

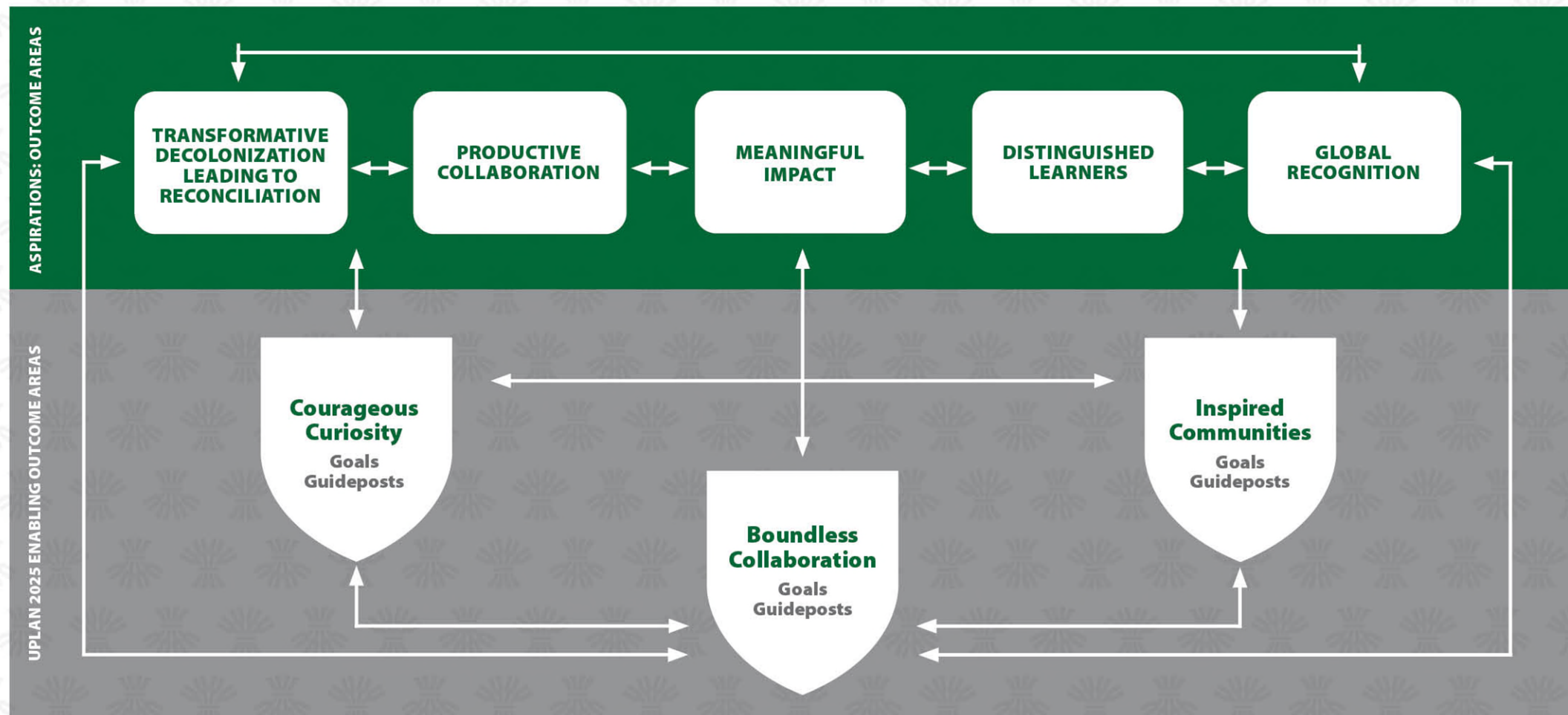


**University Plan 2025**  
- 2024 Update -





## VISION: BE THE UNIVERSITY THE WORLD NEEDS





UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

# 2025 Aspirations

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

## VISION: BE THE UNIVERSITY THE WORLD NEEDS

### Transformative Decolonization Leading to Reconciliation

A university in which Indigenous concepts, methodologies, pedagogies, languages, and philosophies are respectfully woven into the tapestry of learning, research, scholarship, creativity, and community engagement.

### Productive Collaboration

A university in which research and innovation are inspired by and accountable to community partners.

### Meaningful Impact

A university resolutely committed to measuring its own success in terms of the aspirations of the communities it serves.

### Distinguished Learners

A university whose graduates have the drive, the curiosity, and the humility to work with others in addressing the greatest challenges and opportunities the world faces.

### Global Recognition

A university that sets the standard in learning, research, scholarship, creativity, and community engagement.





# TRANSFORMATIVE DECOLONIZATION LEADING TO RECONCILIATION

**Indigenous students, faculty, staff and communities are holistically strengthening the spirit and methodologies we inhabit.**



**The world needs a university in which Indigenous concepts, methodologies, pedagogies, languages, and philosophies are respectfully woven into the tapestry of learning, research, scholarship, creativity, and community engagement.**





## Stewarding the Indigenous Strategy at USask

On April 19, 2024, the fifth bi-annual ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan symposium was held at Marquis Hall, with more than 250 people in attendance. The symposium discussed how USask is stewarding the Indigenous Strategy and how partners are working together toward the fulfilment of the seven commitments: safety, wellness, stewardship, representation, right relations, creation, and renewal.



## New Department of Indigenous Health and Wellness approved

USask's College of Medicine is creating a first-of-its-kind department in a Canadian medical school, dedicated to improving the health outcomes of Indigenous Peoples in Saskatchewan through academics and education. The department will build capacity for the college to effectively respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.



## Centre honours Indigenous connection to the land

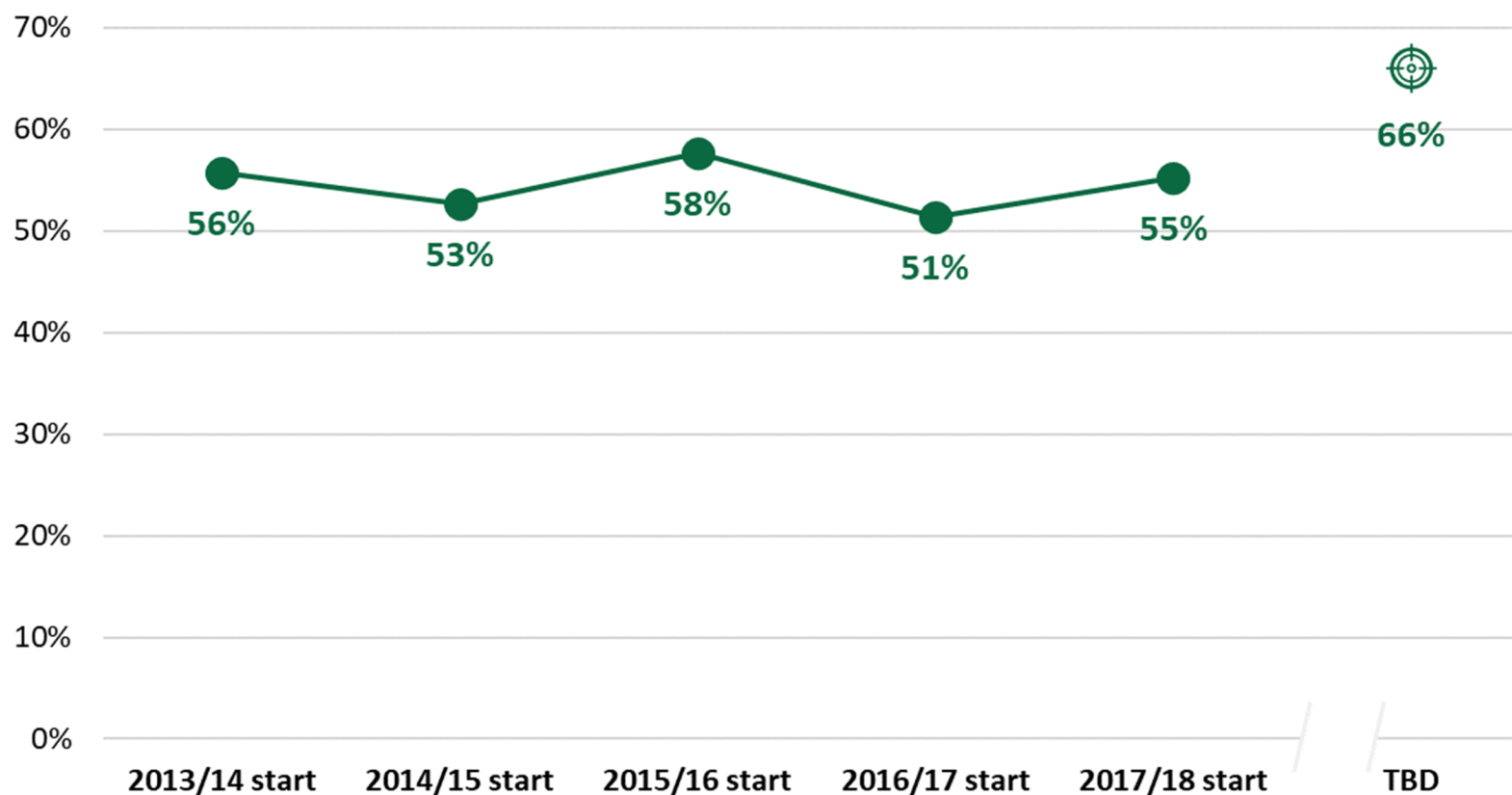
Guided by Indigenous peoples, the new kihci-okâwîmâw askiy (Great Mother Earth in Plains Cree) Knowledge Centre at USask serves as a resource for Indigenous communities and organizations seeking land-related information, training, and research partnerships.

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS




## There is continued focus on ensuring the success of Indigenous students\* completing their studies

### INDIGENOUS STUDENT COMPLETION RATE WITHIN 6 YEARS OF STARTING YEAR (FIRST TIME, FULLTIME, DIRECT ENTRY 4 YR PROGRAMS)



*\* Indigenous student identification is based on voluntary self-declaration by students.*



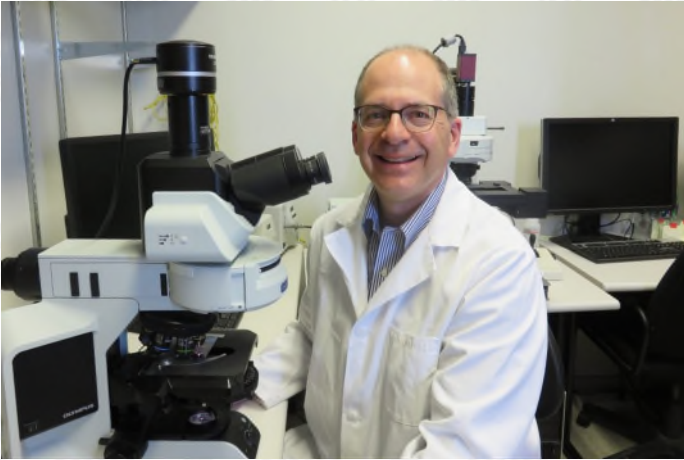


# PRODUCTIVE COLLABORATION

**Community, private-sector and international partnerships  
animate every facet of our research enterprise.**



**The world needs a university in  
which research and innovation  
are inspired by and accountable  
to community partners.**



## A novel approach to treating MS

Canada has one of the highest rates of multiple sclerosis (MS), with an estimated 90,000 of Canadians living with the disease. USask researchers are taking an innovative and collaborative approach to solving the enigma of disease progression in people living with MS—and how it can be slowed or stopped.



## Greystone Singers partner with quantum researchers for concert

The USask Greystone Singers and the Aurora Voce alumni choir performed at a concert in February 2024 that included a unique light show created by USask Quantum Innovation researchers.

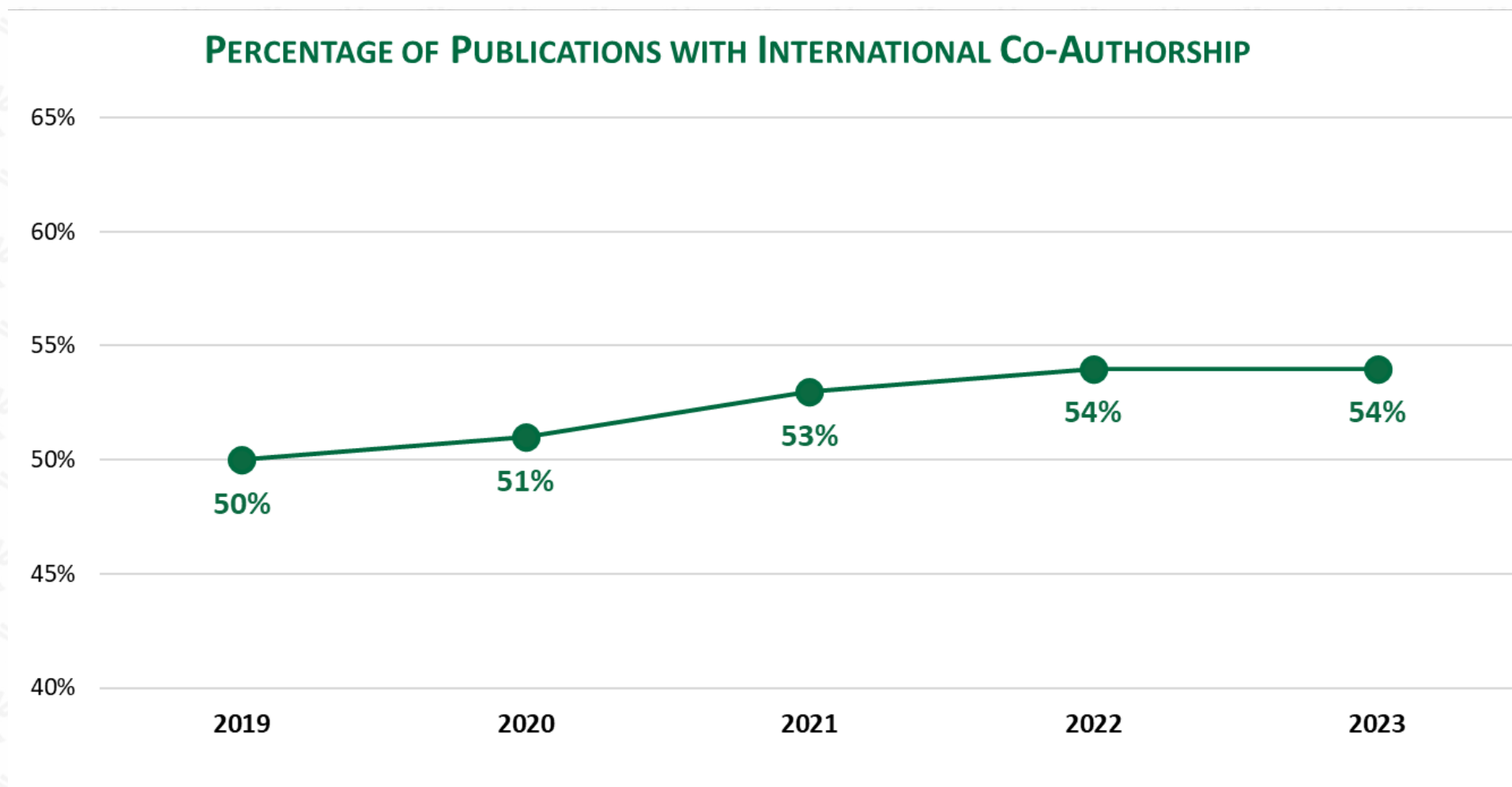


## USask celebrates launch of Canada's freshwater monitoring network

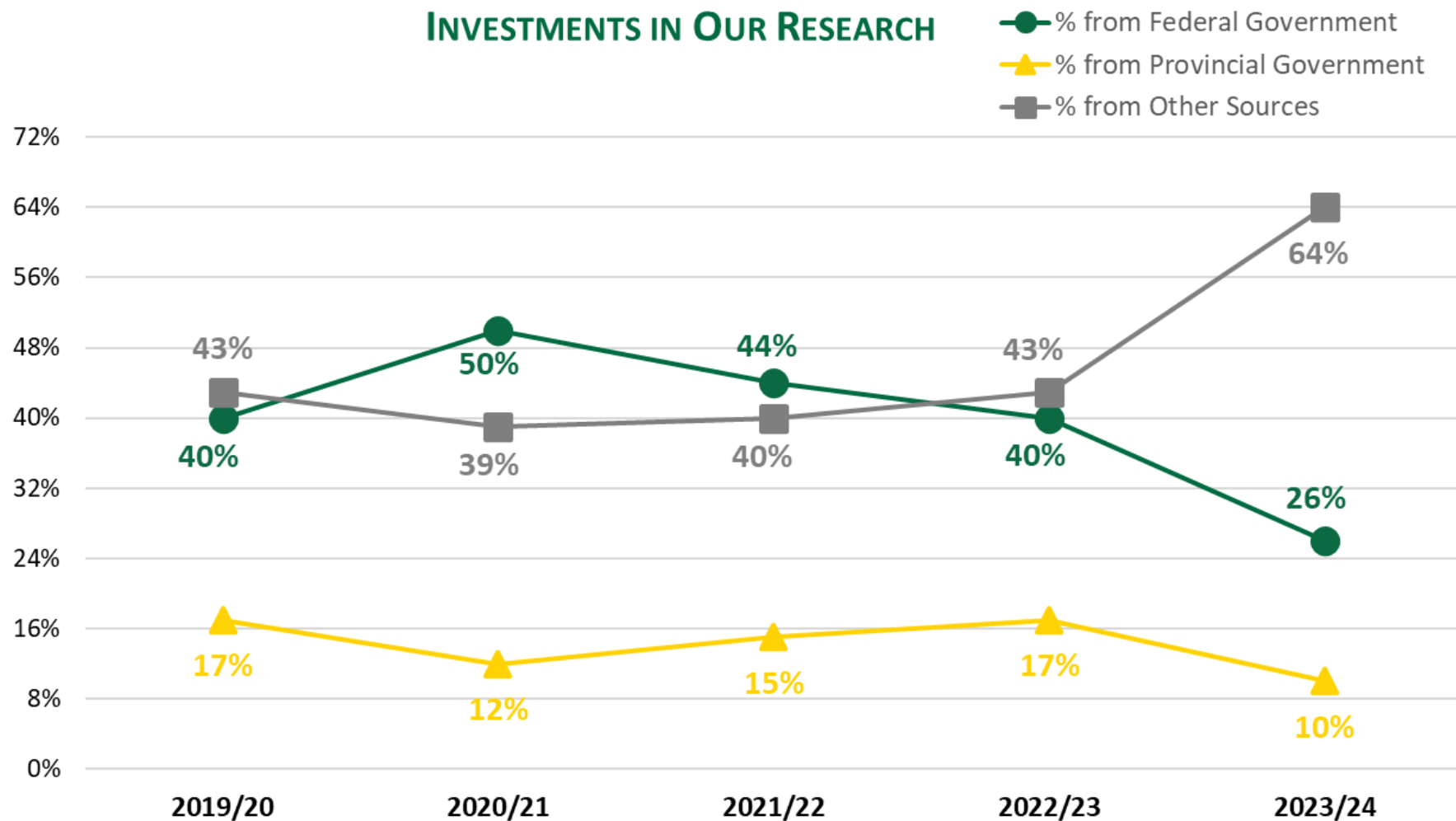
Led by USask in partnership with eight other Canadian universities, the Global Water Futures Observatories (GWFO) is a network of freshwater monitoring and observation stations placed strategically across Canada. Its launch was celebrated at USask on April 17, 2024.



## Collaborations with international partners continue to grow



## Research supported by government and non-government collaborators







# MEANINGFUL IMPACT

**Our knowledge, discoveries and innovations are helping communities achieve their social, cultural and economic goals.**

**The world needs a university  
resolutely committed to  
measuring its own success in  
terms of the aspirations of the  
communities it serves.**





## Innovative new crop protection developed with USask research

USask researchers are helping to protect crops by using biologicals as an ecofriendly alternative to synthetic chemicals and GMO solutions. Research by professors emeritus Dr. Vladimir Vujanovic and Dr. James Germida has led to the creation of a new bionematicide—a pesticide created from biological sources for battling plant parasitic nematodes and protecting crops.



## Mental health support enhanced on campus

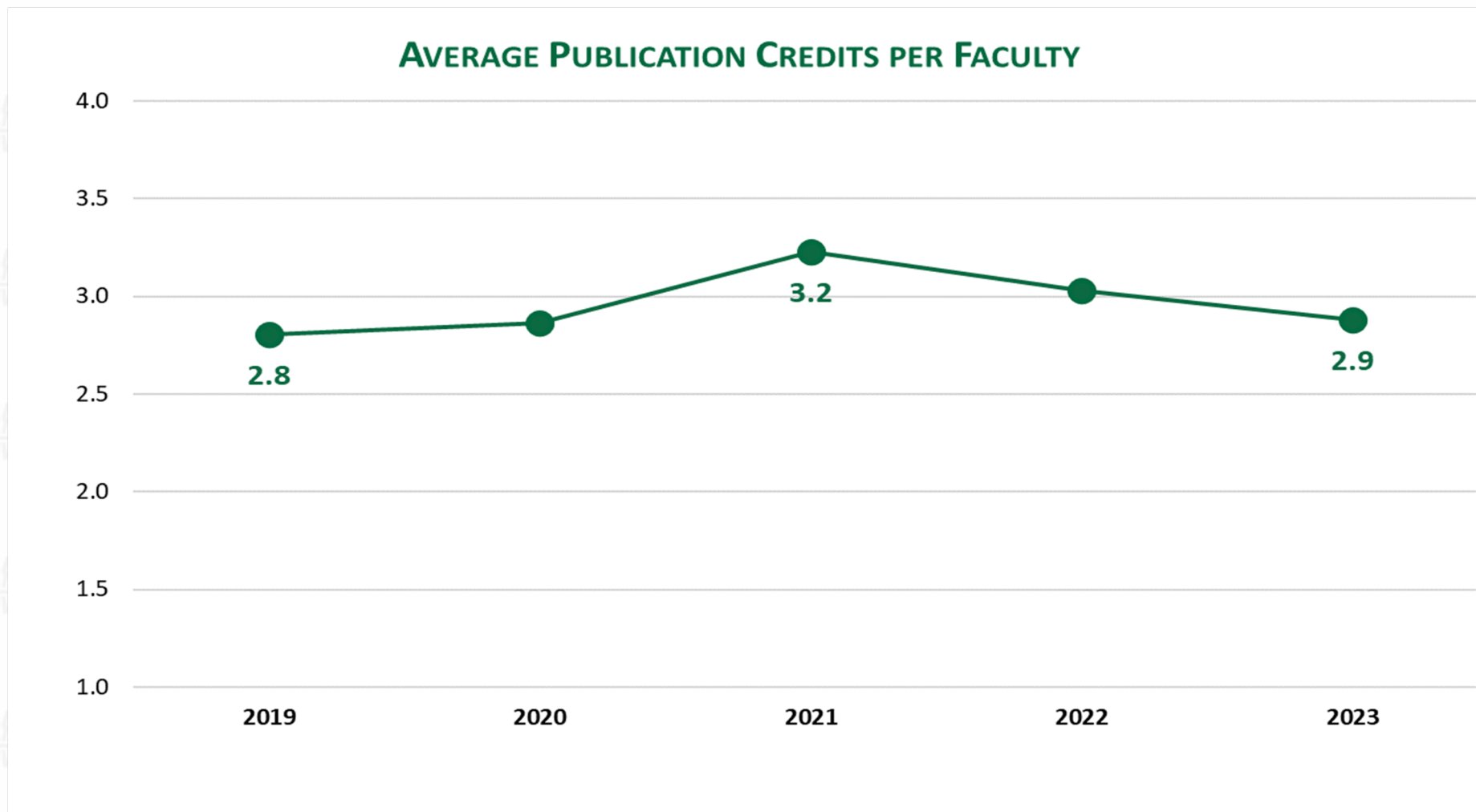
The Gitzel family's generous gift of \$1 million to establish the Gitzel Family Fund for Mental Health as part of the Be What the World Needs Campaign will enable USask to better respond to current student need and to ensure additional supports are available.



## USask launches Period Equity Project

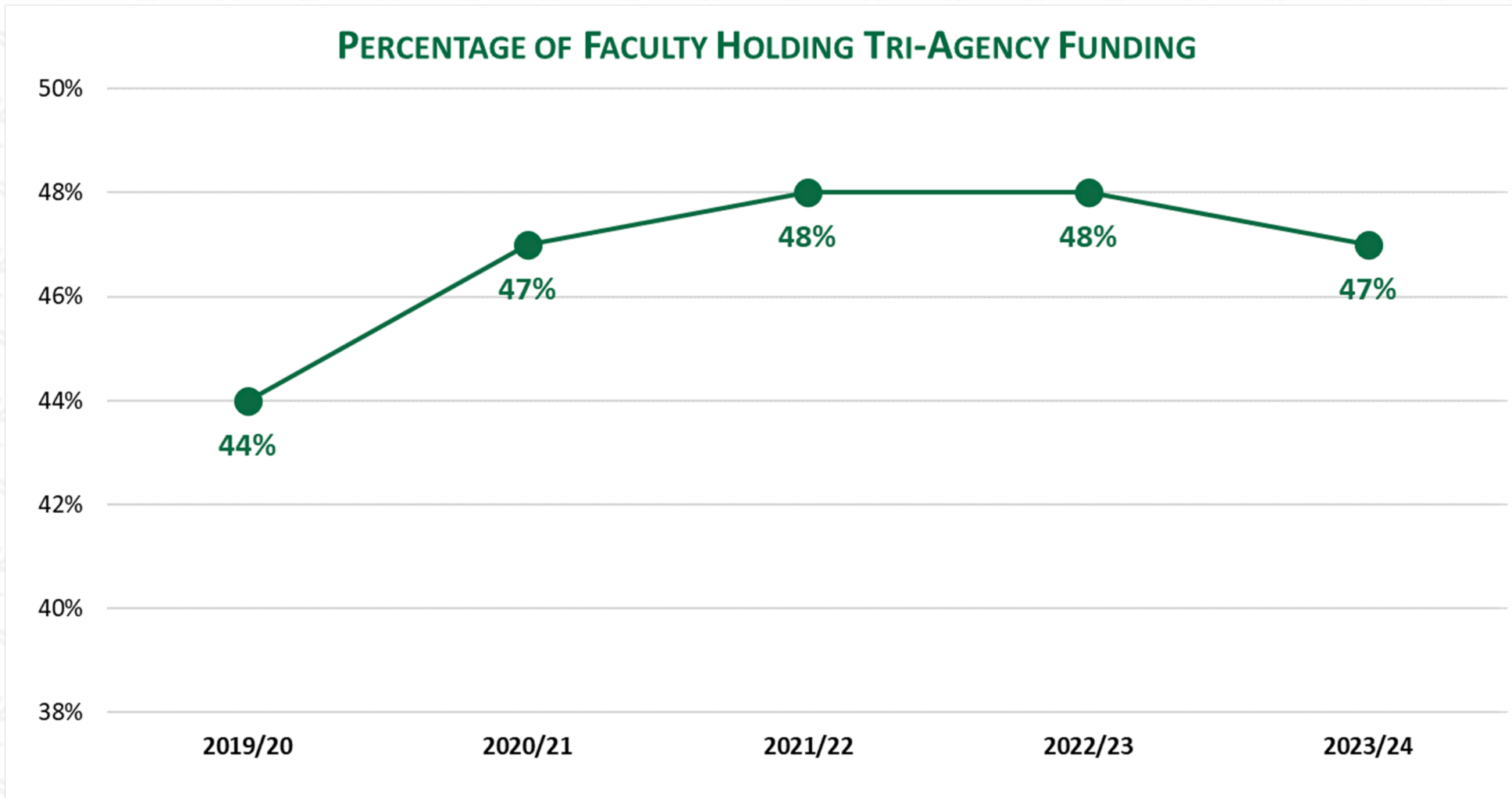
In 2023, USask launched a new initiative to enhance menstrual equity on campus. Through the Period Equity Project, free menstrual hygiene supplies will be made available to all members of the USask community who need them. Dispensers are now stocked with free tampons and pads in more than 70 women's, gender-neutral, and men's washrooms in various USask buildings.

## USask faculty engage in meaningful and impactful research that is consistently relied on





## USask faculty remain competitive in attracting national research grants





# DISTINGUISHED LEARNERS

**Our graduates are among the most inventive, collaborative  
and sought-after in Canada and around the world.**



**The world needs a university  
whose graduates have the drive,  
the curiosity, and the humility to  
work with others in addressing  
the greatest challenges and  
opportunities the world faces.**





## Three graduate students receive prestigious Vanier Scholarships

Three students in USask's College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies—Krishna Kolen, Gwen Rose, and Morgan Fleming—have received funding to support innovation in diverse fields of community air quality, English literature, and plant and nutrition genetics.



## Two new Rhodes Scholars make USask history

Two USask students, Rachel Andres and Taron Topham, were among only 11 students from across the country to be awarded prestigious Rhodes Scholarships in 2023. They will head to the University of Oxford this fall for fully funded post-graduate studies. This success marks the first time since 1991 that USask has celebrated two recipients selected in the same year.

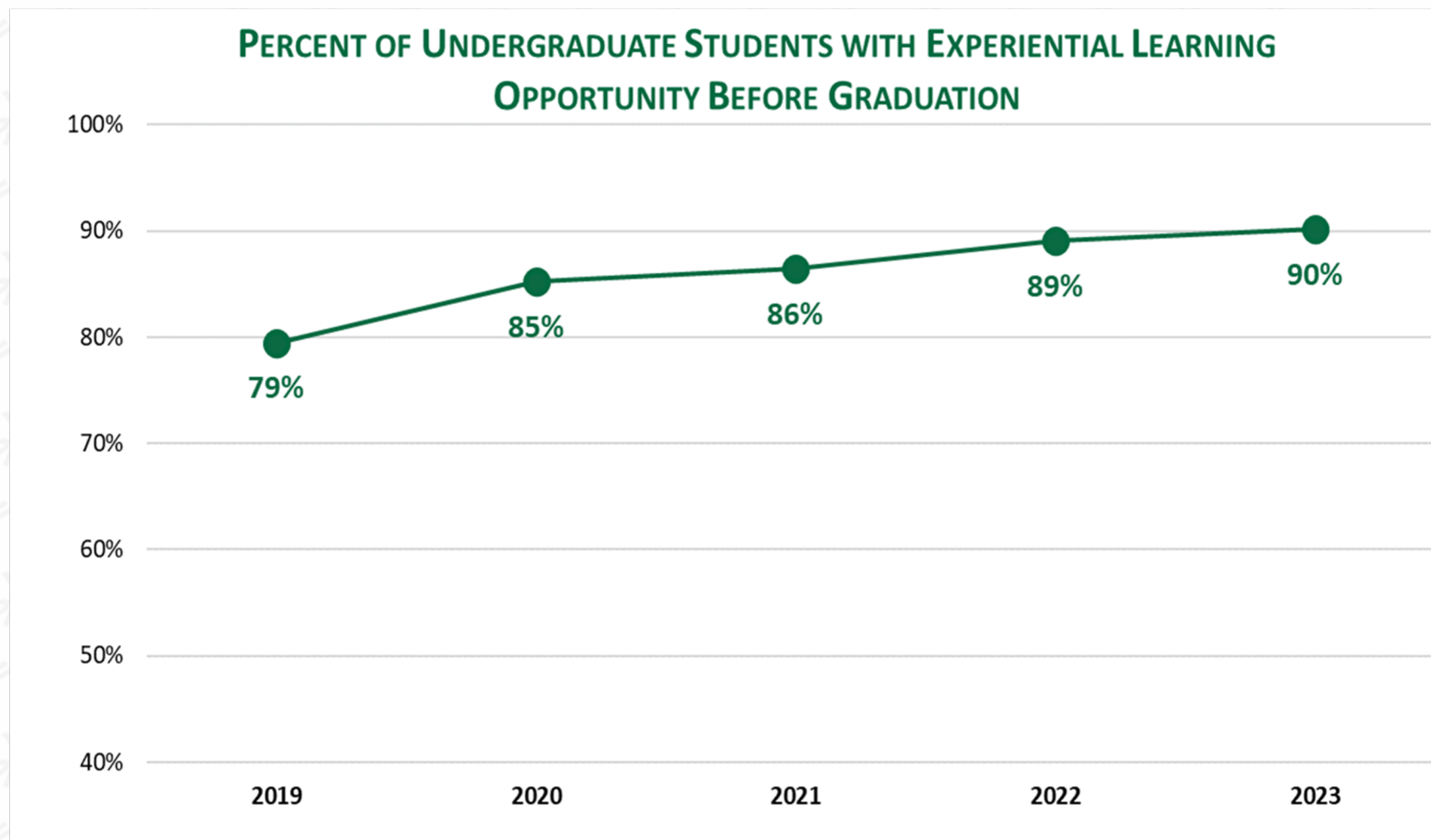


## USask students address Indigenous rights at Model UN

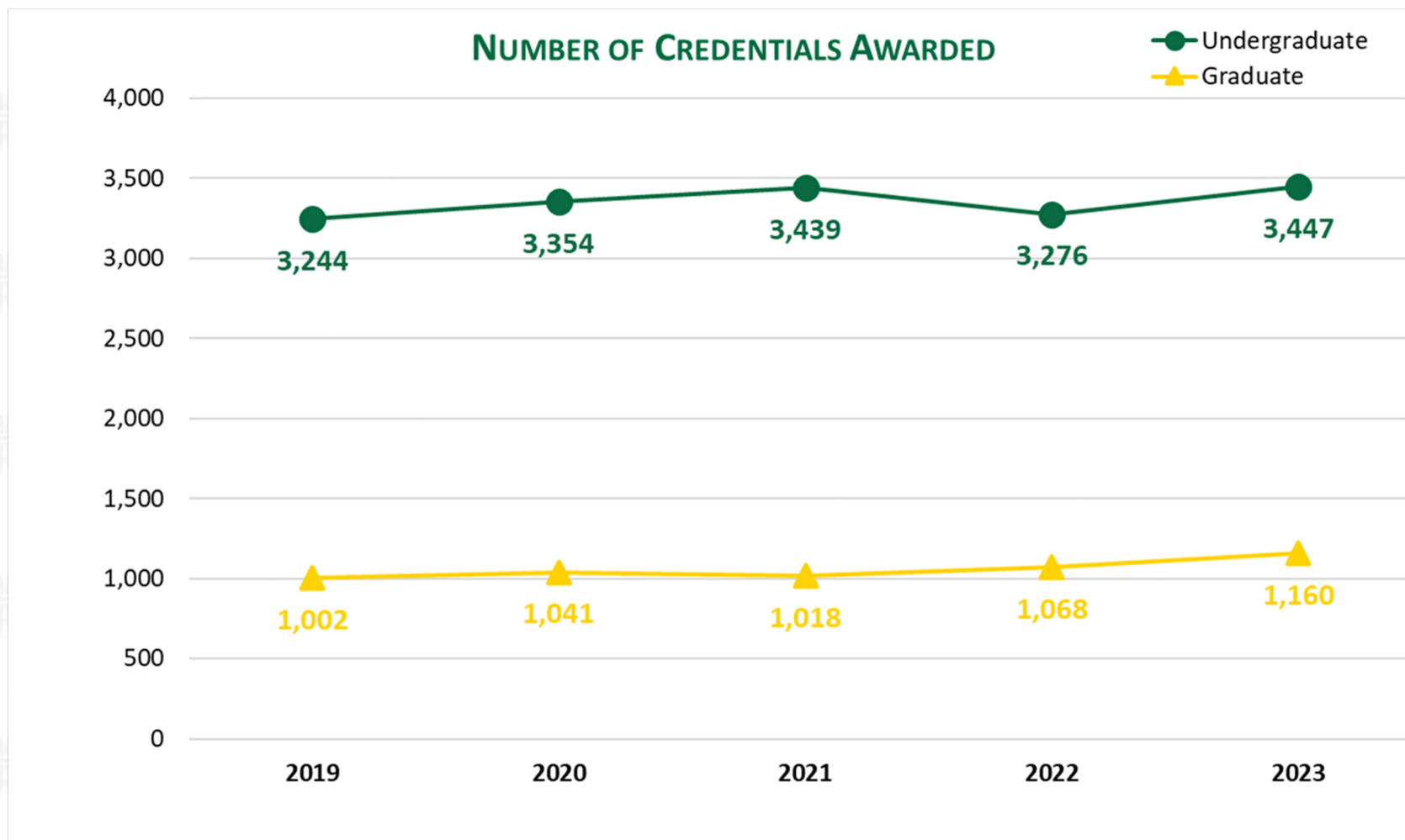
Three USask students took part in a Model United Nations (UN) conference in Vancouver in 2023, returning home with renewed determination to make a difference and to encourage support for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).



## USask students are provided with experiential learning opportunities to enhance their knowledge and prepare for the workforce



## USask continues to produce high-quality graduates who are ready to make an impact in their communities





# GLOBAL RECOGNITION

**Our research, graduates, academic programming and  
reputation are recognized as world-class.**

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS



**The world needs a university  
that sets the standard  
in learning, research,  
scholarship, creativity, and  
community engagement.**





## USask's VIDO selected for CEPI's international research network

The Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) has signed an agreement to join the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations' (CEPI) preclinical research network. The global partnership's mission is to accelerate the development of vaccines and other countermeasures against epidemic and pandemic threats so they can be accessible to all people in need.



## USask achieves personal best in QS World University Rankings

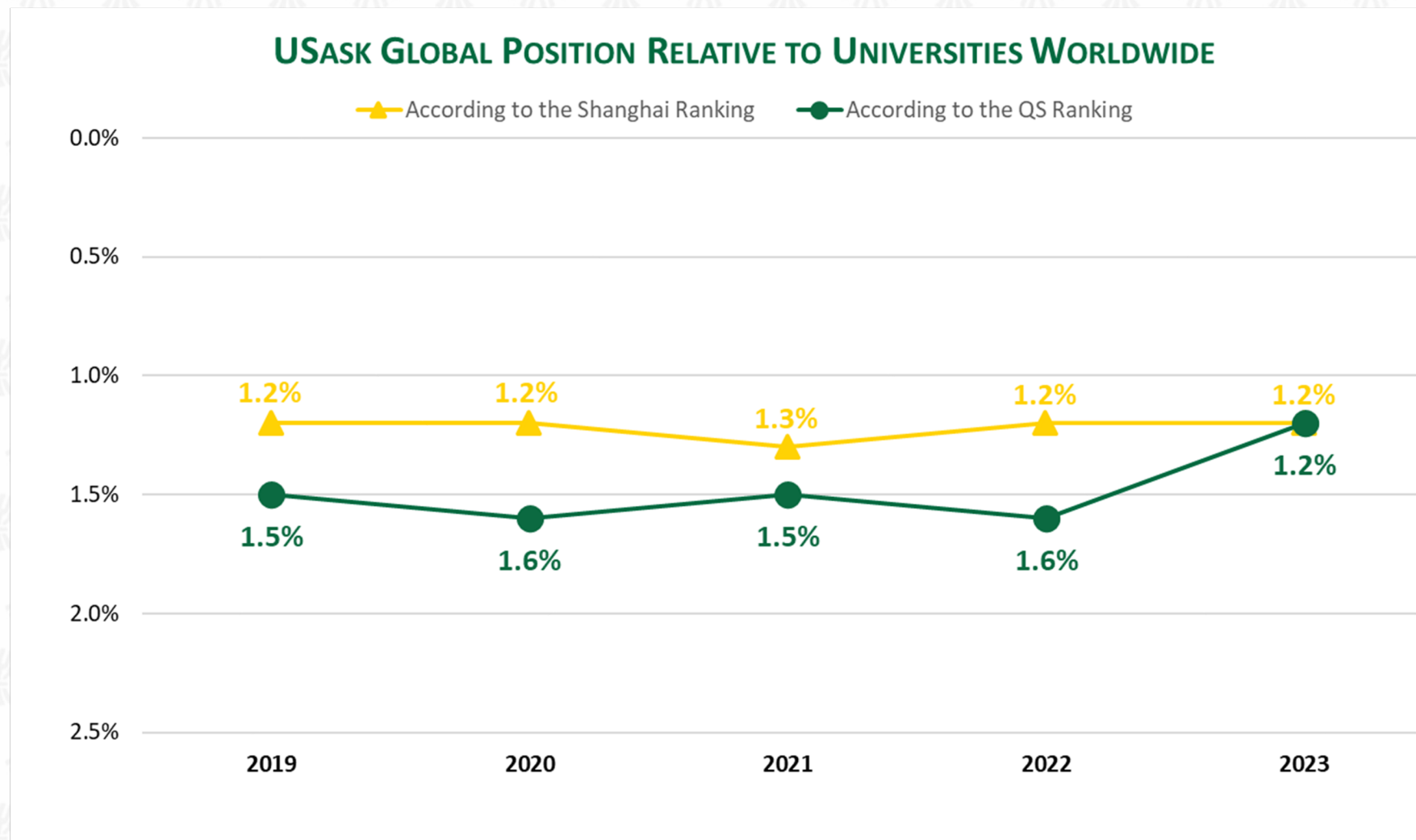
USask has achieved its highest-ever performance in the QS World University Rankings - an accomplishment that helped garner an award for the largest change in rankings in the past 5-years of all Canadian universities. USask ranked 340th, a five-point improvement, reflecting growth in areas such as employment outcomes, international research network, international faculty, and citations per faculty.



## USask researcher selected as the 2025 Darcy Distinguished Lecturer

USask hydrogeology professor Dr. Grant Ferguson will be travelling across the globe in 2025 to deliver lectures on innovative groundwater research after being named the National Groundwater Association's Darcy Distinguished Lecturer.

## Institutional performance ranked in the top one per cent in the world





# Global Recognition



## Top 100 Worldwide

**17:** Water Resources: (Shanghai)

**51-75 and 51-70:** Veterinary Sciences (Shanghai and QS)

---

### 2023 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings

Global ranking recognizing research, stewardship, outreach, and teaching for the UN Sustainable development goals

- Ranked 67<sup>th</sup> overall globally
- Top-20 rankings in SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
- Top-100 rankings in SDG 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)

### 2024 Quacquarelli Symonds Sustainability Rankings

Global ranking recognizing progress against SDGs, and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) impacts

- Ranked 89th overall globally
- Top-50 ranking in Environmental Impact category

### STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System)

Assesses post-secondary institutions for sustainability in curriculum, research, engagement, and operations

- Awarded “gold” status for the first time

*\* Subject rankings based on Shanghai and QS Subject Rankings*

## National Recognition

### Top 10 Canada

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1:</b> Water Resources (Shanghai)                   | <b>6:</b> Earth Sciences (Shanghai)                        |
| <b>3:</b> Veterinary Sciences (Shanghai)               | <b>6:</b> Environmental Sciences (QS)                      |
| <b>4:</b> Agricultural Sciences (Shanghai)             | <b>6:</b> Environmental Science and Engineering (Shanghai) |
| <b>4:</b> Biomedical Engineering (Shanghai)            | <b>7:</b> Chemical Engineering (Shanghai)                  |
| <b>4:</b> Biotechnology (Shanghai)                     | <b>7:</b> Food Science and Technology (Shanghai)           |
| <b>4:</b> Energy Science and Engineering (Shanghai)    | <b>7:</b> Physical Sciences (THE)                          |
| <b>4:</b> Materials Science and Engineering (Shanghai) | <b>9:</b> Earth and Marine Sciences (QS)                   |
| <b>4:</b> Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (Shanghai)    | <b>9:</b> Geology (QS)                                     |
| <b>5:</b> Chemistry (Shanghai)                         | <b>9:</b> Geophysics (QS)                                  |
| <b>5:</b> Veterinary Science (QS)                      | <b>10:</b> Ecology (Shanghai)                              |
| <b>6:</b> Agriculture and Forestry (QS)                | <b>10:</b> Education (THE)                                 |
| <b>6:</b> Atmospheric Science (Shanghai)               | <b>10:</b> Engineering (THE)                               |
| <b>6:</b> Dentistry and Oral Sciences (Shanghai)       | <b>10:</b> Pharmacy and Pharmacology (QS)                  |

*\* Based on QS, Shanghai, and THE Subject Rankings*



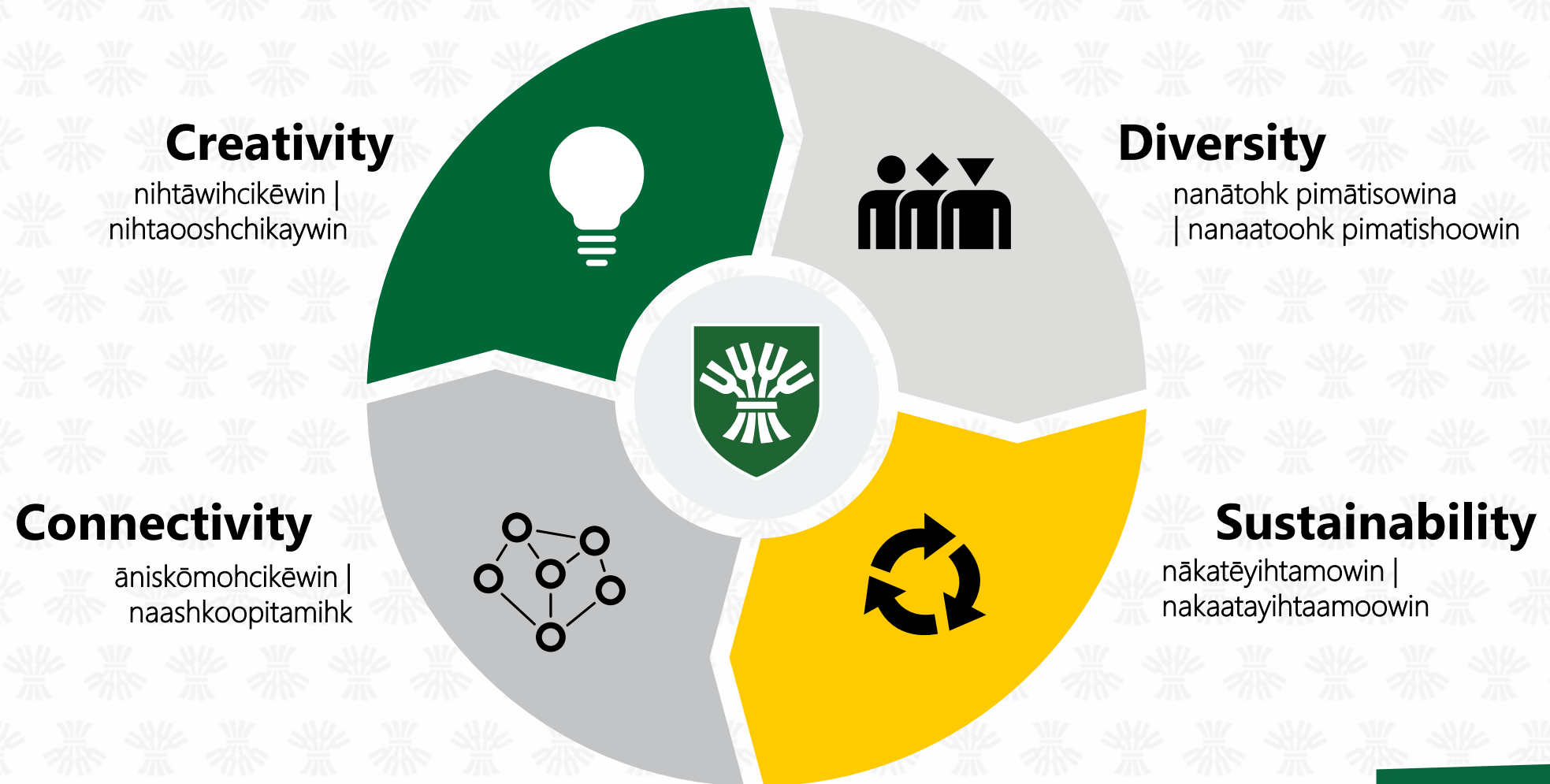


“ This 2025 University Plan is **grounded in our strengths**...Our challenge, to be met in this plan, is to make this whole greater than the sum of its parts.

When we are successful at doing so, students around the globe will see the university in particular as a place to develop the knowledge and skills they need to **thrive in a future defined by constant change**. Faculty will view the university as a place that creates **unmatched possibilities for collaboration, discovery, and impact**. Staff will find **inspiration in the opportunity to create solutions**—systems, practices, physical spaces—that reflect the university's ambition. Our diverse communities will engage with and find inspiration in everything we do. **We will take our place among the world's top institutions of higher learning.** ”

**President Peter Stoicheff, 2018**

# USask Principles







**DONORS HAVE ALREADY HELPED US RAISE**  
**\$428.3M OF OUR \$500M GOAL**

## INDIVIDUALS, ALUMNI, CORPORATIONS, AND OUR COMMUNITY HAVE:

## ESTABLISHED

12

## NEW RESEARCH CHAIR POSITIONS

## FUNDED MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR CLOSE TO

200

## INDIGENOUS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

## GIVEN OVER

**\$116M**

**FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES, EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING,  
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AND PROGRAMMING**

## COMMITTED

**\$77M**

## TO THE CREATION OF NEW AND RENOVATED SPACES AND PLACES ON CAMPUS

**DONATED**

2880

## ACRES OF FARMLAND

**JOINED US AT MORE THAN**

15

## ALUMNI AND STAKEHOLDER EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD SINCE APRIL 2023

## **Aspiring to be what the world needs...beyond 2025**

- We are committed to our vision, mission: Be what the world needs
- We have momentum through the UPlan 2025
- To realize the potential of Be What the World Needs we are looking at extending the University Plan 2025 timeframe: 2018-2028
- We will continue to advance initiatives while preparing for the next university plan after 2028





BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

