

# SAIT'S YEAR IN REVIEW

2025



 SAIT

Oki, Âba wathtech, Danit'ada, Tawnshi, Hello.

**SAIT is located on the traditional territories of the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) and the people of Treaty 7 which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, the Kainai, the Tsuut'ina and the Îyârhe Nakoda of Bearspaw, Chiniki and Goodstoney.**

**We are situated in an area the Blackfoot tribes traditionally called Moh'kinsstis, where the Bow River meets the Elbow River. We now call it the city of Calgary, which is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta.**



MESSAGE FROM THE

# PRESIDENT AND CEO



**The past year was defined by big news and bold partnerships.**

We spent the year building, in every sense: our new Taylor Family Campus Centre, a refreshed brand, a new strategic plan and a collaborative OneSAIT mindset to better serve our students and partners.

Along the way, we celebrated rankings, wins on and off the field and investments in applied education and research with real impact — many through our Real Futures fundraising campaign.

Once again, I've seen what we can accomplish together: supporting our learners, preparing future-ready grads, empowering employees and engaging communities.

Look back on a transformative year at SAIT — and join me in looking forward to all the exciting opportunities to come.

Dr. David Ross  
*President and CEO*



# BEST OF SAIT

## Supporting Alberta's growing aerospace sector with Lufthansa

SAIT is partnering with global aviation leader Lufthansa Technik Canada (LTCA) to fulfill a critical demand for aircraft maintenance education. LTCA is collaborating with the School of Transportation to develop cutting-edge training tailored to their global maintenance, repair and overhaul standards. The partnership will also launch Alberta's first Gas Turbine Technician certificate at SAIT, along with a student sponsorship opportunity through LTCA's Fuel the Future initiative.



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# \$37M

## LARGEST CORPORATE GIFT IN ALBERTA

Establishing the Imperial Energy Innovation Centre at SAIT

### Making history and bringing energy research into focus with Imperial

Imperial's donation of a 40,000 square foot research facility, valued at \$37 million, marks the largest corporate gift to any post-secondary institution in Alberta.

The Imperial Energy Innovation Centre supports the expansion of SAIT's Applied Research and Innovation Services and will accelerate sustainable energy technologies and the environmental performance of conventional resources. The centre will help SAIT prepare Alberta's next generation of energy leaders and position Calgary at the forefront of global energy research.



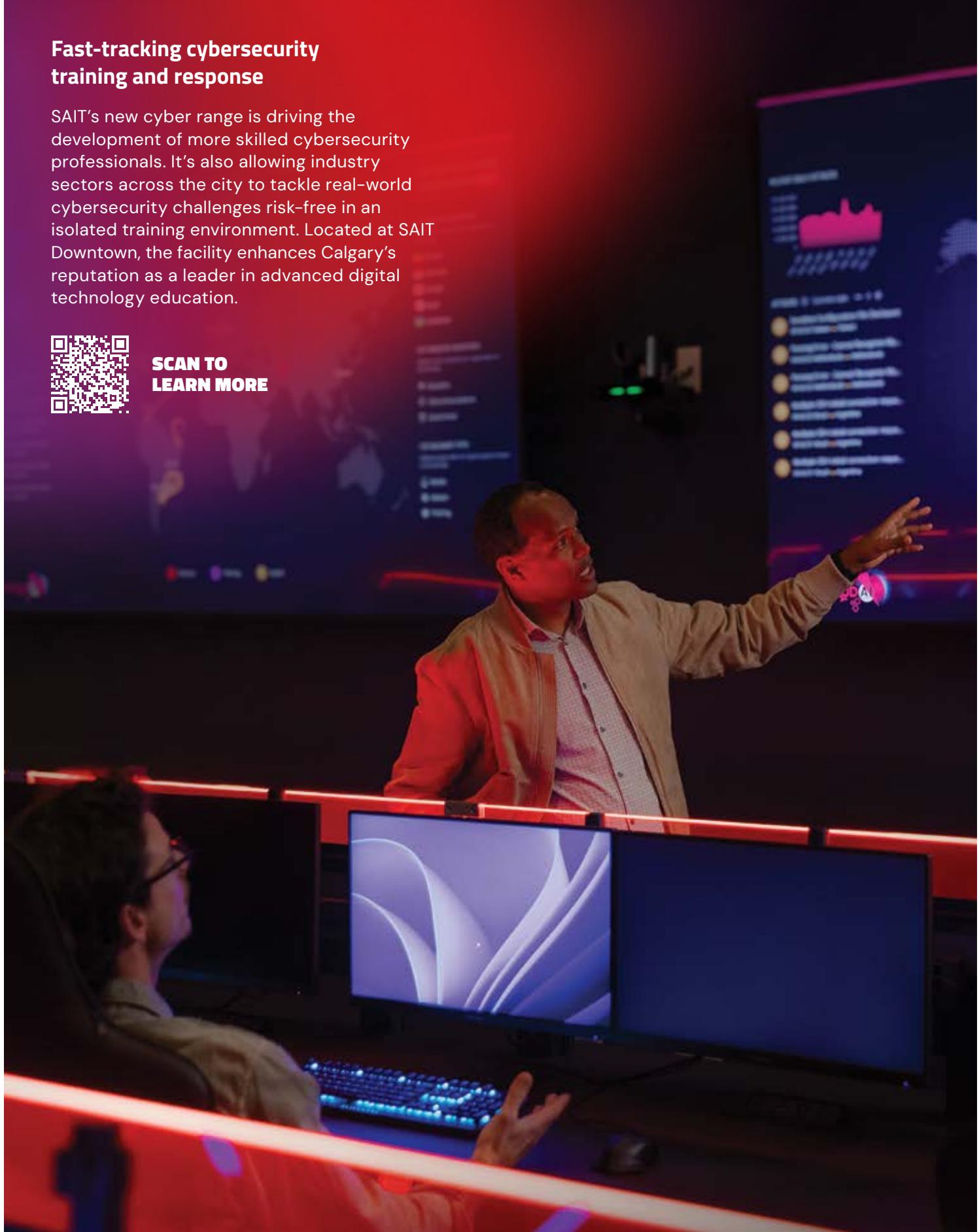
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## Fast-tracking cybersecurity training and response

SAIT's new cyber range is driving the development of more skilled cybersecurity professionals. It's also allowing industry sectors across the city to tackle real-world cybersecurity challenges risk-free in an isolated training environment. Located at SAIT Downtown, the facility enhances Calgary's reputation as a leader in advanced digital technology education.



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## Exploring Skilled Trades for Girls

More than 120 junior high students visited campus in the fall for SAIT's Exploring Skilled Trades for Girls event. The students, in Grades 7–9, had the opportunity to try hands-on activities ranging from bricklaying and autobody to motorcycle mechanics, refrigeration, roofing, welding and woodworking. Hosted by SAIT Youth Initiatives, the program aims to build awareness of career opportunities in the trades.

## Lighting up the world

Electrical Engineering Technology students travelled to the village of Huarcaya, Peru to install solar power units at a school. Local non-profit organization Light Up the World, which works to bring electricity and internet to remote communities, organized the project. SAIT joined students and instructors from NAIT. The group can continue to monitor the system from here at home.

## Creating pathways to success for Indigenous students

SAIT is partnering with Vancouver Island University to administer an Indigenous Student Success Program and create pathways to success for Indigenous graduates in Alberta. The four-year pilot program provides qualifying graduates with an opportunity to secure meaningful, sustainable employment by matching them with career opportunities. As the program is being developed, SAIT is prioritizing outreach to businesses with a demonstrated commitment to an Indigenous talent pipeline.

## Driving the future with SAIT's Real Futures campaign

On Feb. 11, 2025, SAIT launched the Real Futures campaign and a new vision to transform how, who and what we teach #HereAtSAIT. The campaign was sparked in 2019 by David Bissett's visionary gift of \$30 million to create SAIT's School for Advanced Digital Technology – a gift designed to help meet the needs of students and employers in a constantly changing world. With ongoing support from our community, we've raised \$125 million of our \$150 million goal, and counting.



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### NEW PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Technology Degree
- Bachelor of Business Administration – Financial Technology and Innovation Major
- Electrical Trade and Technology Diploma
- Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems Diploma
- Early Childhood Education Certificate and Diploma
- Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician Certificate
- Pre-Employment Machinist Certificate
- Pre-Employment Motorcycle Certificate

## Celebrating 75 years of hospitality and tourism

In 1949, SAIT delivered a one-year cooking studies program to 13 eager students. We added Hotel and Restaurant Management training in the 1970s. Almost 20 years later, Professional Cooking, the precursor to SAIT's renowned Culinary Arts program, joined the ranks. Today, SAIT offers a Hospitality and Tourism Management diploma with seven areas of specialization and a 2+2 degree program — and our School of Hospitality and Tourism is ranked the top hospitality management school and the top culinary school in Canada.



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# HELPING LEARNERS THRIVE

From the Natoysopoyiis Indigenous student support centre, Reg Erhardt Library and Lamb Learner Success Centre to the International Centre (and lots more), a variety of resources support learner success inside and outside the classroom #HereAtSAIT.

Here are just a few of the supports and services that helped learners thrive this year:

- SAIT leveraged a \$500,000 Global Skills Opportunity grant to help students participate in study abroad experiences.
- The Industry Mentorship Program expanded to match more students with industry mentors, giving them a glimpse into professional life after graduation.
- Students in almost every program had access to \$10 million in scholarships and bursaries.
- SAIT's new Accommodated Test Centre supported the testing requirements of students with accommodations related to disabilities and other protected grounds.
- A pop-up Welcome Centre greeted current and future students at a variety of events, including Open House and New Student Orientation. A permanent Welcome Centre to support student engagement and inclusion is a central piece of SAIT's Taylor Family Campus Centre project.
- SAIT's new hub and spoke model of Academic Advising supported learners with program planning, referrals and more, while ensuring a consistent student advising experience across SAIT.
- Student Development and Counselling reopened the Zen Den, providing a dedicated student space for relaxation and mindfulness programming.
- The new Indigenous Housing Program Bursary is addressing critical barriers Indigenous students face in accessing safe and affordable housing.
- SAIT's Office of Community and Belonging is leading the Women in Skilled Trades Retention Program, a new initiative aimed at supporting women in construction and manufacturing trades.

**40,202**

TOTAL UNIQUE LEARNERS

2024/25

**21,869**

CREDIT PROGRAM STUDENTS

Across 101 degree, diploma and certificate programs

**6,835**

APPRENTICESHIP LEARNERS

Enrolled in 27 apprenticeship programs

**13,457**

CONTINUING EDUCATION LEARNERS

Participating in 565 open-registration courses



# BOLD FUTURES

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SAIT'S 2025-28  
Strategic Plan

SAIT'S 2025-28  
Strategic Plan

STAR  
AWARDS  
2025

# BUILDING BOLD FUTURES

In 2025, SAIT launched a new three-year strategic plan: *Bold Futures*, a \$150-million fundraising campaign: Real Futures, and a refreshed brand.

*Bold Futures* guides institutional decisions to advance our ambition and purpose:

## AMBITION

To be a global leader in applied education.

## PURPOSE

To empower people with the skills, attitudes and experiences to build successful careers and lives.

Through ***Bold Futures***, we will enhance future-ready skills, world-class learning experiences and innovation leadership, taking a OneSAIT approach to how we work and learn #HereAtSAIT.

**Real Futures** engages the community to fuel transformation — in who we teach, how we teach and what we teach — in alignment with SAIT's ambition, purpose and strategic priorities.

Our refreshed **brand** reflects who we are and sets expectations for how people experience SAIT: At SAIT, we're building bold futures. We are tenacious, connected, inventive, passionate and friendly. We believe in giving our students, industry and community the confidence to make it real.



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# WE'RE STILL CHEERING

## \$165K

RAISED ON  
GIVING DAY 2025

Supporting SAIT's  
Real Futures campaign

## \$89K

RAISED THROUGH  
SAIT'S FAMILY  
CAMPAIGN

Supporting  
SAIT students

## 9

MEDALS  
EARNED

By SAIT competitors  
at Skills Canada 2025



### Top Employer

We kicked off 2025 as one of the top 85 employers in Alberta. Alberta's Top Employers is an editorial competition that recognizes industry leaders offering exceptional places to work. Employers are judged on criteria including work atmosphere, employee communications, benefits, time off and skills development.



### Top four for research

Fueled by a dynamic team of 100 experts, SAIT climbed to fourth place on Research Infosource Inc.'s list of Top 50 Research Colleges in Canada for 2024 and held strong in the position for 2025.

SAIT's Applied Research and Innovation Services Hub excelled in the overall research income category, securing \$12.3 million in funding, and placed top three in industry research income and first in the research intensity category.



### Top spots for hospitality and business

SAIT was ranked #13 on CEOWORLD Magazine's Best Hospitality and Hotel Management Schools for 2025 and is the top Canadian school on the list. SAIT was also ranked #53 on CEOWORLD Magazine's Best Business Schools in the World for 2025 and is one of just 10 Canadian schools to make the list.



### Top spots for SAIT Trojans

In the 2024/25 season, SAIT brought home Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) championships in men's cross-country (team and individual) and badminton (team and men's doubles) and earned a silver in men's curling.

The Trojans won Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) gold in men's golf, curling and cross-country and women's futsal and basketball. Both men's and women's doubles badminton earned gold. Women's soccer took home silver. Men's soccer and hockey, and women's curling won the bronze. SAIT earned 18 ACAC medals in indoor track.

The Trojans won gold in the inaugural Prairie University Women's Rugby Conference Championships.



# \$10M

SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND BURSARIES

Available across nearly  
every program

# 98%

OF EMPLOYERS  
LIKELY TO HIRE SAIT  
GRADS

2025 Employer  
Satisfaction Survey  
(834 respondents)

# 87%

GRADUATE  
EMPLOYMENT  
RATE

2024 Graduate  
Employment Survey  
(3,712 respondents)

# 93%

OF GRADS WOULD  
RECOMMEND SAIT

2024 Graduate  
Employment Survey  
(3,712 respondents)

# BUILDING MOMENTUM AS ONESAIT

## AI integration

With the use of AI already well underway on campus, we introduced a foundational *Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies at SAIT* policy in June 2025. Guided by the policy, our approach to AI integration aims to balance innovation, security and ethics.

With the policy in place, SAIT's institutional AI project is helping match the right AI tools to the right roles, while ensuring our community is working and learning safely with AI.

### THIS YEAR

- We launched secure access to Microsoft Copilot Chat for all SAIT employees and made it available to students a few months later.
- We introduced a pilot giving faculty and staff access to a limited number of licenses for ChatGPT EDU and Copilot 365.
- We created an AI Transformation Hub site in Teams to give employees a forum to ask questions, share experiences and collaborate on projects.
- The Teaching and Learning Commons created a series of AI workshops for faculty.
- HR is supporting AI literacy with an online course for employees created by the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (AMII).
- SAIT is participating in a pilot project, through AMII, to develop AI components within current curriculum.
- Employees joined local business leaders at an AI Summit event, hosted by Continuing Education and Professional Studies.

## A new approach to planning

We introduced a more collaborative and connected approach to planning at SAIT. Led by the new Strategy and Institutional Development team, this process brings together schools and departments across SAIT to align priorities, share insights and work collectively toward institutional goals.

Rooted in SAIT's 2025–28 strategic plan, *Bold Futures*, the new approach strengthens the link between planning, resource management and student success — ensuring SAIT's strategic priorities move forward through shared focus and a OneSAIT mindset.

## Evolving our campus: Taylor Family Campus Centre

Look up, way up — SAIT's new Taylor Family Campus Centre is really taking shape. Over the past year, the project team completed the early works phase of the build along with the mechanical and electrical slab rough-in and the superstructure concrete. Most noticeably, the building has a couple of floors now!

The project is supported by SAIT's Real Futures fundraising campaign. SAIT received a naming gift of \$30 million from the Taylor Family Foundation in 2024. A \$3.5 million gift from the Estate of Arthur George "Bud" Hall, announced in February 2025, as well as donations from throughout the SAIT community and Alumni Family during Giving Day 2025 are supporting the build.

The Government of Alberta's 2025 provincial budget also included a \$30-million investment in the project.

When it opens in late 2027, the Taylor Family Campus Centre will be a cornerstone of campus life, promoting wellness, recreation, work-integrated learning experiences and student community on campus.

# \$30M

TAYLOR FAMILY  
FOUNDATION GIFT

Supporting construction  
of SAIT's new Taylor Family  
Campus Centre



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## Empowering SAIT people

SAIT launched a new employee development framework in May 2025. *EMPower* fosters dialogue, focuses on growth opportunities and strengthens employee goal alignment to institutional priorities. The new framework is designed to increase intentional communication between employees and leaders, bring greater clarity to how we work at SAIT and enhance connections between that work and SAIT's strategic ambition and purpose.



## Improving student service and connection

We wrapped another phase of a multi-year and multi-department initiative to improve how we connect with and support our students from application to enrolment.

Through the *Slate Pathways to Enrolment* project, SAIT launched a personalized web portal and a series of targeted communications to engage prospective students and keep them informed at every stage of their admissions journey. The project team also streamlined transfer credit submission and review processes. Going forward, SAIT will continue to refine and enhance functionality within the system to increase efficiency and better serve our students.



## Elevating teaching and learning excellence

SAIT's Centre for Applied Education Innovation and Centre for Academic Development and Innovation merged to form a new Teaching and Learning Commons (TLC) this year. The TLC facilitates program design and curriculum creation at SAIT and fosters faculty development. It also champions digital innovation to promote excellence in teaching and learning.

SAIT continues to invest in systems, processes and engagement initiatives, led by the TLC and SAIT's Academic Division, to advance a more structured approach to scholarly activity across the institution. Scholarly activity helps SAIT deliver on its promise to students, ensuring the education they receive reflects current practices and innovative thinking.

The TLC hosted the *Reimagining Learning: Transforming Teaching Together* showcase in May. More than 300 participants took part in 76 sessions during the three-day professional development event.



# **WHAT A YEAR — THANK YOU!**

Find more "best of" moments at [sait.ca/year-in-review](http://sait.ca/year-in-review) and look ahead to how we're building bold futures #HereAtSAIT.

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