<u>**PRESS RELEASE**</u>

THE POLYKAR FOUNDATION DONATES $50,000 TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
TO LAUNCH A NEW PILOT PROGRAM
Supporting the enhancement of professional language and communications skills for the workplace

Edmonton, AB, 8 July 2021— The Polykar Foundation today announced it has donated $50,000 to the University of Alberta to implement a pilot micro-credentials course in professional language and communication skills for the workplace.

The signing ceremony was held this morning at Peter Lougheed Hall, on the University of Alberta's main campus with representatives from the University of Alberta President's Office, the University's Joint Liaison Committee, the Faculty of Extension as well as The Polykar Foundation.

Mr. Sean Price, Executive Director of Alumni and Donor Relations at the University, welcomed and thanked the Foundation for its gift to support educational upskilling requirements in Alberta communities and for its demonstration of a beneficial public-private partnership.

The customized curriculum is tailored to those working in the private or public sector and consists of 5 micro-credential courses: Critical Thinking and Vocabulary Building I and II, Persuasive Presentations, Leadership Fundamentals, and Writing for Professional Communication.

The announcement from the Foundation comes on a milestone day for Polykar Inc. as it celebrates the groundbreaking ceremony of its future 50,000 sq. ft. western Canada facility in Leduc, Edmonton, AB. The afternoon ceremony was conducted in the presence of the City of Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson, Alberta's Associate Minister of Natural Gas and Electricity, Dale Nally, as well as University of Alberta representatives and Polykar guests.

Speaking at the Polykar groundbreaking ceremony about the Foundation's gift to the University earlier in the day, President and Founder of The Polykar Foundation, Mr. Amir Karim remarked, *"The University of Alberta helps to inspire the human spirit through outstanding achievements in learning, discovery, and citizenship by building one of the world's great universities for the public good. In recognizing this spirit and shared commitment to social progress and development, The Polykar Foundation is honoured to contribute to the long-term impact of communities in the Province of Alberta. "*

For further information about the program at the University of Alberta, please contact:
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For all enquiries regarding the Polykar Foundation, please contact:
Iffat Salaam, Board Director, The Polykar Foundation. Email: iffat@lafondationpolykar.org

<u>About La Fondation Polykar</u>
La Fondation Polykar was established in 2018. It grew out of a thirty-year tradition to give back a portion of sales from Polykar Inc. to impactful community projects enhancing the quality of life and education in communities around us. Today, we invest in strategic partnerships across Canada and globally in six focus areas: Arts & Culture, Communities, Education, Environment, Health and International Development. La Fondation Polykar supports projects that align with our principles of long-lasting impact, progress and partnership.