

# 2026 WALL FELLOWSHIPS

Information session

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PETER

**WALL**

LEGACY AWARDS

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of British Columbia (UBC) acknowledges that its two main campuses are located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam (x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy'əm) people, and the territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, and that UBC's activities take place on Indigenous lands throughout British Columbia and beyond.



## OUTLINE

- Peter Wall Legacy Awards
- Wall Fellowships purpose and scope
- Competition overview
- Application components
- Assessment criteria
- Additional information

Slides will be sent to all information session registrants by the end of the week

and

a recording posted on the Wall Fellowship page of the Wall Legacy Awards website



# PETER WALL LEGACY AWARDS

- In 2022, The University of British Columbia announced the Peter Wall Legacy Fund, UBC's largest ever donor-funded endowment with a value in excess of \$100 million
- The Wall Legacy Fund awards approximately \$4 million each year, in perpetuity, in support of the Peter Wall Legacy Awards, launched in 2024:
  - **Wall Fellowships** of \$1 million each
  - **Wall Research Awards**
    - Masters (\$25,000 for 1 year) and PhD Students (\$30,000 per year for 1-2 years)
    - Individual faculty (\$80,000 over 3 years)
    - Team faculty (\$200,000 over 3 years)



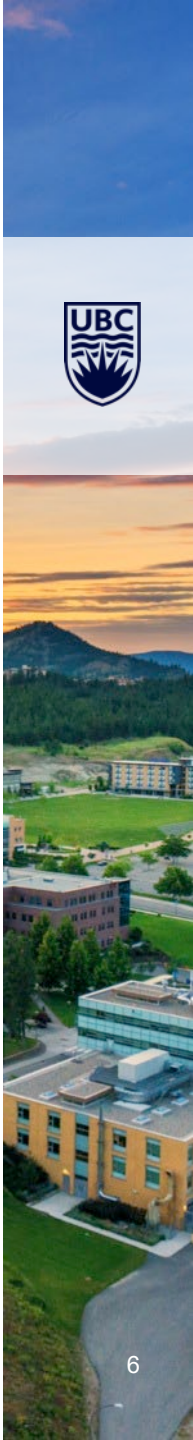
# PETER WALL LEGACY AWARDS

- Wall Legacy Awards were developed by a Senate-appointed Academic Advisory Committee
  - Scope and design of awards approved by Senate
  - Graduate awards are co-administered by UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (Vancouver) and the College of Graduate Studies (Okanagan)
  - Faculty awards are administered by the Office of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation
- The awards focus on scholarly activity and research relevant to **sustainability** in the areas of urban development, water, energy, transportation infrastructure, environmental protection of oceans and waterfronts, and resource-intensive industry, in BC
- Award recipients will have priority access to the Wall Collaboration Centre (currently under renovation; expected completion in April 2026), located within the University Centre building



## WALL FELLOWSHIPS: PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- The purpose of the Wall Fellowships is to recognize UBC faculty who have made outstanding contributions to research and institutional service at UBC, or at prior academic institutions, in the area of sustainability
- Fellowships focus on the following areas of interest:
  - Sustainable approaches to and development of the general urban environment, including water, energy and transportation infrastructure in British Columbia
  - Environmental protection of oceans, beaches and waterfronts that impact British Columbia
  - Sustainable approaches to resource-intensive industry in British Columbia
- Projects within these areas of interest will principally relate to British Columbia, but may also apply to, and address other Canadian and international regions



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- Two (2) \$1 million fellowships will be awarded annually, to be expended over 5 years
- Programs of research supported by these fellowships may include both exploratory work, and work derived from established programs of inquiry
- Funds may be used to support:
  - The direct costs of research and will follow the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#) of grant funding
  - Infrastructure (e.g., field equipment, lab equipment, etc.) as permitted by [CFI guidelines](#)
  - In addition, funds may be used for teaching buy out – support for this **must be confirmed by the appropriate Unit Head and Dean.**



## ELIGIBILITY

- All UBC tenured and tenure-track faculty, from across both campuses, are eligible to apply
- Individuals can only receive a Wall Fellowship once in their lifetime
- Recipients of a Wall Fellowship cannot hold a Wall Research Award as a primary applicant (applies to both Individual and Team faculty awards)
- Early- and mid-career faculty are strongly encouraged to apply
- Scholars from all disciplines are encouraged to apply



# QUESTIONS ON COMPETITION OVERVIEW

Please enter your questions in the Zoom Chat or raise your hand



# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- Notice of intent (NOI) due **February 24, 2026**
  - Required, but not adjudicated
  - Used to review eligibility, compile competition metrics, and help recruit adjudicators
  - Straight-forward and low barrier; there is no commitment to proceed to a full application if you submit an NOI, but the NOI is required to proceed to the full application
  - Submissions are open **NOW**, <https://apply.research.ubc.ca/>
- Full application due **May 14, 2026**



# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

## Full application components:

- **Applicant Information**
- **Research Proposal** (5 pages max.)
  - Includes a full description of the program of research that will be supported by the fellowship, which should include:
    - Clear objectives and the main methods used
    - How the research will have an impact outside of academia
    - A description of how the research program will involve trainees
    - A description of how the outputs of the work will be disseminated both within and outside academia
    - An indication that the relevant expertise needed to do this work is present or will be developed/recruited
    - A description of how Indigenous communities will be engaged, and how the work will advance the goals of UBC's [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#)
  - Format: at least 12-point Arial font with 1-inch margins, and uploaded as a PDF
  - **1 page** of figures/graphs/tables can be included, unlimited references



# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

## Full application (cont.):

- **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (250 words)**
  - A description of how the research is informed by, or will contribute to, the promotion of EDI in academia and/or society

## Tips:

- Avoid tokenistic inclusion by carefully examining how your EDI strategies will help ensure collaborators, trainees, partners and knowledge users will be valued and actively contribute
- Strive to achieve an equitable and inclusive research *culture* rather than one-time actions
  - e.g., include strategies that help alleviate the disproportionate, and sometimes unacknowledged, service burden placed on faculty and/or trainees from underrepresented groups
- Explore EDI-focused resources and training to help integrate EDI principles into your application
  - **Equity and Inclusion Office**
    - [StEAR Framework](#)
    - [Activating Inclusion Toolkit](#)
  - **VPRI Office**
    - [EDI in Research Resource Library](#)
    - [EDI in Research Canvas Course](#)



# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

## Full application (cont.):

- **Institutional benefit (250 words)**
  - A brief description of how a Wall Fellowship would be a benefit to you, as well as the UBC community, and what service activities would be part of your vision and action as a Wall Fellow
  
- **Applicant's record (4 pages)**
  - A description of the applicant's most significant contributions to research (including dissemination to non-academic communities, if applicable) and to institutional service (at UBC or prior academic institutions)
  
  - Format: at least 12-point Arial font with 1-inch margins, uploaded as a PDF
  
- **Budget and budget justification**
  - A budget table is included in the online application, and a section is provided to describe and justify line items listed in the budget (800 words max)  
**Note:** For budget items related to Indigenous involvement in research, please refer to UBC's [Indigenous Finance Guidelines](#).



# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

## Full application (cont.):

- **Letters of Reference**
  - Applicants are required to include **two (2) letters of reference** in their application:
    - References should be able to speak to the applicant's research excellence, mentoring, collaborativeness, and service to the institution
    - At least one letter should be from an individual internal to UBC; the second letter may be from anyone internal or external to UBC
- **Confirmation of support for teaching buy-out (if applicable)**
  - This can be in the form of a letter signed by the appropriate Unit Head and Faculty Dean

To apply for a Wall Fellowship, **applicants must log in to VPRI's online application system** [UBC Research + Innovation Apply](#) using their campus wide login (CWL), and follow the instructions provided.

**The primary applicant must be the one to initiate the application and submit.**



# QUESTIONS ON APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Please enter your questions in the Zoom Chat or raise your hand



# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

## Application eligibility:

Before an application progresses to panel review, reviewers will determine if the proposal meets the following basic requirements on a pass/fail basis:

- The proposal is principally related to British Columbia, or if addressing another jurisdiction, is applicable to approaches in British Columbia
- The proposal aligns with one or more of the [Wall Legacy Fund areas of interest](#)
- The proposal includes clear attempts to initiate or further develop meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities, and/or integration of Indigenous methodologies or viewpoints, in alignment with UBC's [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#)



# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following assessment criteria will be used by reviewers:

## Research Proposal (60%)

- Provides a distinct purpose and clear attainable objectives with relevant and well-defined methodology, clearly outlining the work's potential impact outside of academia
- Includes a clear plan on how the research program will involve trainees, and benefit their training and career advancement
- The relevant expertise needed to do this work is present, or there is feasible plan in place for its development/recruitment
- A plan for how the outputs of the work will be disseminated within and outside of academia, is described
- A description of how the proposed research will engage with Indigenous communities and/or integrate Indigenous methodologies or viewpoints in alignment with UBC's Indigenous Strategic Plan is outlined.



# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

## Equity, diversity and Inclusion (10%)

- The application illustrates how the research is informed by, and will contribute to, the promotion of EDI in academia and/or society

## Institutional Benefit (10%)

- The application provides a substantive and thoughtful explanation of how the Wall Fellowship will benefit the UBC community
- The application provides a description on the types of service activities that the applicant would engage in as a Peter Wall Fellow

## Applicant's Record (20%)

- The applicant possesses a strong track record of research excellence, accomplishments and service to the institution
- The impact and importance of the applicant's previous work is clear
- Letters of reference are supportive of the applicant's past record and their ability to successfully lead the proposed program of research



# QUESTIONS ON ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Please enter your questions in the Zoom Chat or raise your hand



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Reporting

Wall Fellows are required to submit an **annual report** 60 days from the anniversary of the fellowship's commencement to the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation that includes summary statements for:

- The work undertaken in the preceding year and commentary on whether new research directions have been undertaken since the last report (if applicable)
- The trainees involved in the research
- How the work has been disseminated (both academically and non-academically)
- How the work supported EDI
- How the work advanced initiatives outlined in UBC's Indigenous Strategic Plan
- How the activities undertaken benefited both the institution and Fellow

Recipients may also be invited to provide informal and optional interim updates to share high-level progress on their research project. This is intended to be a light-touch opportunity for knowledge sharing rather than a formal reporting requirement.



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Other Requirements

Recipients of Wall Fellowships may be asked to participate in media events and other proceedings that recognize their achievement and bring awareness to the Wall Legacy Fund at UBC.



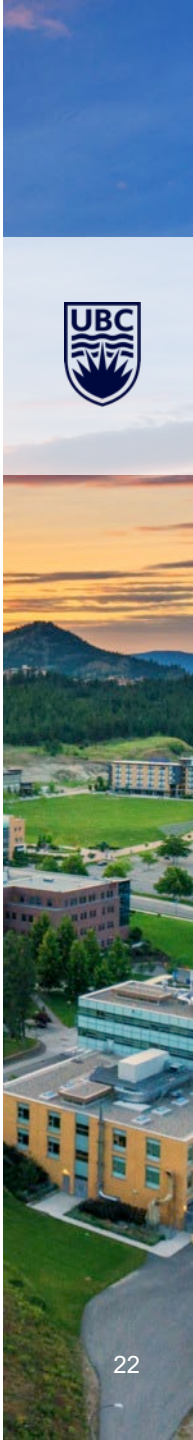
# COMPETITION TIMELINE

Milestone	Date
Applications open	January 27, 2026
Information session	February 9, 2026, 10 am
Deadline to submit NOI	February 24, 2026, 5:00 pm
Full applications due	May 14, 2026 5:00 pm
Applicants notified of decision	Mid-late June 2026
Award term begins	September 1, 2026

## Contacts

For further information about the fellowship or the 2026 competition, contact: **Leslie Grad**, [leslie.grad@ubc.ca](mailto:leslie.grad@ubc.ca)

For help regarding the online application system, please contact, **Stacey Herzer**, [stacey.herzer@ubc.ca](mailto:stacey.herzer@ubc.ca)



# THANK YOU

<https://wallegacyawards.ubc.ca/>

<https://wallegacyawards.ubc.ca/wall-fellowships/>



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