

Alumni Engagement



AI Powered Style

Turning an idea into a thriving product is never a straight path—especially in the fast-moving world of tech startups. But one UCalgary grad is proving that the right combination of innovation, mentorship, and strategic funding can turn bold ideas into market-ready innovations. Co-founded in 2022 by **Sheena Virmani, BA'13, LEWK**, an AI-powered fashion styling platform is reimagining online shopping, using artificial intelligence to curate personalized outfits. The company's rapid rise isn't just about technology—it's a testament to how Calgary's innovation ecosystem is fueling the next generation of entrepreneurs. With guidance from experts like **Raissa Espritu**, a serial entrepreneur and Executive in Residence for the UCEED Cenovus Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Accelerator, and funding from Alberta Innovates, LEWK transformed from an early-stage concept into a scalable, AI-driven solution.

[Read Feature](#)

Alumni Features



Using AI to Identify Canadian Products

With all the talk of tariffs, UCalgary grad **Sasha Ivanov, BSc'17, MSc'21**, is on a mission to help consumers make informed choices about the products they buy. His new app, Maple Scan, leverages AI technology to instantly determine whether a product has Canadian ties. By simply scanning an item with their phone camera, shoppers can see where it was made, learn more about the brand, and explore Canadian alternatives.

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Oncology Outcomes Gains Support

What if advanced analytics and predictive algorithms could determine which breast cancer patients would benefit most from chemotherapy? Or reveal the optimal sequence of immunotherapies for kidney cancer patients? **Dr. Winson Cheung, MD**, and his team are harnessing real-world evidence through the **Oncology Outcomes (O2)** initiative to transform cancer treatment strategies and improve patient outcomes with philanthropic support.

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Feeding The Future: Sustainable Agriculture From Farm to Table

Every meal starts with the soil beneath our feet and ends with fresh, safe foods on our tables. But how our food gets from farm to table has evolved, led by innovative UCalgary researchers and alumni. Check out this video!



What's on Deck?



Alumni Field Trip: National Music Centre | March 22

Join other UCalgary alumni for a day at Studio Bell: Home of the National Music Centre with special alumni pricing at half-price regular tickets! Explore the museum's musical history on your own or sign up for a guided tour and talk with alumni **Stephanie Hutchinson, BComm'07**, and **Kodi Hutchinson, BComm'95**.

[Register Now](#)



Lecture of a Lifetime: Insights into Addiction Recovery | March 25

Don't miss the 2025 Lecture of a Lifetime featuring **Dr. David Hodgins, PhD**, an internationally recognized expert in addiction recovery. Through his 35+ years of research, he has explored the science behind self-directed change, relapse prevention and the real world implications of addiction studies.

[Register Now](#)



Alumni Career Workshop: Career Planning | April 8

Whether you are exploring a path connected to your degree or contemplating a pivot, gain self-awareness and determine your next steps towards your preferred future. Geared towards newer career professionals and graduates, Alumni have the option to schedule a follow-up 1:1 session with a career coach.

[Register Now](#)

Alumni Exclusive Offer



Mainstage Dance - 50% Alumni Discount

Each year, the Dance Division at the School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) presents dynamic works from eight-week choreographic intensives, where students collaborate with professional choreographers. Don't miss this captivating performance! Alumni enjoy 50% off most SCPA dance, drama, and music performances for themselves and a guest. Use code **ALUM** at checkout to claim your discount.

[Buy Tickets](#)

Campus Connect

Fluid Biomed: From a Research Project to an Innovative Health-care Tech Business
Dr. John Wong and **Dr. Alim Mitha, MD, PGME'09**—both neurosurgeons and faculty at the Cumming School of Medicine—have transformed Fluid Biomed from a research project into a cutting-edge health-tech startup. Their UCalgary-founded company has now secured \$27 million USD to fuel its continued growth.

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A Q&A on Suicide with Award-winning Journalist Anna Mehler Paperny
CONTENT WARNING: This article discusses thoughts and feelings about suicide.
Author and journalist **Anna Mehler Paperny** joined the University of Calgary on Jan. 23 for a keynote address and discussion: Living with Suicide: A Community Dialogue. Her book, Hello I Want to Die Please Fix Me, was a national bestseller and shortlisted for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction in 2019.

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Learning From Community, Land and Animals
Dr. Adela Kincaid, PhD'15, an assistant professor (teaching) in the Faculty of Arts, is the 2024 recipient of the University of Calgary Award for Indigenous Ways of Knowing. The award recognizes an individual or group that has advanced truth and reconciliation, decolonization, Indigenous engagement and transformation in a course or program and the impact that has had on students.

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TD Direct Investing

You could get **1% cash back** + a **\$100 alumni bonus** by transferring your RRSP or TFSA to **TD Direct Investing**.¹

[Learn more](#)

¹Conditions apply. Limited time offer.

Upcoming Events and Programs

- March 14 | Mathison-Littmann Research Day 2025
- March 18 | Explore Your Career: Building Resilient Cities
- March 19-20 | 2025 Social Work Research Symposium: Calgary Event
- March 22 | Stick it to Cancer
- March 22 | Alumni Field Trip: Explore the National Music Centre
- March 25 | Lecture of a Lifetime: Insights into Addiction Recovery
- March 27 | Conflicts and Coups: A Crisis of Insecurity in 21st Century West Africa
- April 1 | Engineering Design Fair
- April 8 | Alumni Career Workshop: Career Planning

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