

# Transform ideas into impact



The new Western Commercialization Fellowship Award (WCFA) will help top researchers turn breakthroughs into products and businesses that benefit Canada and the world.

Universities are full of bold ideas that push knowledge forward and improve lives. Some of those discoveries have the potential to grow into businesses that drive the economy and create real-world impact. Yet many never move beyond the lab.

The WCFA addresses this gap by giving early-career researchers the opportunity to pursue full-time careers in research commercialization and entrepreneurship, providing the time, space and support needed to transform academic research into innovative ventures and jobs.

The Medical Innovation Fellowship (MIF) program – the first-of-its-kind in Canada – has run successfully for a decade, producing graduates who have created start-ups, secured patents and developed technologies that improve health care.

Each year, up to 10 PhD graduates or postdoctoral researchers will be chosen through a competitive business plan and pitch process. Awardees spend a year working full time to develop their business plans and technologies with access to Western's incubators, where they gain access to mentorship, makerspaces and investor networks to bring their research to market. The WCFA fellowship is designed to:

- **Establish a clear path** into entrepreneurship for future innovators.
- **Launch Canadian start-ups** that drive social and economic impact.
- **Build stronger links** between Western, industry, investors and community partners.
- **Develop a thriving local ecosystem** where success fuels more success.

Supported through Western's Technology Transfer Office and its partners, Commercialization Fellows will build and follow a clear pathway from research to impact, transforming their discoveries into products and businesses that will improve lives and strengthen Canada's economy.

**With your support, this award will attract and keep top talent in Canada, drive innovation and ensure Western breakthroughs deliver lasting benefits to Canadians.**

## INNOVATION WITH IMPACT

The new Western Commercialization Fellowship Award builds on the success of the Medicine Innovation Fellowship program, which has supported numerous promising spinouts. Grounded in evidence-based research, these ventures are transforming ideas into real-world solutions that improve health outcomes and quality of life for Canadians and people around the world.

**Front Line Medical Technologies** has developed a life-saving medical device to manage aortic bleeding and received its first approval for sale in the UK in January 2025.

**Tenomix**, inspired by a family member's battle with colon cancer, is combining AI with robotics to improve the accuracy of cancer staging and address bottlenecks in pathology labs. The company has raised more than \$2 million in an early pre-seed round.

**Vessl Prosthetics** is the developer of a patented, automatically adjusting prosthetic socket designed to provide cost-effective comfort for individuals with prosthetic legs.

Are you **all in**?  
**Get in touch.**

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