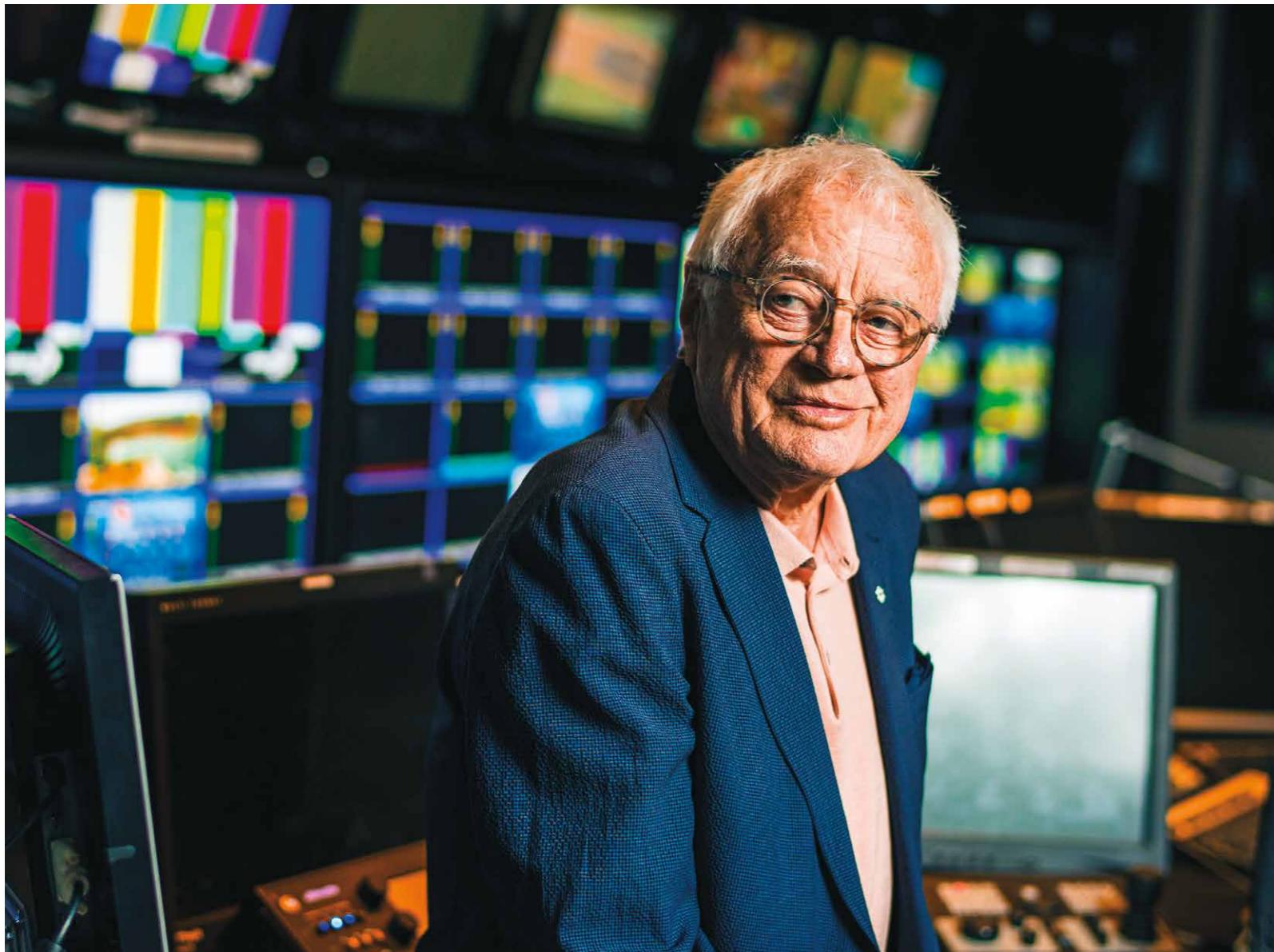
Businesswoman

As a toddler, Teresa Spinelli took her first steps in the pasta aisle of her family's grocery store. The Italian Centre Shop was her second home and a gathering place for the entire community. Her father, Frank, made it his business to care for friends, family and neighbours. Spinelli worked as a cashier at the store for 17 years. After her father died in 2000, she stepped in to lead the family business. Spinelli expanded the business to four locations with more than 500 employees. Somehow, she also still finds time to volunteer with projects that help enrich her community.

### Spinelli offers five tips for her fellow entrepreneurs:

- If you're too focused working in your business, you can't grow your business. You need to step back and look at the bigger picture.
- You need to know your bank account balances and understand what your money is doing for you.
- Follow your gut.
- Business is all about people and relationships—take care of your employees.
- Put your family first.





▼ DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

## For bringing news and entertainment to Canadian TV viewers

**Donald Brinton,**  
'51 BSc(Ag)  
Broadcaster

► Donald Brinton spoke the first words on Edmonton's first television station in 1954: "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to CFRN-TV, at the sign of the totem pole, Channel 3, Edmonton."

Though he started as a newscaster and host, it was as an executive with CanWest Global Communications that he became a force in bringing quality Canadian programming to viewers.

This industry leader shares a few thoughts about broadcasting then and now and the lessons he's learned.

**Career highlight:** "I had a dream summer job in Yellowknife in 1950. By day, I ran an experimental station testing how vegetables grow in permafrost. Nights and weekends, I was operator/announcer at CFYK, a one-room volunteer community radio station. It was my introduction to broadcasting and I was hooked!"

**His vision for Canadian television:** "I have always envisioned a popular and marketable Canadian content. I hear my old mentor Izzy Asper [founder

of CanWest Global] on the future of Canadian content: 'We can do better!'"

**What he has learned:** "Show respect for your staff, both as professionals and as valued people in their personal lives."

**Tips to the next generation:** "If I were manager of a TV station today, I would hire IT people with their fingers on the pulse of broadcasting online and on social media."

**Proudest moment:** "Being a recipient of the Order of Canada, class of 2016."



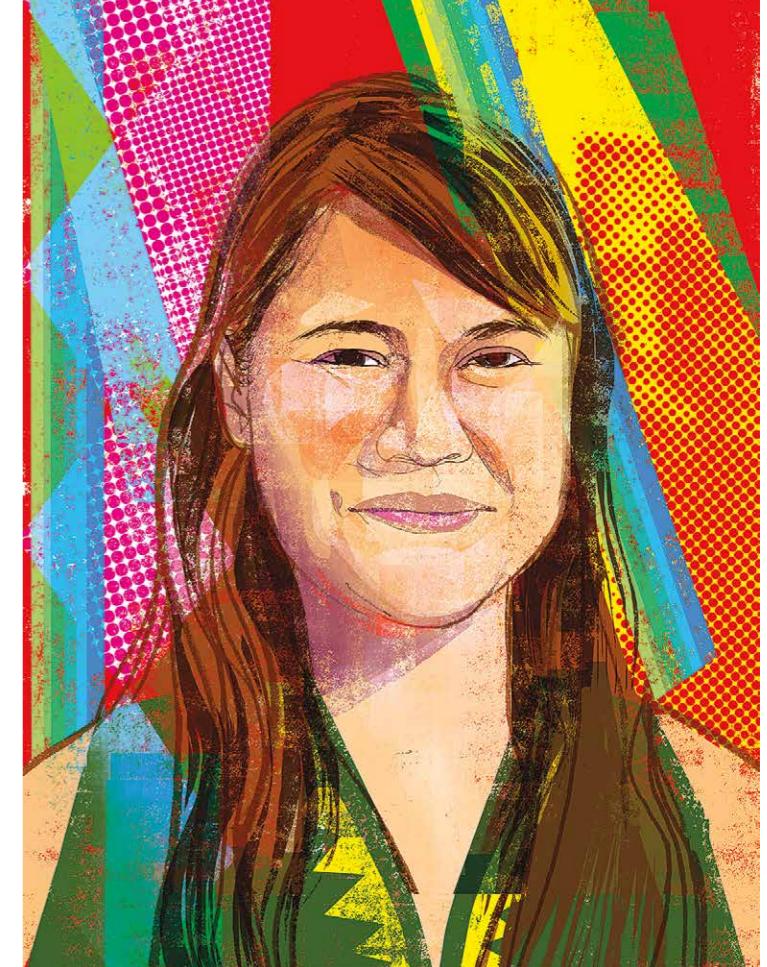
▼ SPORTS WALL OF FAME

## FOR SUCCESSFULLY COMBINING A LOVE OF ATHLETICS AND MEDICINE

**David Otto,** '86 BMedSc, '88 MD  
Hockey player, orthopedic surgeon

As a talented hockey player in Edmonton during the 1980s, it was hard for David Otto not to picture himself playing for the Edmonton Oilers. But it was his skill in the operating room that landed him in the National Hockey League.

This award-winning athlete—he was part of the Golden Bears hockey team that won the national championship in 1986—is one of the most renowned orthopedic surgeons in Canada and part of the Edmonton Oilers medical team. He is also surgical co-chair at the University of Alberta Glen Sather Sports Medicine Clinic and associate clinical professor in the Division of Orthopedic Surgery. In 2001, Otto established a 12-month fellowship program in arthroscopy and sports medicine within the Division of Orthopedic Surgery, which has now graduated 16 fellows.



▼ ALUMNI HORIZON AWARD

## For helping improve the health of Indigenous peoples

**Nicole Cardinal,** '12 MD  
Family doctor, advocate

As a doctor at the Saddle Lake Health Centre, Nicole Cardinal is working to improve more than just the physical health of her community.

Cardinal buys fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs and delivers them to community members through the Health Food Box program, which she started. She also presents on health and prevention, and at community diabetes conferences. Cardinal accomplishes all of this while working as a visiting doctor in rural Alberta communities.

One of Cardinal's newest

ideas could offer medical students an opportunity to experience rural living conditions while learning how to provide health care to Indigenous peoples. She is working to create an elective for first- and second-year medical students that would see them working at the Saddle Lake health clinic for month-long intensives.

This would not only help the community and students, but also align with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action for improved medical education in Canada.



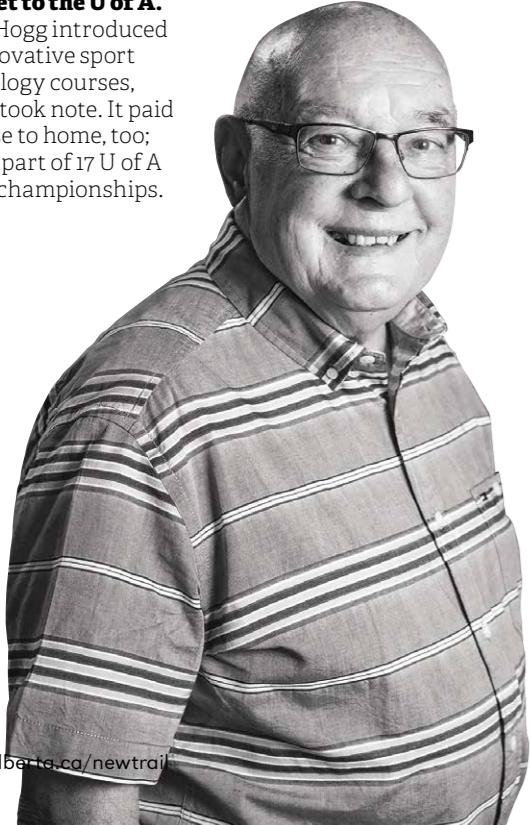
▼ SPORTS WALL OF FAME

## For finding new ways to succeed in sports

**John Hogg,**  
'78 MA, '82 PhD  
Coach, professor

Yogi Berra once said, "Ninety per cent of this game is half mental." Well, the idea that sports are mostly a mental exercise is nothing new to John Hogg. Here are a few of his achievements.

**► He brought a winning mindset to the U of A.**  
When Hogg introduced his innovative sport psychology courses, people took note. It paid off close to home, too; he was part of 17 U of A sports championships.



**► He helped the best get better.** Hogg worked as a coach and sports psychologist in more than 10 sports, helping athletes succeed at the world-champion and Olympic levels. He shared his expertise in the field of mental preparation in hundreds of publications and conference presentations.

**► He brought teams together.** Hogg's work as an innovator also extends to the U of A aquatics program. In 1978, he became head coach of the swim programs. Over the next 25 years, Hogg restructured the entire program, combining the women's and men's swim teams, along with the diving team, to create one unified group of athletes.



▼ DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

## FOR RESHAPING THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE

**Wayne Lindwall,** '71 BSc(Ag), '75 MSc  
Agricultural engineer, soil scientist

► It took one idea for Wayne Lindwall to help improve soil conservation and food production—and contribute to lowering carbon emissions around the world.

As a farm boy growing up in southern Alberta, Lindwall always wondered how to make farming practices better. He would see plows driving in circles, billows of dust in their wakes, and think, "There's something wrong with this picture."

This notion stayed with Lindwall, and early in his career at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, he challenged conventional farming wisdom with the goal of reducing the erosion that caused

those billowing clouds of dust. He started promoting a radical idea: don't plow the fields; plant the seeds amid unplowed crop residue. This method, which he called conservation tillage, would keep organic matter in the ground while the stubble provided a protective layer on top of the soil, protecting the field from wind erosion and keeping the soil healthier for longer.

Farmers were initially skeptical of Lindwall's tillage system, but he didn't give up. More

than 40 years later, most farms in Western Canada practise conservation tillage and Lindwall has helped farmers in Africa, Australia and Brazil implement the system.

As it turns out, conservation tillage makes a difference beyond the farm. It also reduces the amount of carbon that enters the atmosphere. When you see foliage above the ground, remember there's also plant matter underground, says Lindwall. That organic matter, or carbon, is stored below ground

with the root system. With crops, if you don't plow, the carbon stays underground. And it's measurable because scientists like Lindwall have been recording soil carbon for 100 years on research plots.

"Canada is the only country in the world now that sequesters 10 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually because of the way we farm," he says. "It was a revelation for people, learning that farmers weren't just part of the greenhouse gas problem, they were also part of the solution."



▼ ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

## For a life of compassionate service

**Heike Juergens,**  
'72 BA, '79 MEd, '87 PhD  
Psychologist, volunteer extraordinaire

While taking a pottery class in 2014, Heike Juergens learned of a young woman with a physical challenge who needed, but could not afford, a mobility device. Juergens decided to organize a backyard pottery sale at her home to raise the money needed. Friends donated pottery and in one day they had raised more than enough money to buy the device.

"She is indeed the embodiment of extraordinary dedication and service," says John Paterson, '55 Dip(Ed), '56 BEd, '57 BA, Juergens' former PhD supervisor.

As a psychologist and tireless volunteer, Juergens leads with a caring heart, whether it's billeting international students, advocating for mental health services for students or introducing kids who would not necessarily be thinking about a university education to campus through the U of A's School program.

"Her achievements have been masterfully guided with joyful commitment that, while seemingly effortless, has required nuanced energy, subtle compromise and consummate compassion," says Stephen Leppard, '86 BEd, '92 MEd, '03 EdD, a school administrator with Edmonton Public Schools and a University of Alberta Senate representative.



#### ALUMNI HORIZON AWARD

## For devoting his life to serving the public

**Adam Sweet**, '07 BA, '07 BA(SpecCert)

Chief of staff, Edmonton Economic Development Corp.

Adam Sweet still thinks about Afghanistan every day.

On his second of three tours in Afghanistan as part of the civilian Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, Sweet met *Calgary Herald* journalist Michelle Lang. On Dec. 30, 2009, he was the last person to speak to Lang before she left with an armoured patrol for a tour. "She said, 'I'll see you when I get back,'" says Sweet.

Lang was killed when the vehicle hit a roadside bomb.

"Michelle is an example of true courage," says Sweet. "She was pursuing something she believed in, to tell the story of the Kandaharis."

Sweet, too, dreams of making the world better. He went to Afghanistan because he believed in helping the Kandaharis rebuild their communities, including schools and health-care centres. But he wasn't prepared for everything he would see while he was there. Sweet has spent years coping with post-traumatic stress disorder and, since returning to Canada, has spoken publicly about the need for deployed civilians to be better prepared for the trauma of war.

He now works with the Edmonton Economic Development Corp. and volunteers as part of the mentorship team with the U of A's Peter Lougheed Leadership College. He believes in coaching people on how to make good decisions. His advice? Be the best "you" possible for the good of everyone.

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

## FOR FIGHTING FOR LGBTQ RIGHTS

**Lorne Warneke**, '63 BSc(HonsCert), '67 MD  
Psychiatrist, clinical professor

► In 1991, Delwin Vriend was fired from then-King's College for being gay. The Alberta Human Rights Commission refused to investigate because the province's Individual Rights Protection Act didn't cover discrimination based on sexual orientation. Vriend took the provincial government to court and lost.

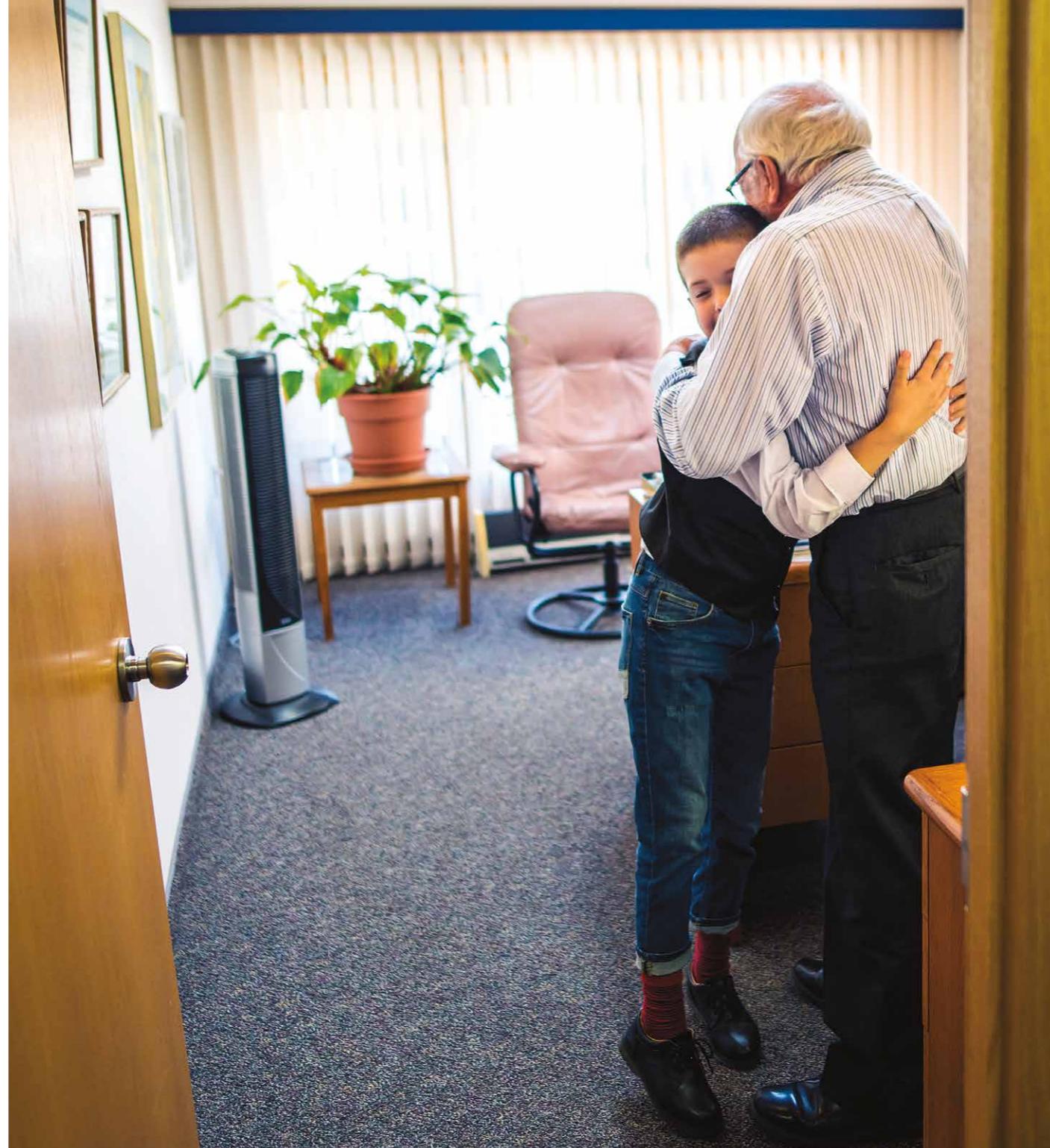
Vriend and a team of advocates lobbied the government to change human rights legislation to include sexual orientation as a protected area.

Psychiatrist Lorne Warneke was one of those advocates.

This wasn't the first time Warneke had stood up for LGBTQ rights. For several years, he had been the only psychiatrist in Alberta to work with transgender people, including those wanting to transition. In fact, when someone is interested in gender reassignment surgery, Warneke was—and still is—often the first person they talk to.

"They want affirmation," he says. "I take great care not to say 'You have the diagnosis of...' This condition is a normal variation of gender identity and our society is such that they sometimes need help to move on."

Warneke convinced the government to pay for gender reassignment



surgery for three people in the 1980s. He also opened a gender clinic in 1996 at the Grey Nuns Hospital, and helped update the Alberta Motor Vehicle Act so people can change the gender marker on their driver's licences.

But it is the Vriend case that remains one

of Warneke's proudest moments. In 1998, the case of Vriend vs. Alberta was decided at the Supreme Court of Canada and sexual orientation became a protected area in Alberta human rights legislation. It was a significant milestone for LGBTQ rights.

"This was at a time

when transgender, for example, was seen as a sexual deviation," says Warneke. "We fight against that and see attitudes changing. In medicine, things are changing all the time. You have to keep up, but sometimes you have to be the person at the front pushing forth new ideas."

#### ALUMNI HORIZON AWARD

## For treating food as more than fuel

**Lalitha Taylor**, '05 BSc(Nutr/Food)  
Registered dietitian

A registered dietitian who uses a healthy lifestyle to help an autoimmune disease, Lalitha Taylor shares her good-health philosophy in an effort to help others.

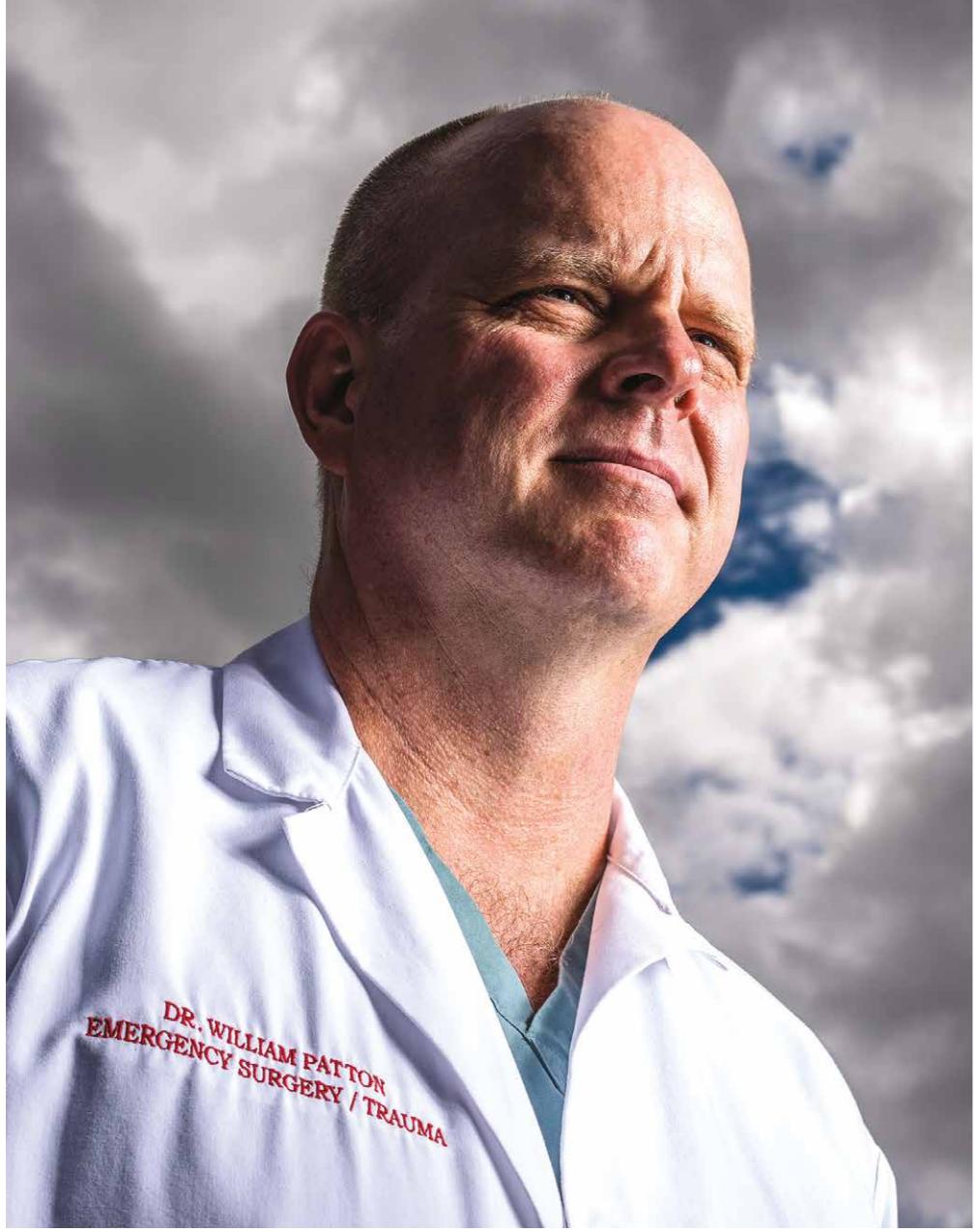
► **I feel food encompasses many things**—art, pleasure, fuel and medicine. It also has an incredible ability to bring us together as humans. When I was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis at 19, I was drawn to food as medicine to fight disease. Hippocrates' quote has always resonated with me: "Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food."

► **It's not just nutrition.** Dietitians look at the whole picture and see how other facets of health may stop someone from moving ahead in their health journey.

► **Our body works in a harmonious fashion.** When one aspect of our health is out of balance, it can affect other areas, including how we eat. We find ways to compensate for imbalances that drive us to make certain food choices.

► **A lot of people underestimate** the value and potency of the food we eat. I've seen the power of food to transform people's lives.





▼  
ALUMNI HONOUR AWARD

## For teaching people to live

**William Patton,**  
'86 BMedSc, '88 MD

Emergency physician

In his nearly 30 years as a doctor, William Patton has repeatedly confronted death. Yet he always has a positive outlook; alongside the suffering, he sees people heal and come back to life. Patton shares the everyday realities of being an emergency physician, the challenges of being a military surgeon and what makes him squeamish.

► **When I was deployed to Afghanistan** [in summer 2008] as the officer commanding a NATO combat hospital, we were the busiest trauma centre in the world. My time there was the highlight of my career.

► **I acted as a NATO coroner**, and to see the fallen is challenging. Those memories stick with me.

► **I've seen people succumb** to tragedy and also overcome tragedy. It's a real honour to be on that journey with them.

► **The word doctor is [from the Latin] docēre**, to teach. I really see my job as a physician is that I'm a

teacher. I make a diagnosis and patients are hopefully helped to wellness.

► **Never be a doctor's wife or kid.** You get no sympathy whatsoever. If you're breathing, you're fine.

► **I see a lot of successes.** People come in ill or injured and two or three weeks later I give them a hug and they walk out. How rewarding is that?

► **The only thing** that makes me squeamish is earwax. It's disgusting.

► **In my military service,** I always consider myself a U of A physician who, say,

Meet the winners at the 2017 Alumni Awards, Monday, Sept. 25. Tickets are free. Register at [uab.ca/awards](http://uab.ca/awards).

found himself on the Golan Heights in Syria keeping the peace between Israelis and Syrians. The faculty of medicine has always walked with me and I've always represented it.

► **I don't feel scared.** I'm a very calm person. I've been missed and shelled. We would pull blast blankets over the patients who [were] on ventilators and can't be moved. I would send the staff to the bomb shelter, put my helmet and Kevlar on and stay in the hospital. A tenet of leadership is that one must demonstrate calmness in any situation.

► **There's a lot of stigma and inaccuracies about mental health.** I have tried, through meeting individually with soldiers and giving presentations, to break down the stigma.

► **What I saw in Afghanistan** is not much different from what I see here. You can go to the emergency department and see the same tragedies, only they are more common and intense overseas.

► **Yes.** I am actually related to Gen. George S. Patton.

► **I think I'm quite a resilient person.** I always have been. It comes from my training. It comes out of having a supportive family and my spirituality. And from realizing that I can't solve the world's problems but I can make a small difference, and a number of small differences makes a large change. ■

# TELL US A STORY

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*You do not have to be an alumnus to submit a nomination.*



PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN

by SCOTT ROLLANS, '82 BA

## Shauna de Cartier, '89 BA, '98 MBA

The founder of Six Shooter Records talks about finding success in the ever-changing music industry

*The world of corporate marketing was once Shauna de Cartier's gig. But, a music lover to her core, she was driven to follow her true passion. In the heyday of Napster and pirated music, she took a risk founding indie music label Six Shooter Records. (She remains one of the few women in Canada to own a record label.) Six Shooter now represents and records some of Canada's hottest musicians, including Whitehorse, Hawksley Workman and Amelia Curran. Though the label has grown and expanded, de Cartier stays connected to Edmonton—one of two cities (the other is Winnipeg) in which Six Shooter hosts the summer music festival Interstellar Rodeo.*

**What inspires an MBA graduate to get into the music business?** I took an entrepreneurship class during my MBA. We opened the textbook to page 1, and it said, 'Here are the attributes of successful entrepreneurs.' It was a list of who I was. I decided what I really want to do is go into business for myself and, specifically, go into music. I wanted who I am and what I do to be the same.

**You started off managing Edmonton folk-rock band Captain Tractor.** Even though that was the least-paying, least-secure job, it was

also the most fun job that was on the table. I really learned a lot from those guys, and I started Six Shooter Records two years later.

**Starting a record label in 2000 seems like spectacularly unfortunate timing given how the industry has evolved in the Internet era.** [Laughs] It was sort of before anybody knew what was going to happen, so, yeah. While the Internet takes away some opportunities, it creates other opportunities. It makes it easier to get music out there. It makes it easier to connect with and communicate with people. I don't know if it would have been easier in the '90s, or more difficult. But, either way, it's not very easy to run a record label.

**If it were easy, everybody would be doing it.** I think everybody does try to do it. [Laughs] Lots and lots of people do, and fail.

**But, 17 years later, Six Shooter's still going strong.** We've been able to grow our business every year. Most of the artists that we manage are released on the label. We've found that those relationships, where we wear both hats [artist management and label], are the most fruitful, for both ourselves and

the artists, because they become a high priority. This is probably the strongest time in our history, right now. The Strumbellas, a band we signed a couple of years ago, have a worldwide hit [Spirits]. Throat-singer Tanya Tagaq has won some very high-profile awards and [was recently] honoured as a member of the Order of Canada. That's pretty amazing. So, it's a really good time for Six Shooter.

**You're a female-based company in an industry that's still very "testosterone-y," if that's a word.** It's not a word, but I'll accept it.

**Does Six Shooter bring anything special from that perspective?** I try to champion women, and I hire a lot of women. I think [Six Shooter] brings a certain style or panache, a certain level of collaborative relationship building. [But] I never really think too much about the gender issue.

**"Life is too short to listen to shitty music" has been Six Shooter's slogan from the get-go. Do you still believe that?** From the get-go, yeah. My friend Bobbi came up with that, and I stole it. ■

*This interview has been edited and condensed.*



Passing knowledge to future generations—including her three-year-old grandson Isaac—keeps Norma Dunning grounded in her Aboriginal heritage.

**G**rowing up in southern areas of Canada, **Norma Dunning**, '12 BA(NativeStu), '12 Cert(AborGov/Ptnshp), '14 MA, lived a life of "silenced aboriginality," usually not self-identifying as Inuk. Now a third-year doctoral student, she says omitting her heritage was easier than dealing with the expectations of mainstream society and questions surrounding whether she was a "real" Inuk. But in her new book, *Annie Muktuk and Other Stories*, published by University of Alberta Press, Dunning portrays the realities of northern life and challenges inaccurate perceptions of who Inuit people are.

■ **What was your journey in writing this book?** I always wrote stories, but I never shared them. I have spent decades writing and putting the stories/poems into a drawer. No one hurt me if I didn't share my words. I could be a closet writer forever and never have to deal with the world of publishing. I could just write and write and think about how fun it all is.

■ **What did publishing these stories mean to you?** I think letting go of these stories has brought truth to who I am, what I believe

in and how life works not only for myself, but for most Aboriginal Canadians. We are the people who speak and tell the true grand narrative of Canada. And, to me, those are important stories. Embedded in each of my stories are the lives of my ancestors, and so it was important to finally let them go.

■ **Are these stories inspired by actual people?** No, each character arrived on their own. They each represent the disparity and colonial constructs that have shaped Inuit people's lives. I didn't

write about a specific ancestor, although I very much believe that my ancestors stand next to me every day. I believe that all Aboriginal people's ancestors hold us up, and keep us breathing. I read in James Daschuk's book *Clearing the Plains* that 97 per cent of all Aboriginal peoples were decimated, and only three per cent of us were left on Earth. We should, in fact, not be here. But we are. And we continue to laugh and enjoy our lives in the best way that we can.

■ **There's humour in your book—especially in how the characters joke with one another—along with a sadness.** I think we [Aboriginal peoples] all carry this ability to laugh regardless of a hard time we're going through.

■ **Do you think that's part of our resilience?** I think that we have a very distinct kind of humour and it is understood among Aboriginal peoples. We understand our humour and why we think something is funny. As Aboriginal Canadians, we have a shared experience and in all that sadness there is absolute beauty. And that is truly what we should focus on. ■

*This interview has been edited and condensed.*

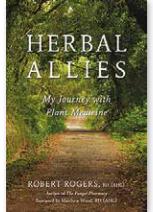
## Inuit Inspiration

Inuk author honours her ancestors with stories of life in the North

by WAYNE ARTHURSON

U of A alumni share their new books, including a look into Pierre Trudeau's "tango" with Western Canada, a children's book about an aspiring young writer and short stories by women from India.

Compiled by STEPHANIE BAILEY, '10 BA(Hons)



**HEALTH**  
**Herbal Allies: My Journey With Plant Medicine**  
by Robert Rogers, '71  
BSc, North Atlantic Books, [northatlanticbooks.com](http://northatlanticbooks.com)

This semi-autobiography follows the author's 45 years of study of herbal medicine with Indigenous healers and details health benefits of 20 plants found in the boreal forest.

**HISTORY**  
**Victor and Evie: British Aristocrats in Wartime Rideau Hall**  
by Dorothy Anne Phillips, '71  
MA, '74 PhD, McGill-Queen's University Press, [mqup.ca](http://mqup.ca)

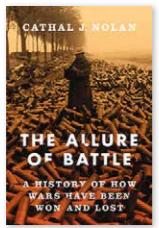
Through recently released letters and diaries, Phillips details the social and political lives of former Canadian governor general Victor Cavendish and his wife, Lady Evelyn, during the early 20th century.



**FICTION**  
**The Heavy Bear**  
by Tim Bowling, '97  
MA, Buckrider Books, [wolsakandwynn.ca](http://wolsakandwynn.ca)

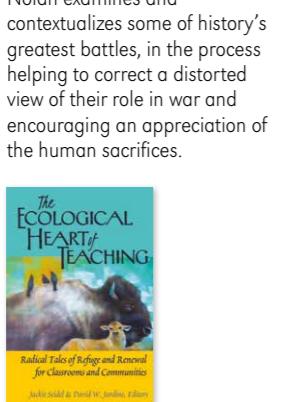
A middle-aged father, teacher and writer abandons his ordinary routine, embarking

on an unexpected journey toward an unknowable fate as he follows the ghost of Buster Keaton and a vision of a bear.



**HISTORY**  
**Allure of Battle: A History of How Wars Have Been Won and Lost**  
by Cathal Nolan, '78 BA(Spec), Oxford University Press, [globaloup.com/academic](http://globaloup.com/academic)

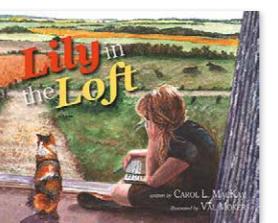
Nolan examines and contextualizes some of history's greatest battles, in the process helping to correct a distorted view of their role in war and encouraging an appreciation of the human sacrifices.



**NON-FICTION**  
**The Ecological Heart of Teaching: Radical Tales of Refuge and Renewal for Classrooms and Communities**  
Edited by Jackie Seidel, '07 PhD, and David W. Jardine, Peter Lang Publishing Group, [peterlang.com](http://peterlang.com)

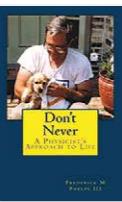
Drawing on ecological thinking, Buddhism and hermeneutics, this resource illustrates how teachers, parents and students can avoid the distractions and malaise of schooling today.

This resource strives to enhance the understanding of how women



**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**  
**Lily in the Loft**  
by Carol L. MacKay, '87 BA, Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, [ynwp.ca](http://ynwp.ca)

Set in 1947, *Lily in the Loft* is based on the experiences of children across the Prairies who eagerly awaited "newspaper day" to see their words printed in the YC Pages of the *Western Producer*.

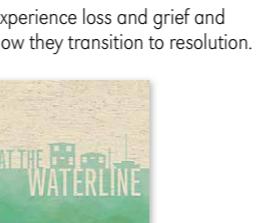


**NON-FICTION**  
**Don't Never: A Physicist's Approach to Life**  
by Frederick Martin Phelps III, '63 PhD, CreateSpace, available on Amazon

Phelps shares personal stories that span his days as a mathematically minded schoolboy to his three decades as an absent-minded professor of physics at Central Michigan University.

**NON-FICTION**  
**Understanding Loss and Grief for Women: A New Perspective on Their Pain and Healing**  
by Robert W. Buckingham and Peggy A. Howard, '94 PhD, Praeger, [abc-clio.com/Praeger](http://abc-clio.com/Praeger)

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**FICTION**  
**At the Waterline**  
by Brian K. Friesen, '06 MA, Ooligan Press, [ooligan.pdx.edu](http://ooligan.pdx.edu)

A college grad and hopeful writer begins working in a houseboat community along Oregon's Columbia River, where locals help him come to terms with his past and his place on the river.



**NON-FICTION**  
**Annie Muktuk and Other Stories**

by Norma Dunning, '12 BA(NativeStu), '12 Cert(AborGov/Ptnshp), '14 MA, University of Alberta Press, [ualberta.ca](http://ualberta.ca)

In stories woven with Inuktitut words and symbolism, Dunning portrays the realities of northern life through gritty characters who find themselves in difficult situations.

**MEMOIR**  
**Expecting Sunshine: A Journey of Grief, Healing and Pregnancy After Loss**  
by Alexis Marie Chute, '07 BFA, She Writes Press, [shewritespress.com](http://shewritespress.com)

After her son dies at birth, Chute is devastated. When she becomes pregnant again, she sets out to heal and rediscover her identity – just in time, she hopes, to welcome her next child.

**FINANCE**  
**Your Money's Worth: The Essential Guide to Financial Advice for Canadians**  
by Shamez Kassam, '97 BSq(OT), Shazam! Press, available on Amazon

Financial adviser Kassam provides practical advice on investing, insurance, and retirement and estate planning, as well as choosing an adviser to meet unique needs.

**NON-FICTION**  
**Beyond "Understanding Canada"**  
Edited by Melissa Tanti, Jeremy Haynes, Daniel Coleman, '95 PhD, and Lorraine York, University of Alberta Press, [ualberta.ca](http://ualberta.ca)

The dismantling of the Understanding Canada program posed a potential setback for the nation's writers. The text's 20 contributors speak to the implications for Canadian writing within and outside Canada's borders.

**FICTION**  
**Oil Change at Rath's Garage**  
by Shari Narine, '85 BA, Thistledown Press, [thistledownpress.com](http://thistledownpress.com)

As a grieving father and his sons move from one town to another, they struggle to heal their fractured relationship before they lose each other.

**HISTORY**  
**Trudeau's Tango: Alberta Meets Pierre Elliott Trudeau, 1968-1972**

by Darryl Raymaker, '62 BA, '68 LLB, University of Alberta Press, [uap.ualberta.ca](http://uap.ualberta.ca)

*Trudeau's Tango* traces the tangled political relationships that developed in the late 1960s when statesman Pierre Trudeau confronts the forces of oil and agriculture in Western Canada.

**SHORT STORIES**  
**Spark of Light: Short Stories by Women Writers of Odisha**

Edited by Valerie Henitiuk, '85 BA, '88 MA, '00 MA, NeWest Press, [newestpress.com](http://newestpress.com)

This diverse collection of short stories by female writers from the Indian province of Odisha captures the predicament of characters who often live on the margins of society.

**FICTION**  
**The Bosun Chair**  
by Jennifer Bowering Delisle, '01 BA(Hons), '03 MA, NeWest Press, [newestpress.com](http://newestpress.com)

Part memoir, part poetry, part love letter to Newfoundland, *The Bosun Chair* explores how we are fortified by the places of our ancestors and by how they endured.

PHOTO BY NATHAN HARRIS



photofinish



#### How Juvenile

This jar contains pedomorphic (child form) western tiger salamanders. Rather than transforming into land-dwelling adults, they retain immature characteristics, remain aquatic and grow in a larval body. Previously studied in the Department of Zoology under professor emeritus Dave Beatty, these specimens are part of the Amphibian and Reptile Collection of the Museum of Zoology, included in the University of Alberta Museums, a network of 29 collections used for teaching and research. [museums.ualberta.ca](http://museums.ualberta.ca)

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN



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