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Varzari family establishes new bursary to help students in need

Not only are post-secondary students facing increased costs for their education, they're also facing higher costs for food and housing. Chancellor Emerita Dr. Janice Varzari (BN '90, MEd '02, LLD '21) and her husband Glenn understand those challenges and have donated \$50,000 to the University of Lethbridge to create the Varzari Family Bursary Fund. The fund will support students in need with a variety of flexible bursaries.



"We know students face increased stress when they experience the financial challenges that come with today's economy and inflation," says Janice. "Our goal with this donation is to help alleviate some of that financial pressure so students can focus on their studies."

As an honorary campaign chair of the University's current Campaign for

Students, Janice continues to be a steadfast supporter of students. During her time as chancellor from 2015 to 2019, Janice was a skillful ambassador for the University. She saw ULethbridge through its 50th anniversary celebrations as it ushered in a new era of growth and maturity and she took a personal approach to enhancing the ULethbridge experience for all students. In 2021, she and Glenn backed the launch of the Student Wellness Ambassador Program to provide students with peer support. The Varzaris pledged to match money raised for the program up to \$20,000.

"Bursaries like this greatly enhance the University's ability to support students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education," says Kathy Greenwood, vice-president external relations. "I want to thank the Varzari family for their gift, which will ensure a positive, well-rounded experience for more ULethbridge students. Their support sends a powerful message to students who are facing financial hardships."

The University of Lethbridge Board of Governors will match the donation to establish the Varzari Family Bursary Fund as part of its \$10-million pledge in matching funds to establish new

endowed student awards. In addition to significantly increasing the sustainability of its student awards program, the current scholarship drive aims to build a base of support to remove barriers, increase accessibility and unlock opportunities for future generations of students.

Visit the Campaign for Students for more information.

This news release can be found online at Varzari Family Bursary Fund.

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Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Indigenous Peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.