



Western University's  
**Economic Impact  
Highlights**

2015



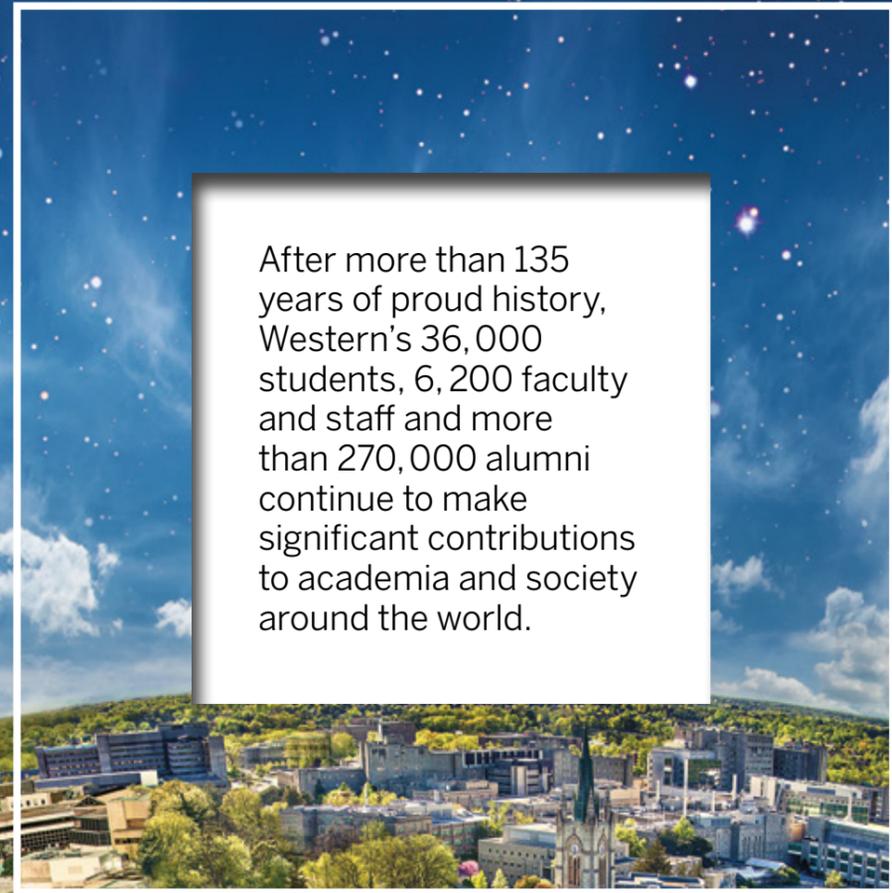
Western

# Making Significant Economic Contributions

Western University welcomed its first students in 1878, and is deeply embedded in the social and economic fabric of London, and is a key contributor to the economic success of the province and nation as a whole.

To explore the depths of these contributions, Western recently commissioned KPMG Management Consulting to conduct a study to estimate the economic impact of the University's activities from enrolment, employment, innovation, commercialization of new discoveries and company creation within a local, regional and national context. It concluded that Western is clearly making an impact.

The following information comes from the *KPMG Economic Impact Study 2015*, and counts the years 2012-13, unless otherwise noted.



## Study Highlights

**\$7.43 billion**

estimated impact of improved annual earnings by Western alumni living in Ontario in 2013

**\$1.62 billion**

contributed to Canada's GDP on an ongoing basis due to expenditures related to Western

**\$2.06 billion**

estimated annual cumulative contribution to GDP in Ontario due to productivity gains from research

**\$146 million**

contributed to Canada's GDP in 2012-13 due to capital investments

**\$11.3 billion**  
Western's Total Economic Impact



# Partnering for Success

Western and the City of London have enjoyed a long, proud history of collaborating to strengthen the University and the City. Thousands of faculty, staff, students and alumni call the Forest City home. It is here, they have built their lives and communities.

With outstanding academic programming and robust research, Western is an economic engine that helps ensure London continues to grow and flourish. It is also one of *Canada's Top 100 Employers*.

## Study Highlights

**10,840** jobs  
connected to Western in London

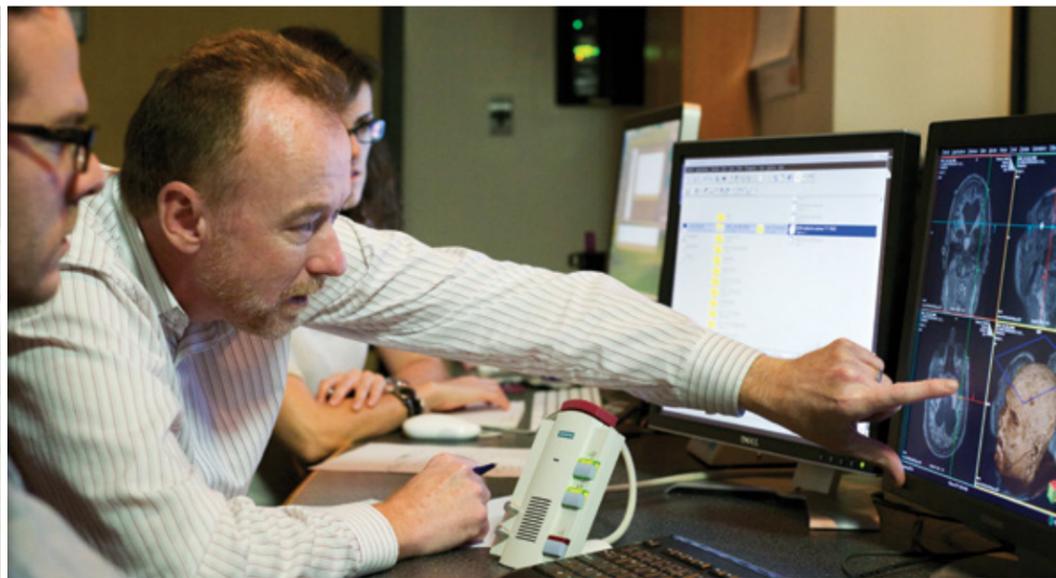
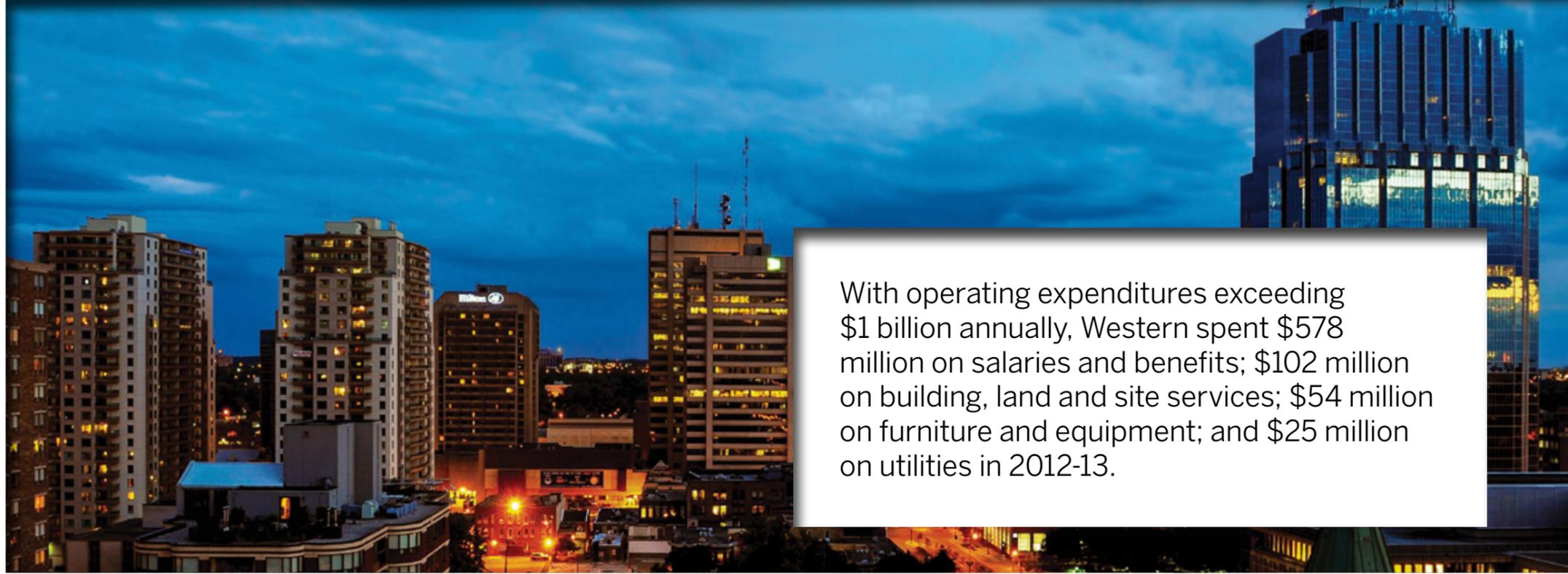
**\$120** million  
added to London GDP in 2012-13  
through capital investments

**\$293** million  
in living expenses of students  
originating from outside of London  
and the surrounding areas

**\$46** million  
added to the local economy as a  
result of an estimated 190,000  
visitor-nights to Western

**\$3.6**  
billion  
Western's Total  
Economic Impact  
in London

With operating expenditures exceeding \$1 billion annually, Western spent \$578 million on salaries and benefits; \$102 million on building, land and site services; \$54 million on furniture and equipment; and \$25 million on utilities in 2012-13.



# Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

In 2012-13, Western attracted more than \$245 million in research funding from government, industry, donors and internal sources.

## Research

**Western is** becoming an increasingly attractive environment for research, witnessing an 11 per cent increase in research funding since 2009. This aligns with the view held by stakeholders that Western's most valuable and attractive economic asset is its multidisciplinary research capabilities.

## Commercialization

**WORLDDiscoveries®** is the business development arm of London's research institutions, providing a bridge from local innovation and invention to global industry. Since 2008, it has facilitated the creation of 12 spin-off companies.

**Western generated** nearly \$23 million in royalty and licensing income, and holds 198 patents and more than 100 active licenses.

**Western had** the third highest gross licensing income among Canada's research-intensive universities in 2013.

## Impacting Businesses and Organizations

**Western supports** existing businesses through access to:

- Leading researchers and students
- Business development guidance for start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprise
- Physical facilities that may otherwise be out of reach for companies

**Leading-edge** facilities, researchers and guidance are found in Western's two London Research Parks, which are considered to be among the region's most attractive features for SMEs currently operating in London or considering relocating to the city. In a recent survey, UBI Index ranked Western's Research Parks 22nd in the Global Top 25 University Business Incubators of 2014.



**Horia Hangan**, Wind Engineering, Energy and Environment Research Institute



**Ingrid Johnsrude**, Western Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience

Research undertaken at Western is estimated to have an annual cumulative contribution of \$2.06 billion to GDP in Ontario; \$720 million of that impact is estimated to accrue to London.



**Cluster of Research Excellence in Musculoskeletal Health**

# Additional Social & Economic Impacts

## Human Capital

**In 2013** Western alumni living in Ontario improved their earnings by almost \$5 billion as a result of their education at Western. Of this total, approximately 23 per cent accrues to those living in the City of London. The estimated total direct, indirect and induced impacts of this additional income is \$7.43 billion in Ontario and \$1.71 billion in London.

**More than** 16,000 Western graduates have taken their talents to international markets and communities, allowing for the creation of an extensive global network of alumni. This influence may be best represented by graduates of the Ivey Business School who currently occupy leadership roles in 102 countries.

## Supporting the Needs of the Community

**Western is home** to many public and community-based partnerships, providing community-accessible services including health, legal and educational supports.

**Western also** undertakes many community-based research activities. Ranging from obesity to dementia, built environment to homelessness, food security to Indigenous knowledge, Western's inclusive community-based research activities are shaping public policy through collaboration.

**Western promotes** quality of life in London and the surrounding communities by making its resources and space available to outside groups and individuals. Drawing thousands to campus annually, Western's programs, events and activities provide vital services, promote life-long learning, provide specialized expertise, enhance physical well-being as well as build professional and social networks.



Western students, faculty, staff and alumni give financially as well as their time and talent to London and the surrounding communities they call home.

Alumni earnings by the numbers

## Key Facts

### Increased earnings

**\$4.95** billion

improved earnings of alumni living in Ontario as a result of their education at Western

**\$1.14** billion

improved earnings of alumni living in London as a result of their education at Western

### Impact of increased earnings

**\$7.43** billion

estimated total direct, indirect and induced economic impacts of this additional income in Ontario

**\$1.71** billion

estimated total direct, indirect and induced economic impacts of this additional income in London





# Growing the Local & National Economy

Western spends approximately \$1 billion annually as a result of its ongoing operations. Other organizations and individuals also make expenditures on goods and services and job creation that would not have been made in Western's absence, contributing to the economy locally, provincially and nationally.

## Highlights

**15,480** jobs  
connected to Western nationally

**\$1.62** billion  
value-added by Western to the Canadian economy annually

**\$960** million  
Western's operating expenditures and those of related entities

**\$720** million  
impact of Western research on London's GDP

**Impact**  
locally and nationally

In 2012-13, Western accounted for 10,840 full-time jobs, and generated \$1.07 billion of value-added impact, in London and surrounding areas. Capital expenditures alone were responsible for 1,340 person-years of employment and \$120 million in GDP in the London area.

## Capital Investment

**Western makes** a significant investment in various types of capital including new construction, major building renovations, housing renovations, as well as utilities and infrastructure projects. In 2012-13, Western invested \$137 million in capital expenditures and created about 1,560 person-years of employment and contributed an additional \$146 million to GDP in Canada.

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