



Students' Association of Bow Valley College (SABVC)

2022/2023 Impact Report





You are part of our success!

Thank you, **SABVC**. Your continued support inspires our students to realize their potential to impact their communities for the better. Bow Valley College takes pride in the work we do to make learning accessible and to facilitate the thriving of our students by meeting their diverse needs. As we champion the way forward, we want to recognize the integral role your investment plays in our learners' success. Thank you for working alongside us to make all learning count and to ensure that the opportunities we provide through our innovative programming make a meaningful difference in Calgary and the rest of the province.



Addictions Studies Diploma graduate and School of Community Studies Spring 2023 valedictorian, Curtis Blind

As we continue to open doors and open minds as Calgary's only comprehensive community College, Bow Valley College remains steadfast in our vision of shaping the future of post-secondary education by supporting Alberta's diversification and growth. We equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to be confident, resilient and employment-ready in their fields including in emerging sectors such as technology, innovation and creative industries.

The needs of our students and the workforce in our province continue to evolve and we are prepared to meet these demands by adapting quickly to industry needs while offering unparalleled support in our students' quests to succeed. This includes flexible learning opportunities, industry-trained instructors, applied learning, work integrated learning opportunities and extensive student support services.

One of our top priorities remains including all learners and expanding access to a high-quality and affordable education by recognizing the diversity in the social, economic, cultural and educational backgrounds and experiences of our student body. At the centre of this work is our commitment to Indigenization and to EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion), with students from 135 countries around the world. We welcome nearly 600 Indigenous students each year and continue our efforts to recognize that truth and reconciliation is a shared responsibility in our community. Of the 15,077 learners taking classes in the 2022/23 academic year, more than 3,000 are international students with 112 languages spoken amongst our College population. The average student age of our students is 31 years old and 70% are women. Your contributions to our students' lives offer stability and hope as they work to overcome challenges so that they can become graduates who became changemakers in their communities.

This report will highlight the impact of your generosity, while also sharing some of the exciting new developments we've undertaken at Bow Valley College, as we continue to explore the ways we can make real, tangible differences in the lives of our students and in our community. Thank you for your commitment to helping us help our students succeed.

A Message of Thanks From Our President

Dear Nara and the student leadership team,

On behalf of Bow Valley College, I want to express my gratitude for your investment in our students and for believing in our mission to open doors and open minds by providing pathways to education. Thank you for your commitment and generosity towards creating opportunities for our learners that change their lives.

As we prepare to launch the public phase of our Open Doors – Open Minds campaign, where we have successfully raised more than \$25 million towards our \$35 million goal, we're excited about our future and the role our students will play in Alberta's diversification and growth. We remain dedicated to including all learners while providing innovative and responsive programming that will position them to be job-ready from day one of their chosen career paths.

Bow Valley College fills a unique need in our province by removing barriers to education and providing a robust support system driven by our mandate of helping our students succeed despite the obstacles they may face on their individual journeys. The work we do ensures a world-class education remains accessible and affordable, especially in our current reality of the rising cost of living.

In November 2022, we held our annual Giving Day with a goal of raising \$50,000 to address food insecurity on campus. Our goal was nearly doubled with \$98,000 raised in a single day and served as a reminder that our ability to meet our students' needs is truly a collaborative community effort. We want to recognize and acknowledge that we couldn't do this work without you. Your support ensures that we are able to inspire a brighter future for learners of all backgrounds, as well as the communities they will transform as a result of your generosity.

This report is just a small snapshot of what Bow Valley College has achieved over the past year with your continued support. The stories you'll read reflect the best of how donor support and funding make a crucial contribution to the lives and wellbeing of our students. You'll also have the opportunity to learn about some of the dynamic initiatives we've been working on, including our digital strategy, and how these have contributed to the opportunities our learners have to expand their education and how you can be involved in these exciting initiatives.

We are thrilled to celebrate these successes with you, and we recognize the heart of these accomplishments is our common desire to see students flourish. We know your gift will create a ripple effect of positive impact on the future of our province. Thank you for doing this important work with us, and for making a real and tangible difference in others' lives.

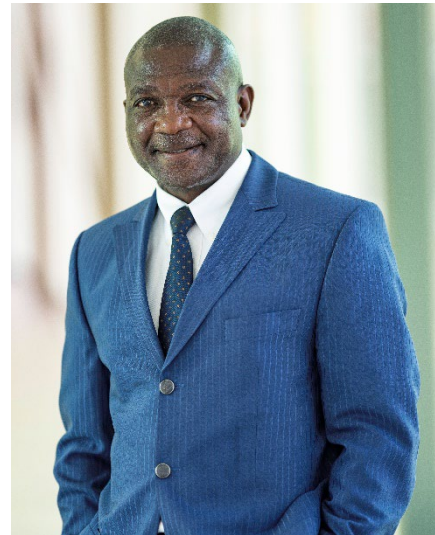


Photo of Dr. Misheck Mwaba, Bow Valley College's President and CEO

Year in Review

In our ongoing efforts to respond to the needs of our students and our province, we want to also recognize the building blocks that have been laid over the past year as we continue to build a legacy of educational excellence and student success. We are inspired by the spirit and leadership of our students, our staff and our city.



Bow Valley College donor wall, located across from the Esmail and Safana Bharwani Hall in North Campus

In 2022/23, we moved forward with our Open Doors – Open Minds campaign, created to champion the way forward for our students by investing in the financial support, technology and digital access, and dynamic economic ignition programs that will see them play a key role in igniting Alberta’s economy.

Here are just a few highlights of another eventful and momentous year at Bow Valley College.

- In June 2023, the College announced a collaboration with Microsoft Canada that will advance our digital transformation journey and pioneer new possibilities in technological innovation. This announcement coincided with the introduction of our new digital strategy, approved by the Board of Governors in December 2022, designed to drive a more accessible and inclusive learning while supporting student success leveraging Microsoft technology, tools and expertise. The initiative is guided five pillars: Enhance the Learner Experience; Enhance the Applicant Experience; Academic Innovation; Enabling Employee Success and Supporting Strategic Success.
- After the opening of the Bow Valley College Centre for Entertainment Arts (CEA) in March 2022, we are set to launch The Calgary Entertainment Arts Production Hub in January 2024. The Hub will serve as a home for students, industry, researchers, entrepreneurs and collaborators to provide the city with world-class talent and businesses in creative industries. It will also feature Centre for Entertainment Arts academic programs, a creative industries business incubator and applied research activities.
- In July, City Council approved the College’s proposal to rename the City Hall CTrain platforms to City Hall-Bow Valley College, recognizing the significance of our downtown campus, which has been based at its current location since 1972. A celebration of the renaming was held in September 2023, featuring remarks from Mayor Jyoti Gondek, Councillor Terry Wong and College President and CEO, Dr Misheck Mwaba.
- On October 27, 2023, the College hosted the 26th annual Premier’s Scholarship Luncheon. Thanks to the generosity of our partners, including our matching funds sponsor Pathways Alliance, we raised over \$174,000 towards scholarships that help students pursue their education and become work-ready graduates. We were pleased to welcome The Honourable Danielle Smith, several Calgary and area caucus members, as well as the generous donors and attendees who ensured we can continue to empower students to become changemakers in their own lives and in Alberta.

By the Numbers

We are always exploring new and improved ways to equip our students with the tools they need to succeed in established and emerging fields while keeping Alberta's diversification and growth in mind. Our 15,000 students have access to opportunities that challenge their thinking and broaden their perspectives, with over 900 courses offered to transform them into confident, employment-ready graduates.

Financial access has always been a key component to the success of our students, and we know financial support makes the difference between their ability to pursue educational opportunities or not. The largest allocation of funds raised through the Open Doors - Open Minds campaign will be the \$27 million Success through Access Endowment Fund. At a 4% disbursement rate, this will provide \$1.08 million for our students in the form of bursaries and scholarships, and will increase our support to students by 400%. The fund will see an annual return of 5-7%, and with the disbursement rate, will grow and give back in perpetuity, opening the door to post-secondary education for thousands of Albertans.

ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

15,077 - students enrolled, making us Calgary's only comprehensive community college

85% - graduation rate (full-time learners)

90% - graduates employed in their field

90% - students satisfied with their education

70% - female students

3,328 - international students

31 - average age of our students

112 - languages spoken by students

597 - Indigenous students



Report to SABVC

The role your generosity plays in the lives of our students often makes the difference in their ability to begin or continue their educational journey. Your gift supports students who are seeking to make a difference by actively participating in activities that support their communities, allowing them to navigate circumstances that may otherwise act as barriers to pursuing their goals.



Thank you for partnering with the College to create opportunities that will continue to open doors and minds for generations to come.

Thanks to our donors, in 2022/23, we awarded nearly 850 students with more than \$1.6 million in student awards and bursaries, providing them a means of moving forward with their ambitions despite financial burdens that may otherwise act as obstacle to their success. Mitigating this burden is life-changing for many and you make it possible.

In the 2022-23 academic year, we were able to officially announce the commitment of \$1 million from SABVC to our Open Doors – Open Minds campaign. This gift will continue to support the Academic Success Centre, student awards already established by SABVC, and the creation of an endowment that will support access to education for decades to come.

The commitment of SABVC to the success of Bow Valley College is unique amongst post-secondary institutions, as it is one of only three student unions in the country to have pledged more than \$1 million gifts to their respective institutions.

Since 2018, SABVC has funded more than \$245,000 in awards and bursaries benefiting 239 unique students. This includes more than \$98,000 in awards supporting 75 students and almost \$147,000 in Financial Needs Bursaries supporting 176 students. These awards and bursaries were made possible thanks to SABVC's \$1.25 million donation to our Quest for Best campaign in 2017.

Throughout the 2022-23 year, these were some of the key undertakings of the EDI Strategist, partially funded through SABVC's generous contributions:

- Advised and processed decisions related to student requests for accommodations under all protected grounds (other than disability)
- Delivered the EDI series workshops on topics including anti-racism, whiteness, and intersectionality
- Created Discovery Hub installations on Land Acknowledgement and Pride Flags
- Co-chaired the Pride Committee which ran BVC Pride Week and led the Calgary Pride Parade planning
- Hosted a booth at the Pride Festival
- Developed an EDI Guide for faculty when preparing materials for their courses
- Worked with the Work Integrated Learning Team on a process for providing accommodations for students in placements.

Your annual commitment also supports peer tutoring programs, run through the Academic Success Centre, that are an invaluable tool providing a safe learning environment and support to struggling students. Peer support not only provides students with academic assistance, but also opportunities to improve their social skills, break down stereotypes and to build community with fellow learners. These programs also benefit the student coaches and tutors by providing leadership opportunities that help develop self-esteem, in addition to reinforcing their own knowledge as they support others.

Learners can access support from peer tutors for course-specific content in certain program areas, as well as peer support in areas such as technology, writing and language.

In 2023, the Academic Success Center offered the following:

- Peer Tutors for 60 hours per week in the following program areas: Practical Nurse (30 hours/week), Foundational Learning Math (12 hours/week), High School Math and Science (6 hours/week), Software Development (4 hours/week), Interior Decorating (4 hours/week) and Entertainment Arts (4 hours/week).
- Peer Technology Assistants who attended New Student Orientation and conducted classroom visits, in addition to providing 33 hours per week of support to assist students with signing up for accounts and using BVC-supported platforms including MSOffice, MS Teams and D2L).
- Peer Writing Coaches who committed 10 hours per week of foundational writing support for all students.
- Peer Language Coaches who offered 10 hours weekly of additional support to lower-level practical School of Global Access students in speaking, listening and reading.

At the start of February 2023, Peer Learning Support was moved under the Management of the Library and Learning Commons. In May 2023, peer learning support transitioned from 14 weeks per semester to 16 weeks, an extension that provided students with support at the end of term. An individual "matching" program based on the delivery of the model used by the Chiu School of Business was also piloted during this period, as well as transitioning the semester honorarium payment model to an hourly honorarium paid monthly.

In Spring/Summer 2023, the Academic Success Center hosted:

- 699 hours of individual support
- 168 learners who received assistance
- 90 Peer Tutors

Financials

Thank you for your generous commitment to Bow Valley College and our students. Your commitment of \$110,000 in 2022/23 towards your groundbreaking \$1.25 million 2017 pledge continues to make an impact each year and ensures countless students have access to the supports they need to succeed and graduate on time.

In April 2023 we were pleased to celebrate your recent \$1 million recommitment on top of your 2017 pledge. To date, SABVC has contributed over \$2.4 million in support of Bow Valley College students. Thank you!

Thanks to your generosity, in 2022/23 nine students were directly supported with SABVC funded student awards.

Terms of Reference

Students' Association Award - School of Community Studies

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 4 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: March 1

Criteria:

- Open to full-time School of Community Studies and Creative Technologies students including International Students
- Maintain excellent attendance and is actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 250-word essay (4-5 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Students' Association Award - School of Creative Technologies

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 4 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: March 1

Criteria:

- Open to full-time School of Community Studies and Creative Technologies students including International Students
- Maintain excellent attendance and is actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 250-word essay (4-5 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Students' Association Award - School of Health and Wellness

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 2 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: March 1

Criteria:

- Open to full-time School of Health and wellness students including International Students

- Maintain excellent attendance and is actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 250-word essay (4-5 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Students Association Award - English Language Learning (ELL)

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 2 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: March 1 and July 1

Criteria:

- Open to full-time School of English Language Learning students including International Students
- Actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 100-word essay (2-3 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Students' Association Award - Chiu School of Business

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 2 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: April 1

Criteria:

- Open to full-time Chiu School of Business students including International Students
- Maintain excellent attendance and is actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 250-word essay (4-5 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Students' Association Award - Centre for Excellence in Foundational Learning

Amount: \$1250 each

Number of Awards: 2 per year

Consideration: Application

Deadline: February 1 and October 1

Criteria:

- Open to all full-time Centre for Excellence in Foundational Learning students, including International Students, who have completed at least 1 term
- Maintain excellent attendance and is actively involved in classes
- Maintain 70% overall course average
- Write a 250-word essay (4-5 paragraphs) indicating community involvement, leadership in a supportive manner, involvement in student government or student society, clubs, organizations, or committees. State your goals and how you plan to achieve them.
- Letter of reference from associated member of above involvement

Jay Decore Leadership Award

For 14 years, Jay Decore captivated the Bow Valley College community with his charisma, kindness, and authenticity. As Executive Director of the Students' Association of Bow Valley College, Jay dedicated the very best of himself to students through leadership and innovation. This award recognizes a Bow Valley College student who demonstrates leadership while promoting a positive and safe campus experience.

Value: \$1000

Number of Awards: 1

Consideration: Application

Awarded in: To be awarded beginning Spring/Summer 2024

Criteria:

- Applicant must be registered in any program at Bow Valley College
- Applicant must have financial need
- Applicant must be full-time
- Applicant must have a GPA of 1.67 or higher
- Applicant must provide a leadership statement demonstrating any form of leadership during their time at Bow Valley College

Student's Association of Bow Valley College Entry Bursary*

Award name: Student's Association of Bow Valley College Entry Bursary, Cybersecurity post-diploma program in the School of Creative Technologies.

Value: \$1000

Number of Awards: 10

Criteria:

- New students to the program, international/domestic, Graduate of a certificate, diploma or degree granting program

- GPA 3.0 plus
- Demonstrated financial need

*These awards were initially scheduled to be disbursed in 2020, however the funds were not fully awarded at the time and the remaining funds were disbursed in 2022

Student Thank You

Earlier in this report, we provided some statistics about our student population, however as you are aware, our learners are so much more than numbers. Each one has a unique story about the path that has led them to Bow Valley College, and in many cases, the hurdles they have overcome on their journey here. One thing they have in common is the gratitude they feel for the ways donor support has changed their lives.

Over the past year, you have supported nine students. Included below are some thank you letters and testimonials so you can read firsthand how your generosity has impacted their lives. Thank you again for investing in their success!

Recipient	Program	Award	Year
Erin Heyd	Academic Upgrading	Students' Association Award - School of Foundational Learning	Fall 2022
Seyed Mojtaba Hosseini	Cybersecurity, School of Technology	Students' Association of Bow Valley College Entry Bursary	Fall 2022
Shukri Ali	Academic Upgrading	Students' Association Award - School of Foundational Learning	Winter 2023
John Padlan	Business Administration	Students' Association Award - Chiu School of Business	Winter 2023
Julian Carlo Sison	Business Administration	Students' Association Award - Chiu School of Business	Winter 2023
Shuk Fan Wan	Justice Studies	Students' Association Award - School of Community Studies	Winter 2023
Ruby Ann Tapang	Practical Nurse	Students' Association Award - School of Health and Wellness	Winter 2023
Dayoung Jeong	Practical Nurse	Students' Association Award - School of Health and Wellness	Winter 2023
Mary Grace Rivero	Cybersecurity	Students' Association Award - School of Technology	Winter 2023

Thank you for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honor to be this year's recipient of the Students' Association of Bow Valley College Entry Bursary. Since childhood I was fascinated by computer technology. Therefore, I studied Computer Engineering for my bachelor's degree, and I received my master's degree in Network Engineering. Considering cybersecurity is now a major issue for every organization, so I decided to study cybersecurity at Bow Valley College to increase my knowledge regarding this new evolving threat. For my study, I got admission from several institutions, but I chose Bow Valley College because the application process was more straightforward, the staff were more cooperative and more importantly, I was able to have in-person meetings with advisors which helped me significantly with my questions. Moreover, I already had chosen Calgary for my place of study because one of my family members has been fighting with advanced cancer and I wanted to be close to him during this difficult time. I would like to thank Bow Valley College again for this award and I appreciate their consideration. Scholarship is a great financial support for students, and it helps them to be more financially independent.

Seyed Mojtaba Hosseini

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honour to be this year's recipient of the Students' Association Award. I am finishing this semester in high school academic upgrading. I am planning to take the Medical Office Assistant program in September. My goal is to work in the hospital to help patients. My name is Shukri and I am from Somalia. I am married and I have a beautiful daughter.

My daughter is four years old now, and she has immunodeficiency called (SCID). She will receive a bone marrow transplant this April. I came Bow Valley College to study English and help my child because it was really hard when I couldn't communicate with her doctors. I chose Bow Valley College because I heard there are great teachers, and it has a lot of programs that I can choose from. Now, I am very happy that I chose BVC because I already achieved my goal which is to help my child and understand her doctors, and I also studied more about my daughter's sickness during my biology classes.

Thank you so much again for your support. I am really appreciative.

Sincerely,

Shukri Ali

To Whom It May Concern,

I am honoured and grateful to have been this year's recipient of the Students' Association Award - Chiu School of Business. I chose to study Business Administration (and major in marketing) as a continuation of what I have established in my career. My goal is to be a leading marketing professional in Canada and provide value to consumers through brands that I will champion. When I'm not wearing my student hat, I'm a husband and a father first and foremost. Names play a big part in our family of four: my children are named Winter and Autumn to play off our last name of Sison. My wife's name is Aset... as I joke that I am the liability. Aside from this, I stoke my creative energies by writing poetry, producing music, and attempting to finish a novel. I am filled with gratitude for being chosen for this award.

Sincerely,

Julian Carlo Sison

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honour to be this year's recipient of the Students' Association Award - School of Community Studies. My husband and I arrived in Calgary from Hong Kong in July of last year. I am currently in my second semester of the Justice Studies Diploma at Bow Valley College.

Outside of classes I enjoy bakery, reading books and making hand-sewn toys. After graduation, I hope to work with Calgary's diverse population and devote myself to restorative justice, such as probation and rehabilitative services in the community. I plan to continue my volunteer activities at the college and in planning Hong Kong cultural activities at Echo Theatre. In this way, I hope to preserve the culture of Hong Kong and promote it to visitors to Calgary.

Professionally, I am a registered social worker in Hong Kong so I know it is difficult to work in the local social welfare sector without a historical knowledge and an understanding of the welfare system. Studying at Bow Valley College has provided me with an understanding of the history of Canada and a knowledge of the criminal justice system. The diverse learning activities at the college, including practicum, court visits and sharing from law enforcement professionals have broadened my horizons and equipped me with the necessary practical skills for the future. For example, writing is a vital skill to become a professional in a correctional or law enforcement field. Writing concise reports is essential for clear communication in the workplace.

My sincere thanks for recognizing my academic performance and community contribution. This scholarship will provide economic support and shows my contribution is appreciated. The college has enhanced my confidence and improved my chances of getting my dream job.

Sincerely, Fannie Wan Shuk Fan

I am writing this letter to express my sincerest gratitude for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is with great honor and appreciation that I received the Students' Association Award - School of Technology for this year. Your generosity has pushed me to excel further in my studies knowing I have your support. I cannot thank you enough for this opportunity.

Currently, I am studying Cybersecurity at Bow Valley College. It's a new field for me, and the program has given me a solid foundation in Cybersecurity. I hope to continue improving my skills and knowledge as I pursue a career in this field. In my application letter, I mentioned that I enjoy volunteering as a Peer Technology Assistant to help people with technical issues as I can share my passion with other people. As I get on in the field, I aspire to make an even more substantial contribution on a broader scale, utilizing my knowledge and skillset to combat cybercrime and shield my organization as a Cybersecurity specialist. Your scholarship has not only supported me financially but also inspired me to continue pursuing my passion for technology.

I got to Canada last year in August, a month before the start of the semester. Everything is new and unfamiliar to me—new school, new home, new everything. One of the things that helped me garner the courage to continue my education in a new country is my parents who have supported me in all my educational

endeavors. I wanted to gain new experiences outside my comfort zone, and my family's support made it possible.

I am convinced that with dedication and passion, coupled with support from loved ones, anything is achievable--how the world has conspired into creating an educational institution such as Bow Valley College which provides programs that jumpstart students' careers in their chosen fields and how your creation of scholarship awards to support students in their pursuit of further education like me is a testament to the impact that a single act of kindness can have on a person's academic journey.

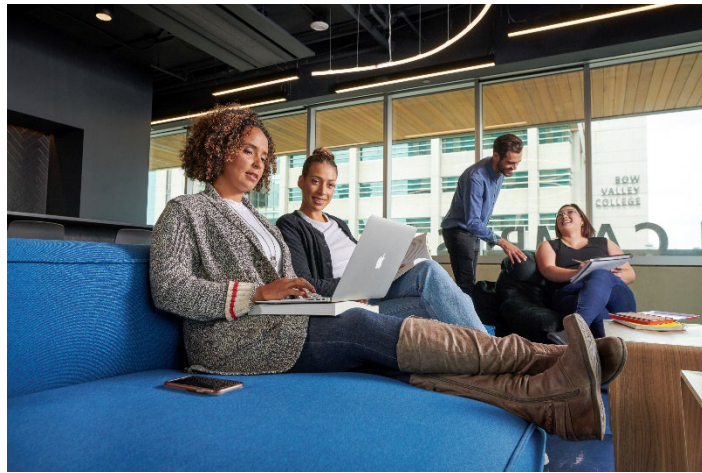
Once again, I express my heartfelt gratitude for your generosity and support. Your contribution has made a significant impact on my academic journey, and I cannot thank you enough for your kindness. I pledge to utilize this opportunity to the fullest and make a positive impact on the community. The impact of such a scholarship creates ripple effects for the students that will follow in my footsteps, and I am committed to giving back someday in the same way. Personally experiencing the impact of receiving an award that supports me in my academic journey has motivated me to pay it forward.

Sincerely,

Mary Grace Rivero

In Closing

It takes a community to create a system of support for our learners, and as you've seen, the benevolence of our donors and corporate sponsors plays an intrinsic part in ensuring Bow Valley College can continue to provide accessible, inclusive education for our students. While we continuously work to identify gaps and adapt and evolve in the ways we meet their needs, our vision of opening



doors and minds by creating opportunities for our learners remains unchanged. Thank you for valuing the work we do and for your commitment to supporting our mission.

Donor support remains a crucial component of our success, and more importantly, the success of our students. We witness the impact your generosity has every day as we navigate the vibrant, positive community you have helped us create. We look forward to our continued partnership in changing lives and making all learning count.

Thank you again for helping our students dream bigger than they ever thought possible by investing in their success – you are helping build a legacy that will be felt in their lives, our College and our communities.



Prepared for:

Students' Association of Bow Valley College (SABVC)

Presented by:

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**Bow Valley
College**