



RESEARCH2REALITY

Shining a light on research & innovation.

An Award-Winning Legacy of Innovation

An interview with 2018 Gairdner Award Laureates

Frances Shepherd, Medical Oncologist, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Edward Boyden, Neurobiological Engineer, MIT McGovern Institute

Alan Lopez, Health Economist, University of Melbourne

Lewis Kay, Biophysicist, University of Toronto

Christopher Murray, Physician & Health Economist, University of Washington

Frances Shepherd

The Gairdner Awards are amazing.

Edward Boyden

The Gairdner Award, which has been going on for 60 years, is one of the most prestigious honours that you can get in biology and medicine. So it's really kind of humbling to be listed along with all these legendary biologists and doctors over time.

Alan Lopez

The Gairdner Award is just extremely useful in terms of its reputational capital. To receive that award, you're already regarded by your peers, you're regarded by communities you work in who know about that award, as having achieved a level of excellence.

Frances Shepherd

Approximately a quarter of the individuals who have won Gairdner Awards have gone on to win Nobel Prizes. So that just speaks to the quality of these awards, and the prestige of these awards.

Lewis Kay

Last year, my number was called. I got to yell out, "Bingo!" And through some sort of magic, I was selected as a Gairdner awardee. And so it was really meaningful to me because it was recognition of my field of biophysics. I'm kind of representative of many people in that regard.

TODAY'S RESEARCH. TOMORROW'S REALITY.

