

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

& RESEARCH CENTRE

JUNE 2026

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 its capacity to produce high quality and relevant knowledge, and in turn increases its ability to serve the wider community and province.

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CERC MESSAGE BOARD



Dear CERC Community:

Winter 2026 was another active semester here at CERC. A total of 13 undergraduate students participated in the Arts Work Experience Internship (AWEI) program in the winter semester, and another 21 are enrolled for the spring/summer. The students collaborated with a wide range of both community- and university-based organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters, North Central Family Centre, Regina Cat Rescue, the Regina Flying Club, and the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan—among many others. At the university, students worked with the University of Regina Archives, the Child Evidence Lab, and the Child Trauma Research Centre. We are grateful to all AWEI host organizations for providing an enriching learning experience for the students!

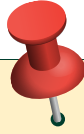
We have now officially launched the CERC Research Fellows Program. All Arts researchers are invited to become Fellows of the CERC. The program is designed as a mutually beneficial partnership to support an active community of engaged researchers on our campus. You can learn more about the Fellows program [here](#). To join, please contact Community.Engagement@uregina.ca.

In addition to the fellowship program, CERC supports community-engaged research through its Community-Engaged Research (CER) Grants. Faculty of Arts researchers who collaborate with community-based organizations, local governments, or First Nations can apply for up to \$5000 to support partnered research projects. To apply, please use [this form](#).

Since my last update in January, CERC has continued to actively host or co-host events on campus. On March 12, we hosted the 2026 Woodrow Lloyd lecture featuring Professor Timothy Caulfield from the University of Alberta. As you can see from the photo in this newsletter, the event drew a sold-out crowd from across the university and the broader community.

On May 1, CERC was proud to co-host and sponsor the Reimagining Nonprofits conference led by the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Studies Network (NVSSN) at Luther College. CERC organized an excellent panel of speakers entitled, “And Then What? Community-Engaged Research in Practice”, which explored how community-campus partnerships can continue to have an impact, even after the formal end of the project.

CERC MESSAGE BOARD



Special thanks to Bev Cardinal and Dr. Emily Grafton for sharing their project at māmawêyatîân Centre, and to Nick Antonini (Master’s student in Sociology) and partners Terri Sleeva and Brenda Edel from Barrier Free Saskatchewan for telling us about their ongoing work to increase accessibility in Saskatchewan.

On May 28, CERC convened a virtual community-campus “Meet and Greet” event over the lunch hour. The meeting brought researchers and students from campus together with community organizations to discuss shared topics of interest. Several new connections were made, and we look forward to supporting those partnerships.

As her term concludes, I would like to sincerely thank Emily Lints for serving as Community Coordinator during Michelle LeMoal’s parental leave this year. Emily brought energy, momentum, and many good ideas to CERC, and it has been my pleasure to work with her. Thank you, Emily! We wish you the best in your next steps.

This will also be my last message as CERC Academic Director, as I complete my second term on June 30. The past six years, which included the pandemic period, were challenging but also very rewarding. We have now built a strong foundation for a renewed Centre going forward. I wish the very best to the new CERC leadership team for a successful next chapter. I’m sure we will see many thriving partnerships built and maintained over the next six years, and beyond.

Amber Fletcher
CERC Academic Director



The Knowledge Crisis: How Did We Get Here and What Can We Do?

2026 Woodrow Lloyd Lecture

Guest lecturer Timothy Caulfield, Professor in the Faculty of Law and School of Public Health and Research Director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta, presented the Woodrow Lloyd Lecture on March 12th, 2026 on the topic *The Knowledge Crisis: How Did We Get Here and What Can We Do?*

Professor Caulfield explored what the most recent evidence tells us about the nature and source of the current infodemic and provided science-informed recommendations to cut through the noise and forge a constructive path forward.

The Woodrow Lloyd lecture is presented each Winter 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.



➤ Reimagining Non-Profits



CERC was once again proud to sponsor and sit on the Planning Committee for the Reimagining Non-Profits Conference, a capacity building conference presented by the Non-Profit & Voluntary Sector Studies Network at Luther College in partnership with Ivy and Dean Consulting and the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Partnership.

Reimagining Non-Profits is a two-day capacity building conference for non-profit professionals, volunteers, and students across Saskatchewan. The purpose of this conference is to bring folks together for collaborative training and networking opportunities that will encourage growth, change, and new perspectives in the non-profit sector. The 2026 conference theme was: One Sector, Many Voices: Cross-Sector Collaboration for Systems Change.

The keynote speaker, Vu Le (pictured top), voiced the frustrations and opportunities of the non-profit sector to create collective change through funny, yet deeply resonant insights. Vu is the creator of Nonprofit AF, the beloved blog that has celebrated the people doing the work, and inspired thousands of nonprofit and philanthropic professionals around the world.

CERC hosted a panel session (pictured bottom right) called “And Then What? Community-Engaged Research in Practice” with former CER Grant recipients: Dr. Emily Grafton, Beverly Cardinal, Nicholas Antonini, Brenda Edel, and Terri Sleeva. We had a wonderful conversation about the impact of community-engaged research and how organizations can use data and consultations to further their mission and create change in their communities.

COMMUNITY-CAMPUS MEET AND GREET

CERC hosted a virtual Community-Campus Meet and Greet event on May 28th, 2026 to bring together community members and researchers to discuss shared values and interests around themes such as arts and culture, social equity, health and wellbeing, and more. We had 11 attendees from across sectors attend to share their research focus or a need that their organization has. We hope to be able to grow these connection events to continue conversations and partnerships. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us!



UPCOMING EVENTS

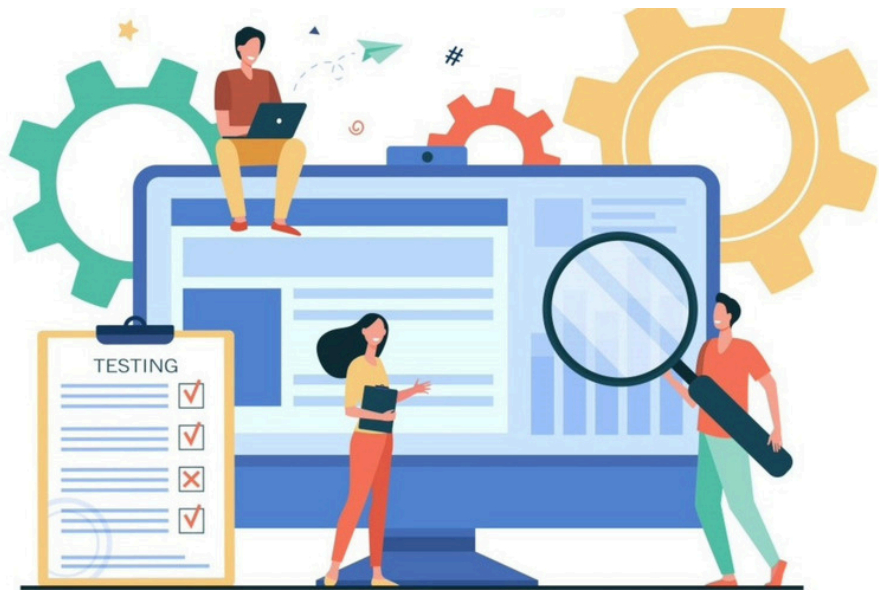
2026 Stapleford Lecture

Stay tuned for more information about the upcoming Stapleford Lecture in Fall 2026!

Watch our previous Arts Public Lectures at uregina.ca/arts/public-lectures



CER Grants



The Community Engagement and Research Centre (CERC) provides **independent, participatory research support** in response to needs expressed by communities with a view toward building capacity and enhancing our quality of life.

Community-Engaged Research Grants (CER grants) are funded by the Faculty of Arts Dean's office. CER grants are intended to **support small-scale and/or early-stage research projects or knowledge mobilization initiatives** undertaken by Faculty of Arts members in partnership with a non-profit organization, community group, or local government. The program is administered by CERC as part of our mandate to enhance community-campus collaborations.

The **objectives** of the CER grants program are to:

- Build meaningful and reciprocal partnerships between community and campus-based researchers.
- Support ongoing community-driven research collaborations between community organizations and Faculty of Arts researchers.
- Enhance the value and uptake of social sciences and humanities research in the broader community through partnered KM outputs and activities.

**Applications
open!**

Interested in discussing a potential research project?
Contact Emily Lints at community.engagement@uregina.ca



CERC Research

NEW!

Fellows Program

Tenure-track and tenured faculty members in the Faculty of Arts are invited to join the new **CERC Research Fellows Program**. This new program is part of a broader initiative to reenergize our community-engagement efforts and re-envision what CERC can be!



As we consider CERC's future, we envision an active, engaged **community of researchers** who do community-based, community-driven research with an aim to **empowering community partners** to meet their goals and to develop research, analytical, and advocacy capacity within their organizations. At the same time, the resulting research will **exemplify high-quality social science and humanities research** that can contribute to the career advancement of the researchers involved.

Some of the **many benefits** of being a CERC fellow include:

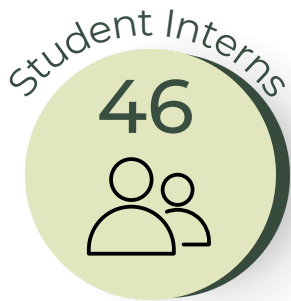
- **Assistance** connecting and developing meaningful relationships with community partners for funding proposals
- **Support for students** and/or Research Assistants through a collaborative "research lab" environment with access to training opportunities, workshops, and mentorship
- **Promotion and branding** of CERC-affiliated research via our network and website
- **Engaging students** through experiential learning activities that connect to your projects
- **Collaboration and peer-review** for grant applications and research projects with other researchers in the Faculty of Arts

More info!



2025-2026 ARTS WORK EXPERIENCE INTERNSHIP

STUDENT AND COMMUNITY IMPACT



Number of student interns who majored in:

Anthropology	1
English	2
History	4
International Studies	2
Philosophy, Politics and Economics	2
Political Science	2
Psychology	32
Sociology	1

Participating Organizations



AWEI STUDENT EXPERIENCE - Winter 2026

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.

Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan



- **STUDENT NAME:** Shantelle Loke, Psychology Major
- **RESPONSIBILITIES:** During my internship at the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan I worked on the Exploring Race and Racism in Canada: Scaffolded Anti-Racism Resources manual. My primary responsibility was to collect resources which provided insight into the discrimination of Black, Indigenous, Asian, and Jewish peoples since the beginning of Canada. The final product of this manual will be distributed to workplaces to aid in the education of employees. I also shortly worked on the development of an app for companies to track their diversity, safety and, overall inclusion of employees in the workplace. Finally, I was able to attend a virtual conference on the presentation of the program We Are READI for the Rise Against Racism campaign.
- **IMPACT:** This opportunity was a valuable professional experience by being able to help a non-profit organization in their work on education of racism in Canada. Not only this but I was able to continually educate myself and obtain the ability to recognize my own privilege. I now have a newfound education and appreciation on the work that goes into a non-profit sector, as well as the opportunity to work with my community for a social justice issue I am very passionate about. Overall, this organization would be an incredible opportunity for any student to work for, and to be able to meet others who have the same passion as they do.

ARTS WORK EXPERIENCE

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- **Work** up to 8 hours per week on a designated project for 13 weeks
- **Receive** 3 credit hours towards your degree
- **Gain** practical work experience, networking contacts, and references with which to build your resume
- **Develop** practical skills to add to your resume
- **Develop** your professional network
- **Clarify** your long term career goals

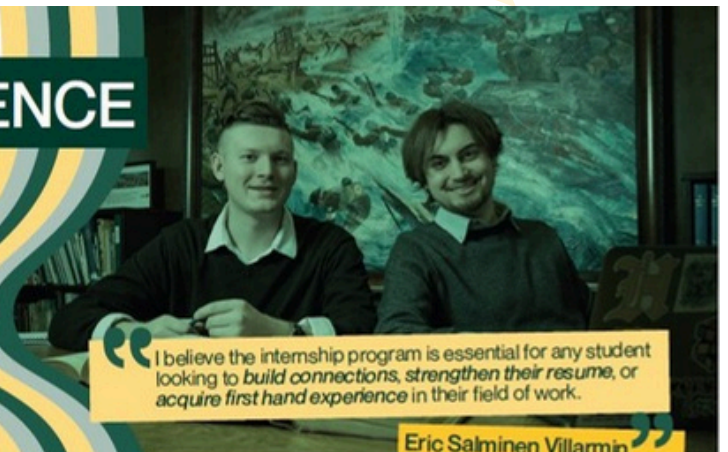


Image by University of Regina

I believe the internship program is essential for any student looking to *build connections, strengthen their resume, or acquire first hand experience* in their field of work.

Eric Salminen Villarmin
Arts Intern at U of R Archives

Scan to
learn more!



Faculty
of Arts



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