

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Take a look at what the Community Engagement & Research Centre accomplished this year!



University
of Regina

Faculty
of Arts



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
& RESEARCH CENTRE

CERC Mission

The mission of the Community Engagement and Research Centre is to enable the Faculty of Arts to serve as a resource for community groups, formal and informal, and to be enriched in turn by our relationships with those communities. Through this engagement, the Faculty of Arts and the University of Regina enhances their capacity to produce high quality and relevant knowledge, and in turn increases their ability to serve the wider community and province.

CERC Mandate

The Community Engagement and Research Centre will function collaboratively as a partnership between community groups and university faculty and students. Our mandate is to provide independent, participatory research support in response to needs expressed by communities with a view toward building capacity and enhancing our quality of life.

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ACADEMIC DIRECTOR'S



MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Community Engagement and Research Centre (CERC):

The past year has been an exciting one for the CERC. In June 2024, we welcomed our new Community Coordinator, Michelle LeMoal. Michelle brings a wealth of experience managing community-based research projects, organizing events, and creating publicly accessible knowledge outputs. As you will see in the pages of this report, Michelle's work is already amplifying and expanding our programs.

The Arts Work Experience Internship (AWEI) continues to thrive. A total of 46 undergraduate students benefited from an internship this year. AWEI community partners represent a diverse array of sectors, including publishing, museums and archives, social services, environmental justice, and more. Reading the students' reflection papers is always a highlight of my semester. In addition to learning important skills like graphic design, data collection, or artifact conservation, the students always learn something about themselves and their future career goals. The benefit to community partners is also clear: some partners request more internships or even bring their interns into paid employment or board positions.

CERC also hosted or co-hosted several community events this year, including a community connections event, the 2025 Woodrow Lloyd lecture and associated panel discussion, and a toolkit workshop on EDI. Our ongoing goal is to bring research and community together through such accessible public events.

This spring, we were delighted to learn about the reinstatement of our community grants program, which was frozen due to fiscal challenges in 2022. We look forward to seeing these grants spark new and exciting collaborations between the university and community partners--or sustain established ones. Please contact us for more information about how to apply.

With this renewed stability, it is time to reimagine CERC's future. We have a strong history of building and supporting community-driven research and learning. Over the next few months, we will commence a participatory process with Faculty of Arts researchers and partners to reenvision what CERC can be, and how we can best support the principles of collaborative, reciprocal community engagement. We hope you will participate in this process. We'll be in touch.

Amber Fletcher,
Academic Director

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

ANNUAL NETWORKING EVENT

Community-based organizations in the nonprofit sector connected with University of Regina campus resources at a networking event held on March 7th at College Avenue Campus. The afternoon was filled with meaningful conversations that showcased the power of collaboration on campus.

Campus units who support community-based organizations through research, teaching, or community-engagement gathered together to build relationships with community based organizations. University staff and faculty who support nonprofit work gave brief presentations from the following units: the Centre for Experiential and Service Learning, Non-profit & Voluntary Sector Studies Network, Community Engagement & Research Centre, Office of the Vice President Research Office, Archer Library & Archives, ta-tawâw Student Centre, and Centre for Continuing Education.

This event provided the opportunity to:

- Learn about the services that the university offers to nonprofit, community-based organizations
- Build connections with university staff and faculty members who support nonprofit work
- Build connections with community organizations who are interested in collaborating with the university
- Explore potential collaborations to create meaningful community impact

Interested in upcoming events like next year's Community Connections networking event? Subscribe to our Newsletter on the CERC website!



CLIMATE JUSTICE AND THE UNIVERSITY

2025 WOODROW LLOYD LECTURE & COMMUNITY PANEL DISCUSSION



Guest lecturer and Professor of Climate Justice, Dr. Jennie Stephens (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), presented the annual Woodrow Lloyd public lecture on the topic of her new book, *Climate Justice and the University: Shaping a Hopeful Future for All* at College Avenue Campus on March 19th (photo above). The Woodrow Lloyd lecture is presented annually by the Faculty of Arts and funded by the generosity of the Woodrow Lloyd Trust Fund. Each lecture features a nationally or internationally recognized scholar, writer, thinker, and/or activist, who speaks on issues of direct relevance to Saskatchewan.



Community members gathered for the Community Panel Discussion held at māmawēyatitān centre to discuss how local plans for reducing carbon emissions can contribute to climate justice in our community on March 18th (photo above). The following panelists participated:

- Robbi Humble, Manager of Sustainable Energy and Adaptation at the City of Regina
- Neil Paskewitz, Associate Vice-President of Facilities Management at the U of R
- Abhay Singh Sachal, Graduate Student at the U of R and Founder of Break The Divide
- Dr. Jennie Stephens, Professor of Climate Justice at the National University of Ireland
- Moderated by Jocelyn Crivea, Director of the Sustainability Office at the U of R

INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVES IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF EDI

VIRTUAL TOOLKIT WORKSHOP

Dr. Sujatha Ross, the University of Regina's Advisor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, presented a Toolkit Workshop in collaboration with CERC on April 25th. All members of nonprofit organizations, community groups, campus community, and the public were welcome to participate in the free virtual workshop. Dr. Ross led a discussion on navigating current EDI political narratives and provided attendees with a Resource Kit PDF at the end of the workshop.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

ARTS WORK EXPERIENCE INTERNSHIP (AWEI) PRESENTATIONS

At this year's History Internship, Honours & Grad Student Symposium on April 11th, three AWEI students gave presentations about their recent internship experiences:

- Alex Scidmore (History Major), AWEI intern at Royal Saskatchewan Museum
- Danika Seib (Anthropology Major), AWEI intern at the Regina Legion Museum
- Eric Salminen Villarmin (History Major), AWEI intern at the U of R Archives

Each student shared insights into their internship experience and answered questions during the Q&A session afterwards. Thank you to all internship supervisors who were in attendance for joining in!

COMMUNITY

CONTACTS

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Arts student interns were placed at the following organizations in 2024-2025 through the AWEI program where they worked up to 8 hours per week for 13 weeks and received 3 credit-hours toward their degree:

- North Central Family Centre
- Youth Climate Lab
- Heritage Regina
- Jack Pine Press
- Regina and Area Sexual Assault Centre
- Cathedral Village Community Association
- Child Evidence Lab
- SOFIA House
- IAPMD Canada
- CaSPR Lab
- PSPNET
- University of Regina Press
- Community Campus Engage Canada
- Regina Legion Museum
- Data for Good Saskatchewan
- Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- University of Regina Archives
- Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan
- Child Trauma Research Centre
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Regina and Area
- RUSI Regina
- Royal Saskatchewan Museum

2024-2025 ARTS WORK EXPERIENCE INTERNSHIPS

STUDENT AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

AWEI



Student Interns

46 

Organizations

24 

Number of student interns who majored in:

Hours of Experiential Learning

4,784 

Course Credits Attained

138 

Anthropology	4
English	5
History	5
International Studies	1
Philosophy, Politics and Economics	1
Political Science	1
Psychology	29

Participating Organizations



IAPMD



COMMUNITY CAMPUS
ENGAGE CANADA



dataforgood

Multicultural
Council of
Saskatchewan
From Many Peoples Strength

Canadian Mental
Health Association
Mental health for all



Faculty
of Arts



AWEI STUDENT EXPERIENCES - WINTER 2025

Arts Work Experience Internships (AWEI) are a unique learning/working opportunity in which undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts are matched with organizations that fit their career aspirations and studies. Students spend up to 8 hours per week for one semester working on a specific project and earn 3 credits towards their degree. AWEI student internships can help students develop practical skills to add to their resume and a professional network for their future career.

Heritage Regina



- **STUDENT NAME:** Erik Josdal, English Major
- **RESPONSIBILITIES:** During my internship with Heritage Regina, I learned a lot about how non-profits run and, more specifically, the many different areas that a heritage organization covers. Through my internship at Heritage Regina, I assisted with historical lectures, I used various different research tools like archives to find relevant information, and communicated with various community members– from government officials to university instructors– to conduct interviews for my chosen project. Academically, this internship gave me experience in researching various different kinds of resources, like photos, videos, and newspaper articles. I believe that I am a better researcher because of the internship; I know how to sift through important information and cross-reference with existing or already found information.
- **IMPACT:** Overall, I am very glad I was a part of this internship program, because it clarified future career goals and future studies, and gave me the skills needed to hopefully excel in these goals. I met my goals of managing a new project, exploring Regina's history, and connecting with the community, which was what I really wanted to happen with this internship.

Regina & Area Sexual Assault Centre (RSAC)



- **STUDENT NAME:** Abigail Trann, Psychology Major
- **RESPONSIBILITIES:** I worked with softwares such as Canva and Google Workspace, where I created and planned specific projects for community engagement. One large project I contributed to was creating an advocacy calendar containing important dates and a social media advocacy plan. In doing this, I learned about the various areas of social justice activism across Canada. I also had the opportunity to update RSAC's informational collateral by modifying brochures, creating social media advocacy posts, assisting in grant research, and researched a timeline of relevant legal and social milestones and set-backs in gender-based violence work, an interactive project for RSAC's Sexual Assault Awareness Month. I also participated in RSAC's Supporting Survivors of Sexualized Violence Training.
- **IMPACT:** My work contributed to advocacy and community outreach for RSAC. This internship specifically helped clarify my future education and career plans, which helped me become passionate about trauma-informed care. This internship expanded my knowledge surrounding trauma and how it affects the body, along with understanding the dire need for advocacy and education throughout our community. I also have found a new passion for advocacy work within the area of sexual violence, broadening my interest in the criminal justice system and trauma therapy.

CONTACT US

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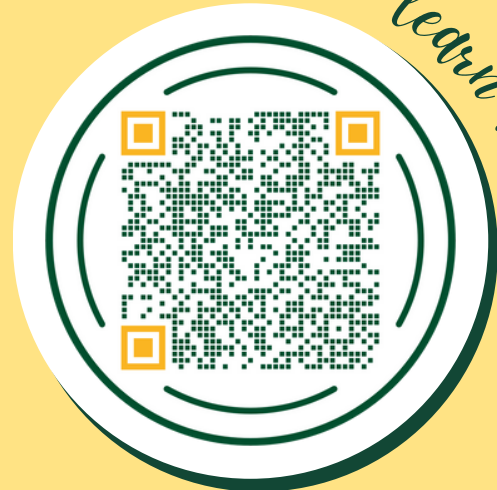
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Scan to learn more!



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