



**THANK YOU**



## You're supporting future **Nation Builders**



Friends, supporters, Nation Builders... thank you! Your generosity to the Edwards School of Business is truly remarkable.

Because of you, students have access to opportunities that would not otherwise be possible, allowing them to succeed beyond new levels. You answered the call when students were faced with never before experienced roadblocks due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Your support allowed many students to continue their educational journey when otherwise it would have been impossible.

You support groundbreaking research that is advancing all discipline of business. Through their research, Edwards faculty

are making substantial contributions to business that will help to answer our most pressing questions, both locally and globally.

Thank you for enabling student success, answering the call to action, and helping to advance the mission of the Edwards School of Business.

**Your support is helping to develop the Nation Builders the world needs.**

*Keith A. Willoughby*

Keith Willoughby, Ph.D.  
Dean & Professor of Management Science  
Edwards School of Business

# IMPACT ON STUDENTS

Your support to Edwards School of Business funds many important awards and programs that enhance the student experience on many different levels. You made the following possible:

One of the things I am most proud of in my life is to be a student at (and soon-to-be graduate from) Edwards School of Business. I believe it is the type of school that gives you all the tools to succeed and then allows you to choose just how intensely you want to chase excellence. Well, I choose to chase excellence at every chance I get.

It is through the challenges and interactions of engaging in student groups, research, and internships that I have learned the nuanced skills of creativity, networking, and leadership. These attributes will be the basis of my future success.

To receive this award specifically is a massive honour because of who the members of the Dean's Circle are: successful business-people who have stayed connected to their roots and value education. I am inspired by your success and hope to one day become one of you. The Enhance and Innovate award reinvigorates my drive to go beyond the classroom, step outside of my comfort zone, and take risks (calculated ones, of course) to learn valuable business lessons.

Thank you for your support.

**Minnah Butt**  
**Fourth-year Finance student**  
**2021 recipient of the Edwards Dean's Circle Enhance and Innovate award**



**225**

Scholarships and Bursaries  
Awarded in 2021



**17**

Extracurricular, Leadership and  
Involvement Initiatives Supported



**10**

Indigenous Initiatives Supported

# IMPACT ON RESEARCH

Edwards Faculty research is elevating the discipline of business and working to answer some of the most pressing questions society faces today. Two outstanding faculty members, Vince Bruni-Bossio (Grandey Scholar) and Gary Entwistle (Sutherland Scholar) both complete their terms as scholar this year.

They reflect back on their time in this position and how its support helped impact their research and teaching at Edwards.

“Without your generosity most of my work would not have been possible. Funds from the Grandey Scholar position have allowed me to accelerate the impact of my work in research, assist businesses, organizations and communities and facilitate student growth. It also assisted me in completing my PhD. I will forever be grateful!”

**Vince Bruni-Bossio, Ph.D.**  
**Grandey Leadership Scholar**  
**Interim Associate Provost: Strategic Priorities, University of Saskatchewan**



“The support provided through the annual Sutherland Scholar award has enabled me to attend international research conferences in both the United States and Europe where I presented my research and met other international business researchers. The support has also allowed me to hire Edwards undergraduate students as research assistants. This assistance not only supported my own research projects, but also provided the students with valuable research experience on issues of importance to international businesses. My research, supported by the Scholar award, has been published in leading international business journals, and has greatly informed both my undergraduate and graduate teaching. It has been a great honour to have been the Sutherland Scholar in International Business, and I am greatly indebted to David Sutherland and his family for their generous and long standing support.”

**Gary Entwistle, Ph.D.**  
**Sutherland Scholar in International Business**  
**Professor, Department of Accounting**

DONOR:  
ALEX N. KOWBEL

# War veteran and USask alumnus creates new scholarship for first-year B.Comm. students

✍ BREANNA POCHIPINSKI



📷 SUPPLIED

## Throughout the history of the Edwards School of Business (Edwards), there has always been a mission to “develop business professionals to build nations.” Even though the name has changed, all Edwards graduates are considered to be “Nation Builders.”

This is especially apparent with 98-year-old World War II and Korean War veteran and University of Saskatchewan (USask) alumnus Alex N. Kowbel, Major (ret), CD; Chev.de la Legion d'Hon.; B.A. 1948, B.Comm. 1949.

Major Kowbel grew up in Melville, Saskatchewan before enlisting in the Canadian Army in 1939 at age 17. He went overseas in 1942 and served in England and Europe, primarily with the 2nd Canadian Army Group Royal Artillery where he became the administrative staff sergeant. He landed in Normandy a few days after D Day in June 1944, and moved across Europe for the duration of the war before participating in the liberation of Holland in 1945. In 2015, in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, Major Kowbel was awarded the Legion of Honour (Chevalier) by the French Government in recognition of his war service in France.

Major Kowbel returned to Saskatchewan after the war to finish his high school education, obtaining his Grade 11 and Grade 12 diploma. He then attended USask to attain both Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Commerce degrees. Campus looked different at that time, as there wasn't a standalone building, so business classes were held in the hangar building at the airport. In Major Kowbel's second year of university, he attended the Canadian Officers Training Corps (COTC).

As Major Kowbel was a part of the COTC, he spent the majority of his time in university studying and training. With the free time

that he had, he took part in social events and was on a mixed curling team as part of the USask Curling Club. One of the more interesting social outings that he took part in were the gatherings at various college deans' houses to discuss varying topics.

Looking back, one of the takeaways that aided him during his university years was student mentors. There were many other ex-military men at the university when he was in classes, and they helped him understand how to be successful in this new setting.

“What I learned at the University of Saskatchewan, mainly from the people there, you can't pay for in money,” said Major Kowbel. “I'm very appreciative of the education I received at the university. It is something that is a way of life that does a world of good.”

Before finishing his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1948, Major Kowbel married his wife Frances Matthews. He completed

his Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1949 and then moved to Ontario after accepting a job as an army lieutenant. He served time in Korea and Japan in the Korean War as a personnel staff captain. After his wife passed away from a brain tumor in 1960 at the young age of 36, Major Kowbel restricted his military assignments to domestic postings to focus on being a father to his four children. He continued his military career until his retirement from the Canadian Armed Forces in 1971.

In 1971, Major Kowbel joined the Canadian Federal Civil Service in the newly created Department of Environment. He utilized his military experience and his USask education to set up terms of reference and job descriptions in the establishment of the department.

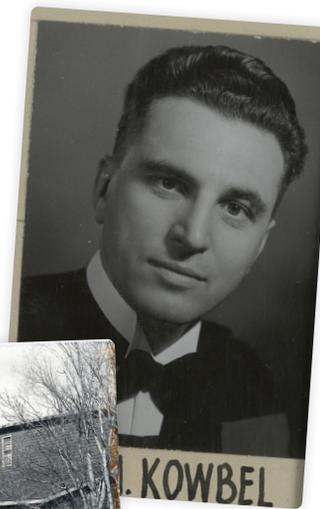
From his life in the army and as a federal government public servant, Major Kowbel always remembered the kindness of the staff, faculty, and students who he knew from his time at USask. At the age of 98, he has decided to give back to the university that he once attended.

“The university taught me how to understand the economy, how I could work in it, and help Canada,” said Major Kowbel. “They played a large role in helping me grow up and showed a great deal of sympathy to me as a mature student.”

The Alex N. Kowbel Scholarship in Business was created for first-year business students who may be following in Major Kowbel's footsteps with a career in the Armed Forces. The experiences that he gained both in the army and in business shaped a rewarding career, and supporting those interested

in following a similar path means a lot to Major Kowbel and his family. ♥

For more information on awards, visit [give.usask.ca/students](http://give.usask.ca/students) or call 306-966-7471.



# Your Development Team



**Megan Cantwell**  
Director of Advancement



**Anna Burton**  
Development Officer



**Carlee Snow**  
Advancement Engagement Officer

## Thank you!

Your investment in the Edwards School of Business has helped many students reach their goal of obtaining a business education and allowed them access to programs that would not be possible without you.

On behalf of the students, alumni, and community that has felt your impact, thank you. You are playing a fundamental role in developing the Nation Builders the world needs.

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