

Eleven remarkable Canadian students awarded Rhodes Scholarships to study at Oxford University

- The eleven Scholars join a class of over 100 scholars worldwide to attend Oxford next year
- This year's winners, seven women and four men, stood out for their diversity of backgrounds and interests, exceptional academic achievement, inspiring leadership and civic engagement
- Scholarships were awarded after a competitive selection process including a final interview by a panel of experts and leaders in diverse fields for which the Scholarships are known

MONTREAL (November 18, 2024) – Eleven academically accomplished and civic-minded young Canadians have won the prestigious Rhodes Scholarships for Canada this year, continuing an extraordinary legacy that began in 1903.

Canada's eleven scholars will be heading to the University of Oxford in October 2025 to join a cohort of more than a hundred Scholars from around the world to undertake fully funded post-graduate studies and become part of a strong community of people determined to make a positive difference in the world.

The Rhodes Scholarship is the world's preeminent and oldest graduate fellowship, based at the University of Oxford since 1903. Students from anywhere in the world can apply for a Rhodes Scholarship and many find that taking part in our rigorous selection is a profoundly positive experience which leaves them well-placed to go on to a Rhodes Scholarship or other opportunities worldwide.

The Rhodes selection process aims to choose young people with proven academic excellence who also show exceptional character, leadership, the energy to use their talents to the full and a commitment to solving humanity's challenges. The selection process includes a rigorous review process before the finalists interview with a selection committee composed of renowned experts and leaders in diverse fields.

The first Canadian Rhodes Scholars took up residence in Oxford in 1904 and since then, over a thousand Canadians have been awarded this prestigious scholarship. Every year, eleven scholarships are awarded across five regions: British Columbia (1); the Prairies (3 from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the Territories); Ontario (2); Quebec (2); the Maritimes (2 from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia & PEI); and Newfoundland & Labrador (1).

Dr Elizabeth Kiss, CEO of the Rhodes Trust, said:

"The Rhodes Trust is delighted to introduce the extraordinary 2025 Class of Rhodes Scholars Elect who represent cultures and perspectives from every corner of the world. For more than a century, the Rhodes Trust has brought exceptional individuals to Oxford and fostered a vibrant global community. We eagerly anticipate the invaluable contributions these Scholars will make, not just during their studies, but throughout their lives as they join the community of Rhodes Scholar alumni who are creating a more equitable and sustainable future for the world."

Richard Pan, Canadian Secretary for the Rhodes Trust and the Chair for the Rhodes Scholarships in Canada (RSC), said:

"Our eleven Rhodes Scholars deeply impressed the Selection Committees with their intelligence, passion, and most importantly, their humanity. We need leaders and doers like these in the world. They each carry a profound sense of responsibility to the communities around them and the will to make a difference. As proud as we are of our scholars' achievements to-date, we are even more excited for their contributions to come."



The Scholar-Elects

Rhodes Scholars form a lifelong community of people in many fields and careers, united by a commitment to having a positive impact on the world. Scholars from Canada have gone on to pursue careers including public service, academia, business, law, and medicine, amongst others. This year's winners continue the extraordinary legacy of excellence.

British Columbia



Shaeleen Mihalynuk (British Columbia, University of Victoria)

Shaeleen graduated from the University of Victoria with a BSc. Honours in Microbiology with Co-op distinction. She is immersed in research developing alternative antibiotics to combat antimicrobial resistance. Beyond the lab, Shaeleen has supported local life science entrepreneurs by contributing to a biotech hub and an undergraduate entrepreneurship program. A member of Victoria's Ukrainian-Canadian community, Shaeleen has been involved in numerous initiatives, including performing internationally with a Ukrainian dance ensemble and volunteering as a language teacher for Ukrainian refugees and newcomers to the community. Shaeleen plans to pursue the MSc. in Global Health Science and Epidemiology and the MSc. in Translational Health Sciences.

Prairies



Colin Dyck (Prairies, University of Saskatchewan)

Colin is a final-year Engineering Physics student at the University of Saskatchewan. Colin has worked in a research group designing and testing satellite prototypes to monitor ozone and aerosols. He also participated in the design of Saskatchewan's first and second home-grown satellites, RADSAT-SK1 and RADSAT-SK2. Outside of academics, Colin has mentored students at a local youth group and served as a maintenance volunteer at the Library of Things in Saskatoon. He has also sung in the Greystone Singers choir and played clarinet in the USask Wind Orchestra. He plans to pursue a DPhil focusing on atmospheric science.



Amy Mann (Prairies, University of Toronto)

Amy is a fourth-year student at the University of Toronto studying mathematics and statistics. Originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba, she is passionate about public health and its intersections with climate change. Her research spans diverse fields, including mathematics, public health, physics, and geography. Currently, she is developing environmentally driven host-vector models of malaria transmission in Cameroon. Mann helped start a community garden at Victoria College and volunteers at the Common Table in Toronto, a drop-in program supporting individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty. She is the President of the Mathematics Union, a climate activist, and writer. At Oxford, she will continue her research in mathematical biology.



Kennedy Marley (Prairies, University of Saskatchewan)

Kennedy is a Métis woman traditionally from Treaty 4 Territory. She was raised just east of Regina. After two years of undergraduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan with a focus in Women's and Gender Studies, Kennedy entered the College of Law and received her Juris Doctor in 2024. She was awarded the Law Society of Saskatchewan Silver Medal for her academic achievements and was also awarded the Order of Gabriel Dumont Bronze Medal for her significant contributions to the Métis Nation. Since graduation, Kennedy has clerked at the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan. At Oxford, Kennedy hopes to conduct further research respecting criminal sentencing regimes and their application to Indigenous youth.



Ontario



Aidan Gurung (Ontario, Queen's University & University of Cambridge)

Aidan is from Ottawa, Ontario, but spent her childhood in Nepal. She graduated from Queen's University in 2024 with a dual degree in International Development and Education and is currently completing a Master's in Education and International Development at the University of Cambridge. Aidan has worked at education start-ups in Canada, and South Korea, and is the co-founder of it's comma, a start-up focused on menstrual equity. She has received awards including the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, the highest honour for voluntourism within Canada, and the Cansbridge Fellowship, awarded in recognition of her entrepreneurial spirit. Aidan hopes to pursue a DPhil in Education at Oxford.



Noah Adisa Rudder (Ontario, University of Toronto)

Noah is a fourth-year student from Ajax, Ontario studying at Victoria College, University of Toronto, pursuing a double major in Peace, Conflict and Justice and Drama. He conducted research with the World Bank's Office of the Chief Economist, focusing on knowledge generation in African nations pre-2009. At Victoria College, Noah worked with the Office of the President to implement The Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism signed in February 2024. He has earned the Crescam Serviendo Student Leadership Award and the Bader Opportunity Award for leadership and academic excellence. An actor and writer, Noah has performed in the Toronto Fringe Festival and University of Toronto productions. As President of the Peace, Conflict and Justice Society, he is passionate about social change and hopes to pursue a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Fine Arts at Oxford.

Quebec



Matthew Anzarouth (Quebec, Harvard University)

Matthew is completing his B.A. in Social Studies at Harvard University. A former competitive debater, he won the World Schools Debating Championship with Team Canada in 2020 and 2021, and he competed for the Harvard College Debating Union in his first year of university. During his time at university, he also served as Senior World Editor at the Harvard Political Review, co-founded and co-hosted a podcast exploring political and philosophical issues, and coached debate for high school students. Combining his interests in political theory and Canadian politics, Matthew is writing his senior thesis on Canadian federalism and multiculturalism, with a focus on the challenge of balancing universal individual rights with the group-differentiated rights of Canada's national minorities. He will be presenting his research at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, where he is an Undergraduate Research Fellow. He intends to pursue an MPhil in Politics (Political Theory) at Oxford.



Vincent Wong (Quebec, McGill University)

Vincent is pursuing a B.Sc. (Honours) in Neuroscience at McGill University as a Loran Scholar. Vincent is passionate about improving Canada's healthcare system, specifically in reimagining primary care and advancing rural health equity. In 2022, Vincent completed a Feast Centre community fellowship in Yellowknife, collaborating with Inuit communities to identify health research priorities. This experience deepened his commitment to serving northern communities as a future physician, researcher, and health advocate. He is also a volunteer first responder and serves as an editor for the McGill Journal of Global Health. Vincent intends to pursue postgraduate studies in Epidemiology and Applied Digital Health at Oxford.



Maritimes



Claire Wilbur (Maritimes, Mount Allison University)

Claire, from Saint John, New Brunswick is completing an honours degree in biochemistry from Mount Allison University, where she has a perfect 4.3 GPA. Claire is captain of the university cross country team, volunteers with Soldier on Campaign (a charity working with wounded and ill soldiers and veterans), and is a research assistant at the New Brunswick Heart Centre studying high-risk cardiac interventions. Among many other awards, Claire has previously received a Bell Scholarship for academic excellence and citizenship from Mount Allison and a Killam Fellowship from the Fulbright Canada Foundation. Claire enjoys sailing and beekeeping in her free time. Claire hopes to pursue a MSc in Physiology, anatomy, and genetics, and has a long-term interest in health care equity.



Alyssa Xu (Maritimes, Amherst College)

Alyssa, from Bayside, New Brunswick, is currently completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Neuroscience while writing an honours thesis at Amherst College. She is a varsity hockey player, where she was a finalist for the NCAA Elite 90 Academic Recognition Award, has twice been a NESCAC regular season champion, and once playoff champion. Alyssa is president of the Amherst chapter of Amnesty International, volunteers with Tapestry Mobile Health Clinic, and is an EMT for Amherst College Emergency Medical Services. She has conducted research at Yale Medical School and was an Emergency Department Clinical Research Associate at a Level I Trauma Center. Alyssa is also an active youth hockey coach and has published a story on AAPI advocacy in athletics. She is interested in an MSc in Translational Health Sciences.

Newfoundland & Labrador



Meret Ebsary (Newfoundland & Labrador, Memorial University & Univ. of Geneva)

Meret is a Master's student in Global Health at the University of Geneva, specializing in Global Health Governance. She holds an International Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Political Science from Memorial University of Newfoundland, where her thesis on the Newfoundland Suffrage Movement was awarded the Susan McCorquodale Memorial Scholarship. At the University of Geneva, Meret has presented work to high-level panels at the United Nations, developed tools to operationalize One Health frameworks for NGOs in humanitarian settings, and most recently served as a protocol officer for the first Global Model World Health Organization. Meret intends to pursue an MSc in Political Theory at Oxford.



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About the Rhodes Trust and Rhodes Scholarships

The Rhodes Trust, based at the University of Oxford, is an educational charity that forges brighter futures for individuals and the world.

We do this through a family of global fellowship programmes. All these programmes find brilliant people from around the world, give them wonderful opportunities to learn and act together, and support them as they form lifelong communities. We began in 1903 with the **Rhodes Scholarship**. This is the world's pre-eminent graduate fellowship, bringing exceptional young people of character to the University of Oxford to study. Over 8000 Rhodes Scholars, from more than 50 countries, have gone on to serve at the forefront of education, business, science, medicine, the arts, politics and beyond. All this is made possible by the wonderful generosity of our Second Century Founders, John McCall MacBain and the Atlantic Philanthropies, as well as over 3000 other benefactors from around the world.

Applications for the 2026 Rhodes Scholarships will open in June 2025. More information about the Scholarship application be found at: www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/apply.