Arefeh Shamskhany, PhD student in Civil Engineering, was awarded the Hydrotechnical Specialty Conference 2021 First Place Best Student Paper Award at the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering Annual Conference held in May 2021 for her paper, “The Role of Microplastics’ Size and Density on their Vertical Turbulent Mixing and Transport.”

Five York University professors have been elected to the Royal Society of Canada:

- Philip Girard, Osgoode Hall Law School;
- Jennifer Hyndman, Associate Vice-President, Research and a Professor in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change and the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS);
- Michele Johnson, Associate Dean of Students and a Professor in LA&PS;
- Christina Petrowska Quilico, Professor in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design; and
- Jane Heffernan, Professor in the Faculty of Science.

The Government of Canada has announced an investment of close to $3 million for the Black Creek Community Health Centre and the Black Creek Community Farm, in partnership with Innovation York’s YSpace, Schulich Executive Education Centre, and TD-Community Engagement Centre, to support Black-Canadian entrepreneurs and businesses in Humber River-Black Creek.

Pratik Kumar, a postdoctoral Fellow in the Lassonde School of Engineering, was recognized with the International Water Association Young Water Professionals Canada Award for his research focused on developing a biofilter capable of removing cyanotoxins from surface water sources.
Fourteen researchers at York University will receive more than $1.5 million in funding from the Government of Canada as part of a $77-million investment to support 332 research infrastructure projects at 50 universities across the country. At York, Professors Ali Asgary, Marcus Brubaker, Solomon Boakye-Yiadom, Liam Butler, Taylor Cleworth, Claire David, Shital Desai, Matthew Keough, Christine Le, Ozzy Mermut, Arturo Orellana, Enamul Prince, Jennifer Pybus and Emilie Roudier will receive funding totalling more than $1.5 million for their infrastructure projects.

Four faculty members were recognized with the annual Faculty of Health Dean’s Awards, which reflect excellence and innovation within the Faculty of Health. This year’s recipients include:

- Mathieu Poirier, Dean’s Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership, Pedagogical and/or Curricular Innovation;
- Julie Conder, Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching;
- Adrian Viens, Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service & Engagement Impact Award; and
- Amy Muise, Dean’s Award for Excellence in Research.

Three undergraduate students who are active participants in governance at York University are the recipients of the Robert Everett Exceptional Leadership Award in Student Governance. Receiving the prestigious award are Student Senators:

- Issa Abdi Jamaa, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS);
- Muhammad Shahmir Masood, (LA&PS); and
- Dael Vasquez, Glendon College.

Aleksander Czekanski, Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the Lassonde School of Engineering, has been elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Engineering Education Association.

Ali Sadeghi-Naini, Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Lassonde School of Engineering, has received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities through the Early Researcher Awards program.
York University has announced the four inaugural recipients of its new Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowships for Black and Indigenous Scholars: Godwin Dzah, Don Davies, De-Lawrence Lamptey, and Ruth Murambadoro. This two-year award, valued at $70,000 per year, seeks to address underrepresentation in many disciplines and fields by providing Black and Indigenous scholars with the ability to dedicate their time to pursuing new research, while accessing the collegial resources, faculty supervision and mentorship for which York University is well known.

Eleven York University students were recently honoured with the Robert J. Tiffin Student Leadership Award, which recognizes students’ leadership at the University and their contributions to the growth, development, and vitality of the York community.

A film by York University Associate Professor Patrick Alcedo earned the Best Short Documentary award at the Cannes Indies Cinema Awards in July. The film, titled They Call Me Dax, tells the story of 15-year-old Dorothy Echipare, who struggles to survive as a high-school student and ballet dancer while living alone in a poor urban district in Quezon City, Philippines.

The Autism Scholars Awards recognize outstanding researchers working to establish novel treatment options and services for children with autism. This year’s recipient of the $20,000 Doctoral Award is Carly Albaum, a PhD student in York University’s Clinical Developmental Psychology program.

The York University Alumni Board has recognized four distinguished York students with 2021 Alumni Awards and Scholarships for their academic excellence and leadership. The recipients of this year’s awards are:

- Meena Shanmuganathan, Silver Jubilee Scholarship;
- Anjelica Ramsewack, Alumni Golden GRADitude Award;
- Moboluwajidide Joseph, Alumni Golden GRADitude Award; and
- Ishi Madan, Harry Arthurs Alumni Families Entrance Scholarship.
Marin Litoiu, a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Lassonde School of Engineering and the School of Information Technology in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, has been inducted as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering.

Two York University Postdoctoral Fellows, Mohammad Naderi and Vasily Panferov, have been named among this year’s recipients of the prestigious Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. Awarded by the Government of Canada, the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship is valued at $70,000 per year for two years, and supports postdoctoral researchers who will positively contribute to Canada’s social, economic, and research-based growth.

Fourteen researchers across the University join the York Research Chairs program, York University’s internal counterpart to the national Canada Research Chairs program, which recognizes outstanding researchers. Four of these appointments are renewals.

Canadian poet and York University alumna Canisia Lubrin has won the 2021 Griffin Poetry Prize for her book *The Dyzgraphxst*, a long poem that examines the idea of selfhood while exploring issues of race, oppression, and colonialism.

Heather Prime, Assistant Professor in York University’s Department of Psychology, received the Banting Research Foundation Discovery Award for her study evaluating an innovative program to help families recover from the pandemic, with the aim of reducing child mental health problems by strengthening relationships and reducing conflicts in families.

Carl S. Ehrlich and Carolyn Podruchny from the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies have been honoured with the title University Professor. The award is conferred upon long-serving tenured faculty members who have made extraordinary contributions to the University as colleagues, teachers, and scholars.

Two York University PhD students have been awarded 2021 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships. This year’s Vanier Scholars, Debbie Ebanks Schlums and Maureen Owino, are advancing knowledge in areas that can stimulate positive change on a global scale. Both of their research areas have a diverse reach, from addressing the issues around the underrepresentation of small diasporic communities in formal archives to tackling injustices of pandemic responses that often overlook vulnerable populations.
Incoming Lassonde School of Engineering students Aryan Soni and Kiara Mavalwala are among the 100 students chosen from across Canada this year to receive the Schulich Leader Scholarship for undergraduate education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Three undergraduate students have been awarded the Governor General’s Silver Medal, which recognizes the outstanding scholastic achievements of undergraduate students in Canada. Receiving the medals are Alina Kuimova, Amirarsalan Rahimian, and Katelyn Conferido.

Schulich School of Business was ranked 17th in the world and 1st in Canada in the annual global MBA survey conducted by CNN Expansión. In addition to placing 17th overall, Schulich finished 9th among business schools in North America.

Hanaa Ameer was the recipient of the Murray G. Ross Award. The award recognizes one student for outstanding academic excellence and significant contributions to the University and campus life. It is considered one of York University’s highest honours for a graduating student.

Four York faculty members have been recognized with President’s University-Wide Teaching Awards, which were established to provide recognition for excellence in teaching, to encourage its pursuit, to publicize such excellence when achieved across the University and in the wider community, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement. The recipients of this year’s awards are:

- Hossam Ali-Hassan, Professor, Glendon;
- Gordana Colby, Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies;
- Sofia Noori, Course Director, Faculty of Education; and
- Michael Kenny, Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Education.