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OF CANADA



FROM DONATION TO IMPACT

DONOR REPORT

September 2025

Presented to:

WWW.TAITE BOOMER.COM
MEMORIAL BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION





To the Boomer Family,

On behalf of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to you for your continued impact through the Taite Boomer Memorial Brain Tumor Foundation. Your support continues to empower the next generation of brain tumour researchers and keeps Taite's legacy of hope and progress alive in remarkable ways.

STUDENTSHIP SELECTION PROCESS AND APPLICANT SUMMARY

The 2024/2025 Taite Boomer Memorial Brain Tumor Research Studentship application process was launched on October 25, 2024, and closed on January 24, 2025. This year, we received nine strong applications from across the country:

- 7 from Ontario
- 1 from British Columbia
- 1 from Quebec

Applicants represented eight institutions:

- University of Windsor
- Toronto Metropolitan University
- McMaster University (two applicants)
- Queen's University (two applicants)
- University of British Columbia
- Western University
- McGill University

Of the nine applicants, eight were undergraduate students and one was a medical student. The review and selection process took place on March 27, 2025, followed by an award notification to the successful applicant on March 28, 2025. The funded project began on May 5, 2025, with a mid-point final report due October 17, 2025.



2025 TAITE BOOMER STUDENTSHIP RECIPIENT

We are proud to introduce this year's Taite Boomer Studentship recipient: Adam Bakos, an undergraduate student in Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Windsor.

Adam will be working at Dr. Lisa Porter's lab. Dr. Porter feels privileged to lead a fantastic team of students and PhD-trained scientists who work together with many collaborators across a range of disciplines to find new and better ways to detect and treat cancer rapidly. Her research has been funded by the top national funding agencies in Canada, and she has published her work in leading scientific journals.



Adam's project, "**Exploring Cell Cycle-Targeting Approaches Against Glioblastoma Using 3D Patient-Derived Systems and Bioinformatics**," focuses on addressing therapy resistance in glioblastoma, one of the most aggressive and deadly primary brain tumours.

His work uses 3D organoid systems and live-cell imaging to better understand how glioma stem cells drive tumour resistance and progression. In partnership with computer science and AI tools, Adam aims to identify dynamic cell cycle processes and protein markers that could lead to more effective therapeutic targets for GBM patients.

Adam's connection to this research is also deeply personal. His mother has lived with more than 30 brain tumours, undergoing numerous surgeries and radiation treatments. His story embodies the spirit of this award.

In his words: *"Being awarded a Brain Tumour Research Studentship means opportunity. I am deeply honoured to be holding this award, and for this, I extend my deepest gratitude to the Taite Boomer Memorial Brain Tumour Foundation, enabling young researchers like me to strengthen the progression of research through the joint passion and generosity of this community."*



PORTER LAB

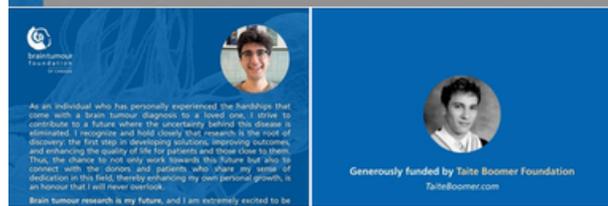
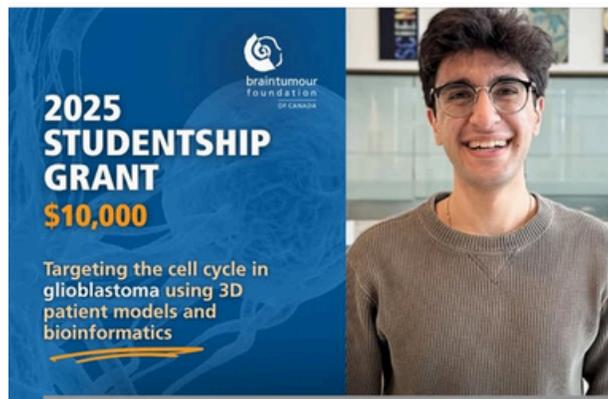
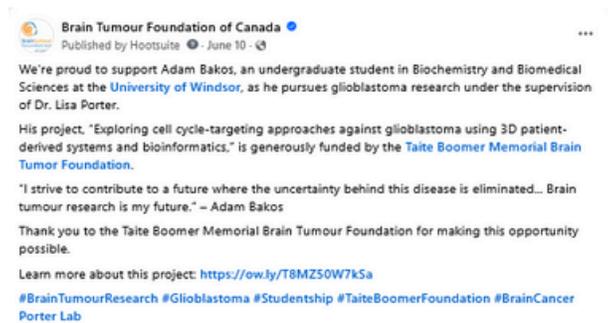
Dr. Lisa Porter is passionate about engaging students and the community in health research and believes that making true progress against complex diseases like cancer requires diversity of ideas and approaches.

In her role as the founding Executive Director of WE-SPARK she has been part of a grassroots movement bringing health researchers together to form a thriving research environment driving advancements in health.

Porterlab.com

IN GRATITUDE

We are deeply grateful to the Tate Boomer Memorial Brain Tumor Foundation for your ongoing commitment to advancing brain cancer research in Canada through your generous support of our Studentship Program. Your dedication has helped nurture the next generation of researchers, fostering innovation and hope for those affected by brain tumours. Over the years, we have been proud to recognize the organization's support in our communications, a testament to the meaningful impact you continue to make in our shared mission.



Tate Boomer Memorial Brain Tumor Foundation and 27 others 4 shares

(June 2025 - Social media post)

Brain Tumour Research Studentship Award Recipients



Adam Bakos
Undergraduate Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences Student
University of Windsor

This project focuses on exploring cell cycle-targeting approaches against **glioblastoma** using 3D patient-derived systems and bioinformatics.

\$10,000

Generously funded by
Tate Boomer Foundation

[Learn more](#)

(July 2025 - Research e-blast)





LEGACY OF IMPACT: 19 STUDENTSHIPS AWARDED

Since the studentship's inception in 2013, 19 studentships have been awarded to aspiring researchers at nine different institutions across five provinces. The students you have supported were provided the opportunity to actively contribute to brain tumour research and oncology care, and many continue to do so. Without this opportunity, these students may have pursued different educational goals.

PAST STUDENTSHIP RECIPIENTS

2025: Adam Bakos
2024: Patrick Ang
2023: Anish Puri
2022: Daniel Mobilio
2021: Leonaes Brahel Tatchinda Kuete
2020: Arun Parmar
2019: Mehul Gupta
2018: Sabra Salim, Di Zhu & Quin Xie
2017: Alexander Rodzinka, Ashley Adile, Tae Hoon Lee & David Bobrowski
2016: Matthew Danker & Karl Narvacan
2015: Faran Rashid
2014: Thusyanth Vijaykumar
2013: Rajas Tipnis

LOOKING AHEAD

The 2024/2025 studentship project is now underway, and we look forward to sharing Adam's progress with you in the fall. As part of this year's reporting cycle, Adam and the Porter Lab team will submit their mid-point project report by October 17, 2025.

Your continued support fuels discovery, shapes future leaders in brain tumour research, and brings hope to families throughout Canada. We are honoured to carry Taite's legacy and deeply thankful to your family for creating a brighter future for all families affected by a brain tumour.

Sincerely yours,

Nes Nassereddine, CFR
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