

**NEW**  
RELATIONSHIP  
**TRUST**  
FOUNDATION

**INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE**  
2015-16 Scholarship and  
Bursary Award Recipients







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2015-16 SCHOLARSHIP  
AND BURSARY AWARD  
RECIPIENTS



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS & CEO

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2015-16 Scholarship and Bursary Recipient Brochure.

Last year, we supported 204 Aboriginal students from around the province as they worked toward completing their educational and career goals. This represents the largest number of annual awards we have offered to date, and it's thank in large part to additional funds from our Partners, both new and returning.

In 2015, BC Hydro and Scotiabank joined returning partners the First Nations Health Authority, Canfor and Peace Hills Trust. As a result, donor support was the highest to date; a total of \$485,100 in partner funds were added to the New Relationship Trust

Foundation's \$1 Million annual allocation in 2015/16. In addition, we had a banner year with the annual Golf Tournament, raising nearly \$32,000.

But if you truly want to know the impact that NRT Foundation and partner support is making, simply read through the bios and comments of the students in this booklet. Each tale is unique and inspiring. For most, pursuing a post-secondary education is a lifelong dream. And while all of the students are transforming their own lives for the better, many aspire to improve the quality of life for others as well, whether within their First Nations communities or on a broader level—nationally and even globally. Now entering its tenth year, the Scholarship and Bursary initiative is one of our most popular and successful initiatives. That





WE ARE MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE AND  
THAT DIFFERENCE,  
IN TURN, WILL  
POSITIVELY INFLUENCE  
THE FUTURE  
FOR US ALL.

said, there is a downside to this initiative's success in that each year we receive more applications than we can support. In 2015/16, for each award provided, we had to turn one student away. Thankfully, however, with additional partners coming on board, we are closing this gap. We have already welcomed two new donors for 2016/17, and we hope this trend will continue in years to come.

If you are interested in supporting First Nations post-secondary education, please visit the NRT Foundation's website at [www.nrtf.ca](http://www.nrtf.ca) to learn how you can contribute. You may also consider participating in our annual Golf Tournament and Fundraiser (see page 7 for details). We hope to continue to grow the NRT Foundation education fund, and with the generous support of our partners make 2016/17 our most successful to date!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judith Sayers".

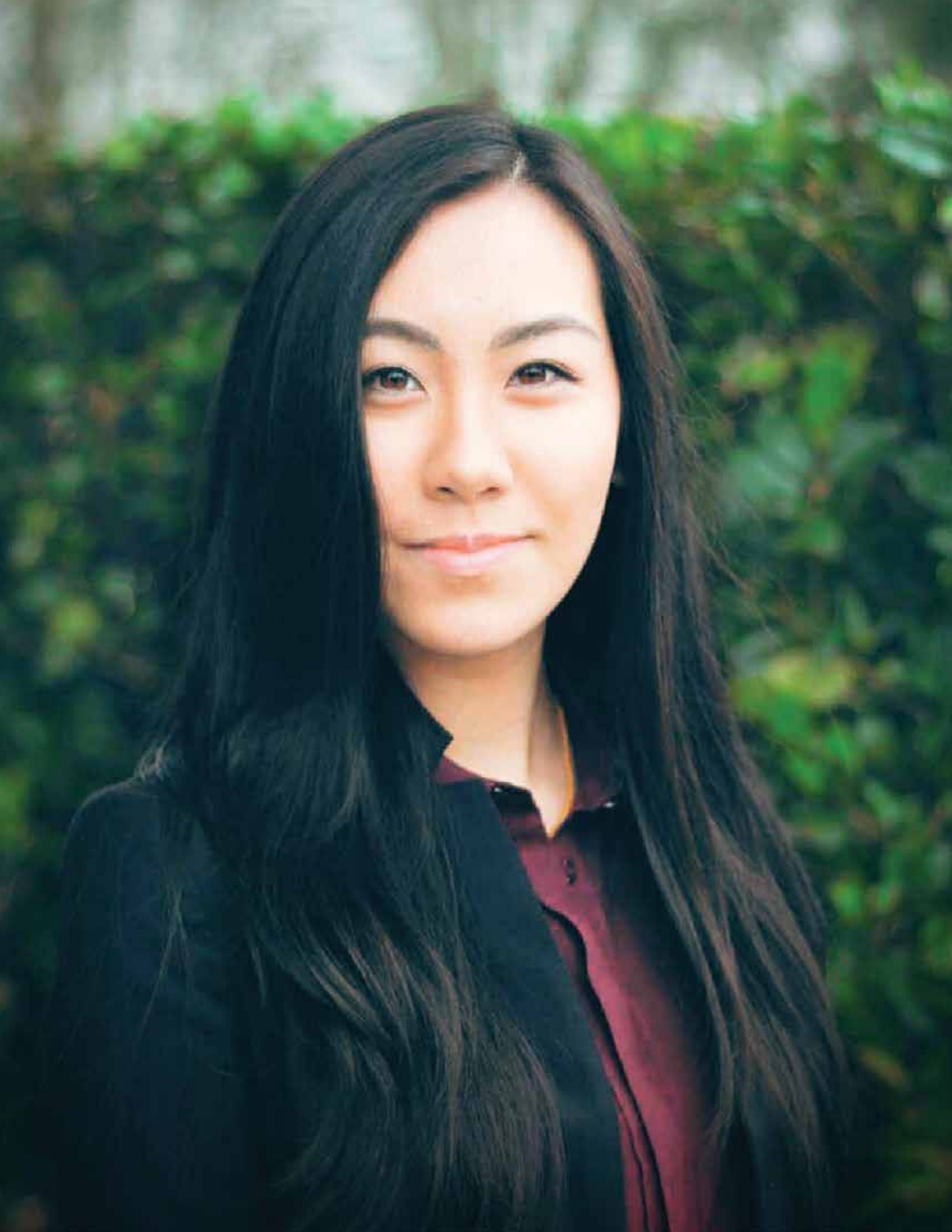
Judith Sayers  
Chair, New Relationship Trust Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hugh Braker".

Hugh Braker  
Chair, New Relationship Trust

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cliff Fregin".

Cliff Fregin  
CEO, New Relationship Trust



## ABOUT THE NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST (NRT)

**MISSION** Investing in First Nations in British Columbia.

The New Relationship Trust (NRT) is an independent organization dedicated to strengthening First Nations in BC through capacity building.

We work to help First Nations build capacity by investing in five key capacity areas of BC First Nations governments, communities and individuals: governance, education, language & culture, youth & Elders, and economic development.

## ABOUT THE NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST FOUNDATION (NRT FOUNDATION)

**MISSION** To assist Aboriginal peoples in BC separately and collectively to meet their education goals, and to support the educational components of Aboriginal language retention strategies.

The New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRT Foundation) was created in 2011 to ensure that vital First Nations scholarship and bursary programs continue in perpetuity through the establishment of an endowment. The sources of the endowment will be ongoing contributions from NRT and its fundraising efforts.

The objective is to endow a minimum of \$30 million over the Foundation's first ten years of operation, while at the same time continuing the scholarship and bursary commitment to youth education.

The Foundation is overseen by a Board of four Trustees.

THE CAPACITY OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IS  
THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

The NRT Post-Secondary Education Scholarship initiative was launched in 2007, with almost 100 awards granted at the Undergraduate, Masters and Doctorate levels in the first year.

Funding for Bursaries was added in 2008, as a response to feedback we received from First Nation communities and people that there was a high demand for education in the area of Trades, Diplomas and Certificates.

In 2011, the New Relationship Trust Foundation was created and in early 2012 management of the Scholarship and Bursary Award initiative was transferred to the NRT Foundation.

**1,472** education grants have been awarded to students at all levels of post-secondary education.

## RECIPIENT DATABASE

NRT Foundation maintains a database of past scholarship and bursary recipients. The individuals in the database can be contacted by the NRT Foundation to inform them about employment opportunities. This service is now available to NRT Foundation sponsors who are looking to fill positions with qualified First Nations people. To learn more about this opportunity, contact NRT's General Manager, Chanze Gamble at (604) 925-3338 or [cgamble@nrtf.ca](mailto:cgamble@nrtf.ca).

## AWARDS TO DATE

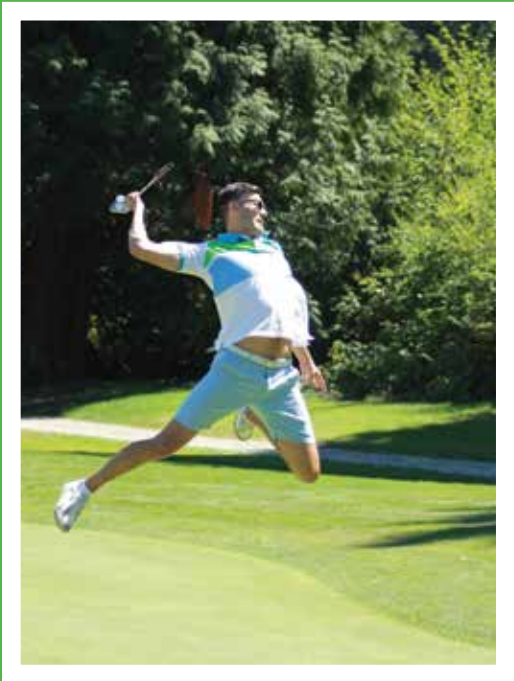
	BURSARIES	UNDERGRAD	MASTERS	DOCTORATE	CHIEF JOE MATHIAS	TOTAL
2007/08	-	65	23	8	-	96
2008/09	58	51	16	13	27	165
2009/10	60	42	21	10	27	160
2010/11	59	42	23	11	17	152
2011/12	66	44	22	9	18	159
2012/13	113	40	15	9	17	194
2013/14	92	41	16	9	18	176
2014/15	93	51	14	8	-	166
2015/16	105	69	21	9	-	204
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>1,472</b>



To date, the NRT Foundation and its partners have contributed more than **\$6.8 million** to support the post-secondary education of First Nations people in BC.

FUNDS LEVERAGED

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
<b>GOLF TOURNAMENT</b>	\$16,452	\$17,451	\$18,737	\$26,188	\$31,911	<b>\$110,739</b>
<b>PARTNER FUNDS</b>	-	\$260,000	\$337,000	\$246,100	\$485,100	<b>\$1,328,200</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,452</b>	<b>\$277,451</b>	<b>\$355,737</b>	<b>\$272,288</b>	<b>\$517,011</b>	<b>\$1,438,939</b>



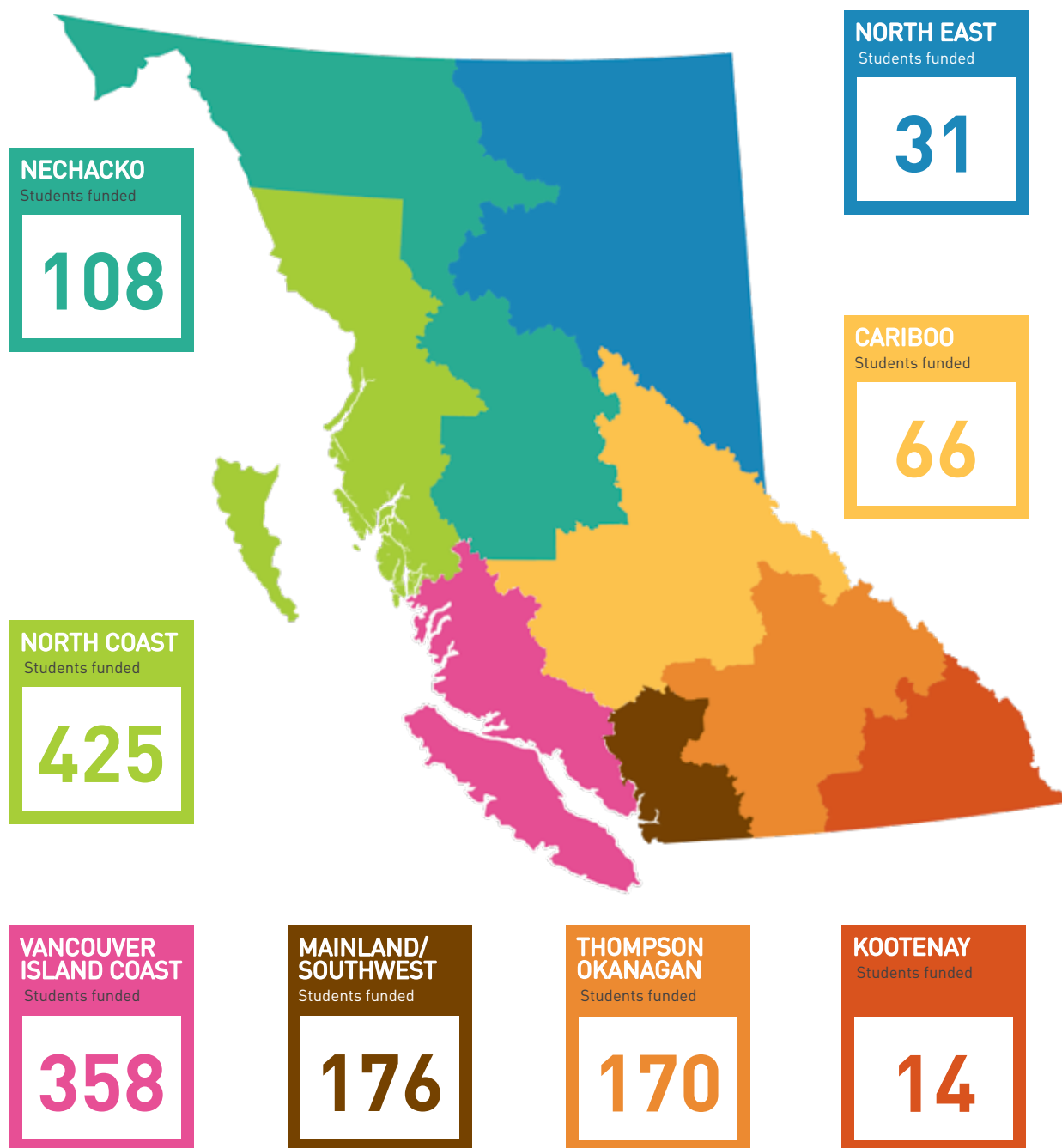
**2016 GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**JULY 28, 2016**

A great way to support First Nations post-secondary students is to take part in the annual NRT Foundation Golf Tournament. For a fee of just \$250, participants are treated to 18 holes of golf at the University of BC Golf Club in Vancouver, lunch, a golf cart and dinner at Westward Ho! Restaurant. They also have lots of opportunities to win from over \$25,000 in prizes. Proceeds from the tournament go to the New Relationship Foundation and contribute to scholarships and bursaries.

To learn more, visit the NRT website’s GOLF page: [www.NRTFGOLF.ca](http://www.NRTFGOLF.ca) or contact Matthew Cook-Contois at (604) 925-3338 or [mcookcontois@nrnf.ca](mailto:mcookcontois@nrnf.ca).

## WHERE THE FUNDING GOES

The map below shows the distribution of NRT Foundation Scholarship and Bursary awards to date.









# PARTNERING

By creating the NRT Foundation, we are now able to offer partners the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the welfare of First Nations people. Sponsored scholarships and bursaries support students working toward an industry-specific post-secondary degree, diploma, trade or certificate. This in turn helps provide a qualified work force of First Nations people.

NRT Foundation is seeking additional industry partners to build mutually beneficial partnerships that build capacity through investment in education for BC First Nations. Joint partnerships between industry and the NRT Foundation present an ideal opportunity to pursue shared interests.

For information on partnering opportunities, contact NRT Foundation’s Advancement Coordinator Mathew Hupfield at (604) 925-3338 ext. 226 or mhupfield@nrtf.ca.

# OUR PARTNERS FOR 2015–16

Our partners for 2015–16 may be found on the following pages:



First Nations Health Authority ..... 12



BC Hydro ..... 24



CANFOR ..... 27



Scotiabank ..... 28



PHT ..... 28





## First Nations Health Authority Health through wellness

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is a health service delivery organization, created and mandated to support and elevate BC First Nations health outcomes through the creation of an effective health care system. With their vision of healthy, self-determining and vibrant communities, FNHA have chosen to partner with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage First Nations people to explore exciting career opportunities in the health field.

### BURSARY



**SHADOW ALFRED**  
**NAMGIS FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Sport Performance/Sport Therapy**

My name is Shadow Alfred and I am of Namgis descent from Alert Bay, BC. I moved away from home back in 2010 to pursue playing a higher level of soccer. After graduating high-school I enrolled in the Sport Performance Program, but did not have a career of choice at the time. Throughout the program I found that I enjoy learning about the human body and injuries, which led me into having a career goal of becoming a sport therapist. I plan on pursuing this career by completing the Bachelor of Athletic Therapy Program at Camosun College.



**RENIA BAKER**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**CDI College**  
**Social Services Diploma**

Renia Baker Social Services Diploma My name is Renia Baker, I am from the Squamish Nation and I am the proud mother of four children. I am working towards a Diploma in Social Services to contribute to being a positive support for First Nations women, particularly single mothers and their children. I currently help co-facilitate and coordinate a First Nations single mothers group out of my home. My goal is to work with First Nations women in shelters, correctional facilities and safe houses and help empower them.



**MAGDALENE BIRD**  
**LAKE BABINE NATION**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Chemical Addictions Diploma**

Hello, I am a great grandmother of two, a grandmother of six, and a mother of five children. I am a hereditary chief of the Grizzly Bear Clan, a member of Lake Babine Nation and am of Carrier decent. At 74 years young, I enjoy the opportunity to learn, grow and support students to achieve their goals and dreams. Education is very important and should be pursued throughout one's life in order to connect and stay objective to our ever changing world. It is my wish to support my community and all Aboriginal people battling chemical substance misuse. Be safe.



**NIKEISHA CLAYTON**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**  
**University of the Fraser Valley**  
**Kinesiology and Physical Education**

My name is Nikeisha but I go by Keish. I'm currently in my first year at UFV. My four-year program starts in January. I'm incredibly excited to be on this journey towards my dream of being a personal trainer. The everyday struggles seem to be multiplied by ten when going to university. With that being said, I'm very grateful to be receiving this bursary from NRTF! My grandparents preached education to me my whole life and before I graduated high school I didn't realize how right they were. Continuing school has helped me in so many ways.







**JULIANNE DANIELS**  
**STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College | Exercise and Wellness**

My name is Julie Daniels. I grew up on Stz'uminus First Nations territory, Vancouver Island. I have dedicated the past two years to completing the prerequisites for the Exercise and Wellness Diploma Program at Camosun College. I was drawn to this program because I want to work with people young and old to create programs that will get people moving and having fun. I want to understand the barriers to becoming healthy, to strive to be one who can motivate and coach others, just like friends have helped me in my journey to health and wellness.



**BRYON HILL**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Douglas College**  
**Sport Science**

I am pursuing an education to become a physiotherapist. Living an active life and living healthily is very important to me and I wish to help others to do the same. I am in my second year at Douglas College and will continue into my Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology at UBC. When I finish my Bachelor's, I will enter the work field to gain some experience and will return to UBC to obtain my Master's and PhD degrees.



**RANDI DUDOWARD**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Practical Nursing**

I am a member of Lax Kw'alaams, and I come from the Tsimshian Nation on the north coast of BC. I am no stranger to overcoming challenges. I was inspired to pursue a career in nursing through caring for my grandmother Bobbi, who bravely battled Parkinson's disease until her passing. I am a passionate advocate for those facing adversity. I hope to give back to my community by helping others through the promotion of health and wellness. I plan on being a life long learner and wish to pursue a Master's in Nursing. I hope to work with health authorities throughout BC to create culturally safe, relevant health programs with First Nations communities.



**JODY JOHN**  
**SHACKAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Health Care Assistant**

My name is Jody John and I am from the Shackan Band First Nation. I was born in Prince George but raised in Merritt, BC. I am going into the Health Care Assistant Program at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) in Merritt, BC. I have always seen myself in a health related study, but never pursued it until now. I would like a career that provides an opportunity to help others as I am a very generous person. The support of my family and especially my son is always my empowerment to complete school.



**RAQUEL GLADSTONE**  
**HEILTSUK NATION**  
**Native Education College**  
**Family and Community Counselling**

This is my first year at Native Education College and I plan on going onto my second year for my Family and Community Counselling Diploma. My goal is to become a professional counsellor in my community and to help others outside of the community. I believe it's in my nature to do so. Once again thank you so much for this opportunity; it makes my family proud, which is such a great feeling.



**SUSANNAH MANUEL**  
**UPPER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Health Care Assistant Program**

My goal is to finish this program and move on to the Practical Nursing Assistant program. From there I am interested in working in my community or a health care facility. Assistance in the health care industry is highly needed right now and there is lots of work available for health care assistants and practical nursing assistants. My practicum through my studies will give me a better idea of what direction I will take. My Head of Department for the Health Care Assistant Program with NVIT has years of experience, so I will be using her for a mentor.



**DENYSE HAMILTON**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX**  
**Native Education College**  
**Family and Community Counseling Diploma**

My name is Denyse Hamilton and I am from the Nisga'a Nation. I have a wonderful son, Lukus. I want to set a good example for him so I decided to change my life for the positive and further my education. More than a few people have told me that I am a great listener so that is when I decided to pursue a career in the helping field.



**STEPHANIE MARCHAND**  
**DITIDAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Practical Nursing**

I am 22 years old, and I am currently finishing my final semester of the Practical Nursing Program at Camosun college. I come from the Ditidaht First Nation located in the rural west coast of Vancouver Island. Education has always been important to me, and I wanted to become a nurse at the age of fifteen. I chose nursing because I want a career



where I can help people, and bring better health services to small communities like my own. After graduation I hope to further my knowledge and enrol in the Bachelors of Science and Nursing degree program.



**MISHAELA MURRAY**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Medical Device Reprocessing Technician**

I am studying to become a highly skilled medical device reprocessing technician. My goal is to work in a health care facility in a position behind the scenes. I look forward to my future career being able to help so many people without the aspect of direct patient care.



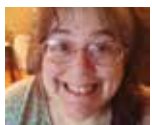
**PAULETTE NYCE**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Family and Community Counselling**

My name is Paulette Nyce, and I am Nisga'a/Tsimshian. I am currently working towards my Bachelor of Social Work. I want to thank my daughter and family for their continued support for the past two years. Also, thank you to NRT Foundation for the continuous opportunity of bursaries and scholarships.



**SANDRA OLSEN**  
**LIL'WAT FIRST NATION**  
**Langara College**  
**Registered Massage Therapy Program**

I am Sandra Olsen, member of Lil'wat Nation with a beautiful daughter who helps me reach my career goals. In 2008, I asked myself, "What are you going to do with your career?" Knowing I want to help people, I found the Rehabilitation Assistant program and graduated in 2012. Working as a Rehabilitation Assistant, the residents asked me to massage them and I thought why not combine massage therapy with rehabilitation. So I did the RMT requirements and registered in the program for 2014.



**LISA PARTRIDGE**  
**SIMPCW FIRST NATION**  
**Native Education College**  
**Family and Community Counseling Diploma**

I am a proud Indigenous woman from the Simpcw First Nation. I am passionate about helping people heal, which is why I chose counselling as my field of study. I chose Native Education College because its Family and Community Counselling Program dedicates a large portion of class time to teaching us about First Nations' issues and healing practices. Although I love learning, I hope to be out in my

urban community someday soon helping "heal people's hearts" with my newfound skills. My measurement of personal success is the positive impact my life has on the lives of others.



**GINA PEARSON**  
**TSESHAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Social Service Work Program**

I am a single mother of two beautiful daughters and have worked since I was 15 years old. My biggest goal in life is to provide care and support to youth within the Aboriginal realm. As a child who grew up in care, I feel it is important to share my own experiences in order to allow youth to see that we have experienced life in similar and many ways. I have taken many courses that improve my learning in many aspects and I am so grateful to receive support when it is needed.



**HILARY ROBINSON**  
**GITGA'AT FIRST NATION**  
**Douglas College | Academic Foundations**  
**for Potential Nursing**

I am seventeen and currently in my first year of post secondary and my program is the Academic Foundations for Potential Nursing so I can further on to get my Bachelors of Science in Nursing. I am excited about this journey that's only begun. In the future, I see myself specializing in pediatrics. I come from the Gitga'at Nation; the Killerwhale is my clan and my traditional name is Mawooks which means powdery blizzard snow and I was given this name from my great-grandfather Johnny Clifton.



**SHAWNA SABOURIN**  
**SETON LAKE INDIAN BAND**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Licensed Practical Nursing**

When at a Vancouver Community College open house session, I signed up for a program called the Aboriginal Gateway to Health Care Careers. I was amongst the first to take this program, which helped me choose a path I was passionate about. I wanted to be a practical nurse and started to take the pre-requisites for it, but I didn't finish a course on time, so I enrolled in VCC's first Health Care Assistant for Aboriginal Learners program. It was only one step below the PN program. I've had so many inspiring, motivating, and encouraging teachers along the way.

I truly appreciate the opportunity to be able to apply to such a fantastic bursary. Thank you for reviewing my application.





## STEPHANIE THOMPSON

GITGA'AT FIRST NATION

Camosun College

Practical Nursing

Growing up in a small town, I quickly understood the importance of family—not only the family you are born into, but also the people you choose to surround yourself with. The strength you gain by having a supportive and close-knit community is a gift like no other. I have been fortunate enough to receive more help than I could have imagined

for furthering my post-secondary goals through various organizations. Now, embarking on a nursing career, I hope I might be able to use the skills I acquire to give back to the same community that brought me here.

I just want to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for the support and encouragement to pursue this new career. This bursary really helps to lighten the financial burden of being a student.





**PAULINE SELLARS**  
**SODA CREEK INDIAN BAND**  
 Native Education College  
 Family and Community Counselling

My name is Pauline Sellars and I am Secwepemc from Soda Creek First Nation. I am 27 years old and am interested working within the justice system, with Aboriginal people specifically. I want to make a difference within our community. I have persevered through a difficult life and believe other people can too. I am a firm believer that there is good in everybody, and some people just need somebody to believe in them. I'm that person, so I will make a difference for our Aboriginal community.



**MEGAN SPENCE**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
 College of New Caledonia  
 Practical Nurse

I am a college student enrolled in the Practical Nursing Program. I am really liking this program so far. My goals are to become a registered nurse or a doctor one day. I dream of moving back to my hometown one day to hopefully put my career to use there. There is a need for nurses in BC now, and I am aiming to become one.



**LORELEI THEVARGE**  
**LIL'WAT FIRST NATION**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Dental Assistant

As the main provider and caregiver of my three beautiful children, I would like to show them that there is more to life than just getting by paycheque-to-paycheque and that it is never too late to go back to school. My career goals are to become a certified dental assist. I've been in school since May of 2012 and I am happy to say that this is my final step in becoming a certified dental assistant.



**JAYSON WING**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
 Douglas College  
 Sports Science

My name is Jayson Wing. I am the youngest of four children. I grew up all over BC, primarily on the coast. I always tried to live my life with passion, be it passion for loved ones or just passion for my culture. I struggled a lot in high school and failed to graduate. However, after much reflection I realized the importance of education and taking responsibility and notice of my potential. I successfully recieved my highschool diploma in 2015 and am currently in my first year of college pursuing a degree in kinesiology. Don't give up; don't give in!

## UNDERGRADUATE



**BERNADINE BROWN**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Kinesiology

Way'. My name is Bernadine Brown. I am a member of the Okanagan First Nation. I am entering the fourth year of my bachelor's degree in Kinesiology. After I am finished my undergrad, I plan on continuing at UBC in the Masters of Occupational Therapy Program. I am grateful for the New Relationship Trust Foundation's continued support as I pursue my career endeavours. Lim Limpt.



**RYAN DANROTH**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
 Simon Fraser University  
 Science

I grew up on the Komoks reservation with dreams of being a doctor and serving my people. I dropped out of school in grade nine but I returned to North Island College in 2010 to get my grade 12. After receiving my Adult Graduation Diploma in 2011, I attended Simon Fraser University on an entrance scholarship for a BSc in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, set to graduate in 2016. Today, my passion to help others and make my people proud still burns deeply within me.



**MARI DAVIS**  
**SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS**  
 Grande Prairie Regional College  
 Science

My name is Mari Davis, I am from Saulteau First Nations located in Moberly Lake, BC. I am doing the first year of an undergraduate in a Bachelor of Science Program at Grande Prairie Regional College for the year of 2015/2016, then I am transferring to the University of Alberta to finish the rest of my program. I am aiming to go into medical school once finished my undergrad. I hope to inspire others to be whatever they want to be and to be a good role model for others.



**SAMANTHA DAVIS**  
**SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS**  
 Grande Prairie Regional College  
 Arts - Physical Education

My name is Samantha Davis and I'm from Saulteau First Nations which is located in Moberly Lake BC. I am currently in my second year at Grande Prairie Regional College taking a Bachelor of Physical Education degree. My goal is to become a trainer and eventually do sports therapy. I would like to go back and train with young athletes in my community and surrounding communities. I believe that the health of our youth is very important, that is why I choose to take this route.





## HANNA BRYANT

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Northwest Community College

Arts

I am a member of the Lax Kw'alaams Band and grew up on Haida Gwaii and in Prince Rupert. My aspiration in life is to work in healthcare, preferably alternative healthcare, so that I am able to include the traditional medicines and practices of my people. I would like to become a naturopath. My road to

obtaining this goal has been full of roadblocks and alternate routes but my end goal remains the same, I want to help the people in my community to heal in ways that the western healthcare system does not allow.

Thank you to NRT Foundation and FNHA for this scholarship award. I am grateful for the generosity of both program initiatives, without them I would not be able to continue my academic pursuits to reach my goal of becoming a naturopathic healer and serving my community.



**VICTORIA DICK**  
**TSESHAHT FIRST NATION**  
 North Island College  
 Science - Nursing

I am the mother of two young children, a 22-month old boy (Wyatt) and a two-month old girl (Shiloh). I am from the Tseshaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations on Vancouver Island. We live on the Tseshaht reserve in Port Alberni and I will be commuting 2.5 hours to school every day. I am in my second year of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at North Island College in Comox. Once I have completed my degree I hope to specialize in maternal and child nursing and community health nursing.



**SAMANTHA HARRY**  
**HOMALCO FIRST NATIONS**  
 Vancouver Island University  
 Science - Nursing

I was born in Powell River, BC but raised in Campbell River. I graduated high school in 2010 and began my post-secondary education at North Island College. At NIC I realized nursing was a great fit for me because of my interest in the human body and my caring personality. I moved to Nanaimo to start the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Vancouver Island University. I am entering my fourth year of the program and am thrilled to have made it this far. I am excited to complete my degree and become a registered nurse.



**AARON GRANT**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
 University of Northern British Columbia  
 Arts - Psychology

My name is Aaron Grant. I am 19 years old and I was born and raised in Prince Rupert, B.C. I am a member of the Lax Kw'alaams Band and I also have ancestral lineage in Skidegate and Haida Gwaii. I plan on getting my Doctorate in Psychology through UNBC. It is my goal to be a mental health professional and provide support for children and their families. Psychology will help me obtain the skills and knowledge to make a difference in my community.



**SHAYLENE HARRY**  
**HOMALCO FIRST NATIONS**  
 Vancouver Island University  
 Science - Nursing

Growing up within my community I knew that I wanted to work within the healthcare field and I never lost sight of this dream. My vision for my 'larger' community is to have nurses that are able to create a safe, healing environment for First Nations clients to reach optimum health; free of judgment and misunderstanding. My career goal is to one day work for my First Nation community with the intent of improving the health of the Homalco members by empowering them from a capacity-building perspective, which focuses on strengths rather than weaknesses or judgements.



**VICTORIA GROSSE**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 Simon Fraser University  
 Criminology

I am currently in my third year at Simon Fraser University completing my Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in Criminology. As I further my education I am learning more and more about how to appropriately navigate this field as an Indigenous person. My main goal is to give back what I have learned by offering it towards the greater good of our people.



**AMBER HAWKINS**  
**TAHLTAN FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Science - Nursing

My name is Amber Hawkins and I am a member of the Tahltan First Nation. I am 26 years old and entering my second year of nursing! There were many challenges in my first year of university but with family support and NRTF's financial aid I was able to get through it all! After completing my first year of school I can confidently say that this is the profession for me and my love for nursing continues to grow each day. This is my second time accepting this generous scholarship and I am forever grateful for it.



**DANIELLE HARKEY**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
 Simon Fraser University  
 Science - Health Sciences

My name is Danielle Harkey and I am a proud member of the Musqueam First Nation. I am currently a licensed practical nurse furthering my studies at Simon Fraser University. I have recently completed an internship with the BC Public Service and throughout my early nursing career I started to have an interest in medicine. This led me to begin a journey toward completing a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with an end goal of medicine.



**TYLER HOFMANN**  
**UPPER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**  
 University of Calgary  
 Kinesiology

I am a University of Calgary student entering my third year of Kinesiology, majoring in Athletic Therapy. I go to school in Calgary eight months of the year and live/work on my parents small farm in Northern Alberta over the summers.





I am working towards gaining certification from the Canadian Athletic Therapy Association upon completion of my degree and hope to gain a position within a sports association or a clinical setting. I would love to be permanently set up for practice within or around Calgary AB after I become certified.



**JAIMIE HOLT**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Camosun College**  
**Science**

My name is Jaimie Holt. I am a 23 year-old student from Masset, Haida Gwaii. I am currently studying general sciences at Camosun College in Victoria. Once I have completed this semester of science courses I will be returning to the Nursing Program this spring to finish the last year of my Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Victoria. I'm excited to be able to have a positive impact on the health of Indigenous populations all over the country and to utilize my degree to encourage positive change in the health care system.



**CIARA JOHN**  
**CHAWATHIL FIRST NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Science - Biological Physics**

Ey swayel, my name is Ciara John and I am from Chawathil First Nations. I am Sto:lo, Cree, and Ojibway. I am in the first year of the Bachelor of Science program in Biological Physics at SFU. My passion is to learn, love, and give. I come from a traditional health background as my family has been learning off the land for years. My next step after my undergraduate degree is to apply for the UBC Medical School and become a surgeon. I would like to help create equitable surgical healthcare for our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.



**JOSEPH LEDO**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Science - Health Science**

After many starts and stops, I've committed myself to pursuing a career in medicine. I am a mature student currently in my third year of undergraduate health sciences at Simon Fraser University and plan to apply to medical school this year. My personal goal is to become a medical doctor specializing in family medicine and practice in under-served First Nations communities.



**JENNIFER LORING**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Science - Nursing**

Ever since I was a little girl I have always wanted to help people to be healthy and happy. Finally, 30 years later, I am turning my dreams into a reality. I'm the single mom of two little girls and am working very hard to show them compassion and love through everything we do, as well as the importance of each unique life on this beautiful planet. I will continue on my journey of helping people become healthy and happy holistically, by connecting with their bodies and nature on a spiritual level and listening intently to what is being said and felt.



**TASHINA MATILPI**  
**NAMGIS FIRST NATION**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Science - Pharmacology**

My name is Tashina Matilpi and I am a first year undergraduate student at TRU. I've always known what I wanted to do with my life. Having lived my life in foster care, I've learned that if I wanted to change the way I live and prevent my future kids from growing up the way I did. Education was my ticket to success. My path is leading me into the health care field of pharmacology. I hope to be a role model to others to teach them that no matter what situation you are in, you are in charge of what you become.



**JACQUELINE MATTICE**  
**WILLIAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Science - Nursing**

I am T'exelcemc. I worked in the health field as a support worker for 12 years when I realized I wanted to expand my skills. This led me to apply to the Nursing Program. My overall goal as a nurse is to work in First Nations communities. While I am pursuing my education goal I have a great support system within my community and from my husband James.



**JESSICA MCINTYRE**  
**DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Science - Nursing**

Gilak'asla. Nu gwa um Kwanxwalaogwa glu nu gwa um Dzawada'enuxw. I am proud to be attending the University of British Columbia's School of Nursing to become a registered nurse. I look forward to taking this education and certification back into our communities to serve our people. My Dzawada'enuxw family comes from the Kingcome Valley and I had the incredible fortune to spend the summer of 2013 in our village. There, I was inspired to pursue nursing as a practical way to make a positive impact. I look forward to supporting healthy and sustainable communities as a nurse.





**JOSHUA NASH**  
**TAHLTAN FIRST NATION**  
**University of Saskatchewan**  
**Science - Biology**

I will be completing my four-year Bachelor of Science this year at the University of Saskatchewan. I chose to major in Biology because I was interested in the connectedness of the world as a whole. Being the second oldest of eleven brothers and sisters I always strive to be the best role model for them that I can be. This year I will be applying to medical school and as I begin this journey I am so grateful to have the opportunity for higher education, and to have such a supportive family and community to take each step with me.



**PAIGE RICHARDSON-DUDOWARD**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND**  
**Langara College**  
**Kinesiology**

I am currently completing undergraduate course work with a focus on health sciences and kinesiology; I plan to complete the required courses needed to transfer to the University of British Columbia to complete my degree in kinesiology. Upon finishing my education, I will return to Haida Gwaii to begin a career in health promotion/public health. I hope to work with other healthcare professionals to promote the benefits of preventative and traditional health practices.



**NADINE SHAW**  
**WUIKINUXV FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Science - Nursing**

My goal is to become educated in the health field so that I can professionally deliver quality care and promote health for my people, my community, and the public. I am extremely grateful to receive this NRTF scholarship award as this helps support my dream immensely!



**KIMBERLYN TEICHROEB**  
**WESTBANK FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Arts - Sports**

I am from Westbank First Nation and I am very proud to be a part of the Okanagan Nation and the Syilx people. After completion of the Bachelor of Sport and Fitness Leadership degree with a sport management specialization, my goal is to assist First Nations individuals by expanding the recreational programs that are offered within my community. I am confident that my academic studies will benefit my community, my Nation and my family and I am looking forward to starting my career.

I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for their support in pursuing my educational goals. This scholarship gives me financial security and will allow me to focus more on my schooling and not have to worry about my finances. Lim læmt, Thank you.



**NICOLA TERBASKET**  
**LOWER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Arts - Sports**

My name is Nicola Terbasket and I am from the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, part of the Okanagan Nation. I am 18 years old and going into my second year at Vancouver Island University, studying a Bachelor of Arts with a degree in sports, health and physical education. I also play on the Vancouver Island University's women's Mariners basketball team. I aspire to be a sports physiotherapist and have a long career working with sports teams. I also hope to use my education and athletic experiences to work with youth in First Nations communities.



**MICHAEL WESLEY**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Science**

My name is Michael Wesley and I live in Kamloops with my wife and son. I am from the Gitksan nation and I grew up in a small community called Gitanmaax which is located in Hazelton, British Columbia. I am currently attending Thompson Rivers University. I plan on doing prerequisite courses such as Biology and Chemistry so that I can transfer into the Dietetics Degree Program at the University of British Columbia. My goal is to graduate and become a Dietitian so I can work with First Nations communities to help make a positive difference.



**COOPER WILSON**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Douglas College**  
**Arts - Physical Education and Coaching**

I am currently in the third year of the Bachelors of Physical Education and Coaching Program and I plan to finish the year with an A average. Once I complete the BPEC program I am still not sure whether or not I want to pursue my Masters of Physical Therapy or if I want to start work as a P.E teacher. Regardless of what I do in the future, whether its physio or teaching gym, I want to have my career started in the next three years.



## MASTERS



**LAUREN BROWN**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND**  
**Royal Roads University**  
**Arts - Leadership (Health Specialization)**

I am from the Haida Nation and graduated with a BSN in 1998 from UBC. After graduation, I began working towards improving Aboriginal health and have held positions that have helped me achieve this goal. I gained experience in policy and program development, teaching and liaising with government. I decided to move to my northern, remote and isolated community and accepted a job as the Health Director. It is in this position where I am realizing that the greatest impact is working with my own people. Although very challenging, working at the community level has been fulfilling.



**RHEA DUPUIS**  
**PENTICTON INDIAN BAND**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Counselling Psychology**

Wai (hello) my name is Rhea Dupuis, my given Indian name is Xwanamxwanam (Hummingbird). I am a First Nations woman from the Okanagan Nation and a member of the Penticton Indian Band. I am currently doing my master's degree in counselling psychology at the University of Victoria in the Indigenous Communities Counselling Program. My goals are to become a certified clinical counsellor with the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association. I want to offer my counselling services working from a holistic approach to practice embracing diversity. My goal is to help others on their healing journey and to continue learning.



**JENNIFER KRAEUTNER**  
**NESKONLITH INDIAN BAND**  
**City of Seattle University (Vancouver Campus) | Counselling**

I am a member of Neskonalith Indian Band, which is located in Chase, BC. I grew up in the Lower Mainland of BC and have two amazing children. I have always had a passion for helping people and have chosen a career path in Counselling. I am currently in the last semester of my Bachelor of Arts and will be moving forward to my master's. My passion is to help others build a better tomorrow.



**ALISON MCDONALD**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Yorkville University**  
**Counselling Psychology**

I was raised on Haida Gwaii BC and am a member of the Haida Nation. In 1984, I moved to London, Ontario and

attended the University of Western Ontario. In 1990, I completed a degree in psychology and administrative and commercial studies at the University of Western Ontario. In 2002, I became a teacher in BC and have worked as a teacher counsellor for School Districts 57, SD 50, and SD 58. My personal and professional experiences have reinforced my commitment to supporting Aboriginal youth and their communities to improve their wellness and success.



**BIANCA MICHELL**  
**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Health Science**

Resiliency. My journey throughout my master's degree has brought me many challenges, but my dreams and passions were not affected. My dreams and passions are to improve the health and wellness of First Nations through culturally appropriate health materials, practices, and beliefs. My personal goals and careers goals are interrelated and my mission will always be the best interest for all.



**DUANE NODDIN**  
**TZEACHTEN FIRST NATION**  
**University of Alberta**  
**Science - Ecology**

I have reshaped my life, personally and professionally. I draw on a multitude of experiences as I near the completion of my Master of Science degree and become a practicing Biologist. It is a career that I am immensely proud of and I truly feel I am contributing towards the betterment of our communities. I have a beautiful family which includes Cedar, our newborn daughter and Angela, my eldest daughter. We camp, hike, climb and fish. By marrying up my passion for the outdoors with an education that allows me to study nature, I have found great happiness.



**MICHELLE SAM**  
**NAK'AZDLI BAND**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Nursing - Nurse Practitioner**

In my nursing career, I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to work with First Nations people. I am now pursuing my Master of Nursing-Nurse Practitioner (MN-NP) to enable me to work at a greater capacity and reach my goal of providing primary health care to First Nations people. I want to be an integral part of the health team by treating chronic conditions, lessening the impact of disease, and promoting wellness activities. I am excited to pursue this career path and gain the necessary clinical knowledge, practice and skills to reach my goal.







## **NATASHA WAWRYKOW**

**SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND**

**University of British Columbia**

**Philosophy - Counselling Psychology**

Uy' skweyul. My name is Natasha Wawrykow. My family comes from the Skuppah Indian Band in Lytton, BC. I am completing my PhD in Counselling Psychology at the University of British Columbia. My therapy focus includes inter-generational trauma and anxiety reduction within Aboriginal populations. In 2014, I completed my MA in Counselling Psychology. My practicum occurred at Surrey Memorial Hospital and my thesis investigated an anxiety reduction program for Aboriginal children. During my graduate training I have created an Aboriginal Youth Mentorship Program which bridges my enthusiasm for academia and commitment to giving back to Aboriginal people. Huy ch q'u.k

I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for this life changing opportunity. With the generous support from your organization, my goal of becoming a counselling psychologist and studying areas of therapeutic intervention relevant to Aboriginal peoples is being realized. In addition to opening this academic door, this scholarship grants me the freedom to decide the topic of my research and allows me to continue researching topics that are meaningful and of direct impact to Aboriginal peoples. Having this type of financial support allows me to solely dedicate my time to my studies, research and volunteer opportunities with Aboriginal youth.

## DOCTORATE



**LESTER (TODD) ALEC**  
**NAK'AZDLI BAND**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Medicine**

I am from Nak'azdli of the Dakelh (Carrier) Nation and a member of the Lhts'umusyoo (Beaver) Clan. My parents are Laura-Lee Alec and the late Lester Alec. I completed my Bachelor of Health Science degree with a major in Biomedical Studies at the University of Northern BC. I am currently going into my fourth year of medical school at the Northern Medical Program in Prince George. I plan on applying to family medicine for my residency in the coming year.



**KARISSA FRENCH**  
**NAZKO FIRST NATION**  
**University of Western Ontario**  
**Medicine**

In the third year of medicine there is a transition from passive lecture style learning to being on the floor at the hospital, directly influencing patient care. I think it brings a completely different perspective to what it means to become a physician. I hope to bring a little of my culture, the way I grew up, and my understanding of the world into the hospital setting. I also want to use what I know to help others understand the gap between health care and Native American health.



**DEANNA KERRIGAN**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Medicine**

I was raised in Northern BC and completed my Bachelor of Science in Nursing at UNBC in 2011. Becoming a physician has long been a dream of mine and I cannot believe it is finally coming true! Many thanks are owed to my family, friends and colleagues who have supported me on my journey so far. It is my hope that one day I find myself working in smaller communities as a paediatrician or family physician and continue some of the great work I got to be a part of as a nurse.

The adventure through medical school is challenging enough without considering the financial burden that is faced once it is over. Being recognized for my efforts thus far is such an amazing honour, and the support I am receiving through the NRTF will be of great help to me on my journey.



**ROBERTA PARTON**  
**WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Medicine**

I am from Campbell River, and after studying biochemistry and French at the University of Victoria, I am now a medical student at the University of British Columbia. As I am interested in Aboriginal health and working in a smaller community, I am completing my third year in Chilliwack participating in the Integrated Community Clerkship. When not at the hospital, I can be found with my husband and daughter, and their two pets (a cat and dog)! I am keeping an open mind about career aspirations, but I know that First Nations health will be a pillar of my practice.



**NATHAN TEEGEE**  
**TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Medicine**

I am a proud member of the Takla Lake First Nation. I am in the Wolf Clan, one of the four clans within my traditional governance system. I graduated from the University of Toronto with an Honours Bachelor of Science and then went on to study medicine at the University of British Columbia. I am in my last year of a medical undergraduate degree and look forward to practicing medicine in the near future. I am supported by my family, friends and loving wife Linda, whom I married last summer.



**STEVEN TRESIERRA**  
**WHISPERING PINES/CLINTON INDIAN BAND**  
**Queen's University**  
**Medicine**

My name is Steve Tresierra and I am a member of the Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian band. This fall I am starting my first year in the MD program at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. As I continue on with my educational pursuits I am excited by the important work that I am going to be able to do for our First Nations communities. In the future I hope to blend together the teaching of traditional and western medicine in order to provide increased access to quality medical care for our aboriginal communities.



BC Hydro is one of the largest energy suppliers in Canada. We generate and deliver electricity to 95% of the population of B.C. and over four million people. It's our vision is to be the most trusted, innovative utility company in North America by being smart about power in all we do. As an employer, we are proud to support education and skill development in B.C.'s Aboriginal communities. We aim to provide meaningful and challenging work, opportunities for growth and a healthy work/life balance. We've been recognized for excellence and been named one of B.C.'s Top Employers and one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for four years in a row.

## BURSARY



**KELSEY ARNOUSE**  
**TK'EMLUPS TE SECWPEMC**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Human Services Diploma**

Weytk. My name is Kelsey Arnouse from the Tkemlups te Secwepmec First Nation and I am currently enrolled in my final year of Human Services at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC. My future goal is to achieve a master's in Social Work and with that degree I have aspirations to work for the health authority as an advocate for marginalized populations. With goals as large as these it is incredibly beneficial to me to have achieved this award and makes a tremendous difference in my ability to succeed.



**DERYK ELLISON**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Okanagan College**  
**Welder Foundation Certificate**

Hello my name is Deryk Ellison. For the past few summers I have fought forest fires throughout Canada and mainly in BC. Working with my coworkers to protect the homes and forests of Canada has really made me appreciate being a part of a team. My future goals consist of: sustaining a full time job within the welding industry; furthering my knowledge in metallurgy; learning to weld structural steel and pipe; and one day teaching others as well as running my own welding truck and company.



**KYLIE WILSON**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
**Langara College**  
**Aboriginal Studies - Associates Degree**

Hello, My name is Kylie Wilson from the Musqueam First Nation and I am enrolled in Langara College for the upcoming semester. I have various personal and career goals for my life. Some of my personal goals are to be the best person that I can possibly be. This includes emotionally, and physically and mentally. As for my career goals, I wish to transfer to UBC and attend the NITEP program and become a teacher to better my life and also that of others around me.

## UNDERGRADUATE



**TREVOR DAY**  
**BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Bachelor of Social Work**

I am currently in my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work degree program at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt, BC, Nlaka'pamux territory. Last September, I moved from Victoria BC, which was my home for the previous 11 years, to be closer to the Secwepemc Nation, where my Indigenous ancestry comes from. I plan to pursue employment in community development or arts-based programming for Aboriginal youth once I complete my program in April of 2016. I'm very happy for the opportunity to pursue my education and help our people move forward in their healing and empowerment.





## UNDERGRADUATE — RANDY BRANT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### SALIA JOSEPH

SQUAMISH

University of British Columbia

First Nations and Indigenous Studies

Greetings, my name is Salia Joseph and I'm from the Skwxwú7mesh nation. I grew up on Vancouver Island and moved to Vancouver to be closer to my family, territory, and community. I'm going into my last year of the First Nations and Indigenous Studies Program at UBC. Most of my work focuses

on Indigenous women's feminisms and resurgence. I'm passionate about this field and how it can help me learn from and contribute to my community. My hands are up to the NRT Foundation, my family, and the Squamish Nation for their generosity and support! Huy Chexw!

I want to thank the NRTF again for their extreme generosity and support. It is such a great vote of confidence!



**SHAYLENE DEKOCK-KRUGER**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Electrical Engineering

I grew up in Penticton, BC and am a member of the Okanagan Nation. I am a third year electrical engineering student at UBC Okanagan with extreme interest in either utilities or power and energy. I am the first person from my family to pursue a post-secondary degree and will be the first member from my community to graduate with an engineering degree. Before university I focused my efforts on fitness and sports. Now that I am a full-time student, I invest my time in academics and extracurricular activities for my professional development, while still focusing on my fitness.

I am honored to be the recipient of this award and would like to give a huge thanks to NRT Foundation and BC Hydro for making this possible. This award motivates me to pursue my goals and enables me to focus on my educational endeavours. I look forward to another successful school year and continuing my involvement on campus.



**CATERINA MARRA**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Arts

I am a member of Musqueam First Nation. I have grown up in the beautiful Lower Mainland and have adopted a love for the natural world in my years exploring it. The beach is my haven; I love seeing all of the smiling people walking and laughing while the sun glimmers on the water. I would love to help preserve the natural beauty of the world and ensure a healthy environment for future generations. I envision an amazing global community flourishing, learning and working together, happy and healthy.



**MELPATKWA MATTHEW**  
**SIMPCW FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Science - Global Research Systems

My name is Melpatkwa Matthew. I am a member of Simpcw First Nation from the Secwepemc Nation. I am in my third year of school doing a degree in Science at UBC with a major in Indigenous health. Next semester I will be going on exchange to the University of Auckland. Throughout my university experience and by going on exchange I hope to carry my knowledge of health and nutrition back to my community to help others.



**JULIAN NAPOLEON**  
**SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Science - Applied Biology

I am a proud member of the Saúlteau First Nations in BC's beautiful Peace River region. My life and studies are dedicated to protecting and enhancing the long-term food sovereignty of northern Aboriginal communities. My long-term goal is to continually strive to incorporate traditional knowledge and values within contemporary innovative sustainable agricultural practices. I hope nothing more than to see the rich, fertile, class 1 agricultural lands of BC's Peace River Valley preserved indefinitely and used to provide long-term food security in the region and beyond.



**KAYLA UREN**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
 Simon Fraser University  
 Arts - Communications

I am the great granddaughter of the late Chief Simon Baker and daughter of Angela Uren. My educational goals include completing a Bachelor of Arts degree with a focus in communications, public relations and marketing in the fashion industry. I want to have a successful career that not only provokes social change but is connected to my community. I want to thank NRTF for supporting my goals and aspirations. This scholarship will enable me to be a positive role model with strength, determination and education.



**WENDY WHITE**  
**SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION**  
 Vancouver Island University  
 Business Administration - Accounting

I am a member of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. I am the mother of two girls and I am currently a third year accounting student attending VIU. I obtained my Business Administration Diploma in June 2015. It is my goal to obtain my Bachelor of Business Administration Degree and carry on to the CPA program.



**TAYLOR WHITNEY**  
**XAXLI'P FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Commerce

I am from the Xaxli'p First Nation in beautiful British Columbia. I have recently entered my second year of the Bachelor of Commerce program at UBC. I plan on continuing my education with a Law Degree after my undergraduate and I hope to be one more person protecting the interests of Aboriginal people. I believe that these two degrees will give me many opportunities to give back to the communities that have supported me thus far.



Canfor recognizes that building respectful, transparent relationships that reflect the interests of First Nations are critical to its vision of sustainable forestry practices and so Canfor is happy to partner with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage First Nations people to explore career paths in the forest industry.

### BURSARY



**AARON CLEMENT**  
**NAZKO FIRST NATION**  
College of New Caledonia  
Industrial Mechanic/Millwright

My name is Aaron Clement. I am 19 years old. I was raised in Nazko Valley, an hour west of Quesnel in the Cariboo Chilcolten. I am attending the College New Caledonia to work on becoming a millwright and welder. I look forward to giving back to my community by providing assistance with the Elders' homes. I am good with my hands and enjoy helping others, so I will be able to do things like home repairs. I also hope to start my own family one day when I am done schooling and have a good job.

Thank you for the support NRT Foundation.  
Every little bit helps get me further in life on my journey to becoming a millwright.



**ZANE GRAVELLE**  
**TOBACCO PLAINS INDIAN BAND**  
College of the Rockies  
Level 4 Industrial Electrician

My name is Zane Gravelle. I am from Tobacco Plains Band and a proud member of the Ktunaxa Nation, where I reside. This year I completed the fourth year Industrial Electricians Program through the College of the Rockies and earned my Red Seal Certification. I have obtained full-time employment with Line Creek Mine at Teck Coal Industries. The greatest part of this achievement is knowing that I will be successfully able to support my family, worry free.

I thank the NRT Foundation for approving my application for the second year in a row.

### UNDERGRADUATE



**STEPHANIE FEDIRCHUK**  
**TAKLA LAKE**  
University of Victoria  
Electrical Engineering

I am currently completing my final year of Electrical Engineering at the University of Victoria. Following graduation I plan to obtain a full time career with a company devoted to innovative renewable energy technologies. I hope to use the knowledge obtained in my program to influence the utilization of renewable energy resources. I am devoted to a greener, more sustainable future for Canada!

Thank you very much for the assistance you have provided me, I am very grateful. This contribution makes my study period far less stressful and I am able to devote a lot more of my time to ensuring I do well in school!







Scotiabank is dedicated to offering specialized financial services to Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. We are a member of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, where we hold the “Gold” accomplishment for Progressive Aboriginal Relations and we are dedicated to the advancement and education of Aboriginal youth and adults. We are happy to be part of your community and are proud to demonstrate our commitment to you through progressive sponsorships, training and educational initiatives.

Peace Hills Trust is Canada’s first and largest First Nation Trust Company. Established in 1980, it has more than 35 years of experience serving the financial needs of our clients. Peace Hills Trust is proudly owned by the Samson Cree Nation. Its head office is located on reserve in Maskwacis, Alberta and eight offices are located across the country. We are the financing partner of choice to Aboriginal Businesses and have been for 35 years.

## UNDERGRADUATE



**LEXUS PLEASANT**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
 University of Victoria  
 Fine Arts

My name is Lexus Pleasant and I am an Okanagan First Nations student at the University of Victoria. Currently, I am working towards an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts with a focus on theatre! My goal is to specialize in acting. Once I graduate, I look forward to moving to Vancouver (the Hollywood of Canada) and pursuing a career in film.

I would really like to take the time to acknowledge NRTF! Financially, school can be tough so thank you for considering and gracing me with a scholarship!

## BURSARY



**TRISHA STEVENS**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Business Administration

Hello! I am Trisha Stevens. I am a mother to two beautiful children. I am currently doing the Human Resources Diploma program at NWCC. I will be transferring to UNBC to obtain my Bachelor of Commerce degree. I truly believe that education is the key to success. My goals are to provide the best life I can for my children and to pave the way to success for them. I have many dreams of what I will do with my education but will take it as it comes. Life likes to throw you curve balls and I will go with the flow.

I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for this wonderful contribution towards my education and for helping me and my children on this journey of life!



## **KAMANA A. BIKADI**

**LIL'WAT NATION**  
Capilano University  
Business Administration

I am a member of the Lil'wat Nation community and am currently in my third/ fourth year of studies in the Bachelor of Business Administration program at Capilano University with a concentration in accounting. One of my aspirations is to complete the Chartered

Professional Accountants Professional Education Program. I am very passionate about inspiring my family and community to follow their dreams and show them that they can achieve anything they desire.

I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude to the NRT Foundation and sponsors for selecting me to receive this award. I feel extremely honoured! The amount of support and encouragement I receive is very motivating and will support me to keep striving for excellence.



The New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRT Foundation) was created in 2011 to ensure that vital First Nations scholarship and bursary programs continue in perpetuity through the establishment of an endowment. The following bursary and scholarships were granted by the New Relationship Trust Foundation.

## BURSARY



**MATTHEW AMBERS**  
**KWAKWAKA'WAKW FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Indigenous Studies Program**

I am Kwakwaka'wakw from Fort Rupert, Village Island, Alert Bay, Turnour Island and Estekin. I am also Mowachaht from Friendly Cove as well as from Tongas, Alaska and Dorset, England. I am excited to be on this educational journey that combines traditional and contemporary teachings. After my undergraduate degree program, I plan on working with my Aboriginal community, either in one of my home communities or with my urban Aboriginal community in Victoria. I would like to work with youth and elders in a cooperative way, learning and teaching each other, so that we can become a stronger Aboriginal Nation.



**VIVIAN AUSTIN**  
**HAGWILGET VILLAGE**  
**Langara College**  
**Aboriginal Studies - Associates Degree**

My name is Vivian Austin. I am from Hagwilget Village. My bloodlines are Witsuwit'en, Dakelh and Gitxsan. I am currently at Langara College pursuing my Associate of Arts Degree in Aboriginal Studies. I plan to further in my educational journey by transferring to UBC to attain a bachelor's in First Nations studies and completing my journey by working towards a law degree, where I plan to work in the field of human rights and child welfare, primarily focused on Aboriginal issues.



**RON CHARLIE**  
**BURNS LAKE BAND**  
**Native Education College**  
**Aboriginal Justice Studies Program**

I am a proud First Nations man who is part Shuswap and part Nutsini. My mother Karen Charlie is from Canim Lake and my father Robert Charlie is from Stellaqo. I belong to the Caribou clan and am blessed with my wife Chereen and three boys—eight, two and three months in age. I am currently enrolled at the Native Education College, taking the Aboriginal Justice Program. My wishes are to enhance the lives of youth and young adults.



**DORIAN CHRISTOPHER**  
**CANIM LAKE BAND**  
**Vancouver Career College**  
**Network System Administrator Program**

I have always been interested in technology and how to utilize it. My hobbies include PC gaming, reading and researching the most efficient and convenient technological systems. My home community, which is in a rural area, was provided with dial-up internet within the last decade and their website is frequently hacked and abused. The skills I learn at the Vancouver Career College can bring my community and their network up-to-date and secured. I have obtained the skills needed to bring technology to First Nations throughout BC, putting us on an equal working platform.

[Kukwstsetsemc \(Thank You\).](#)





**KADY CLEMENT**  
**NAZKO FIRST NATION**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Social Services Worker**

My name is Kady Clement. I am a citizen belonging to the Nazko First Nations of the Northern Carrier region. I am currently 17 years old living in Quesnel. I am a full-time student with a course load of five classes as well as a part-time worker at West Fraser Mills Ltd. After I finish the first semester of school, I am hoping to be transferred into OC in Kelowna to further my education there. I would love to move to Kelowna as soon as possible because UBCO has been my dream school for four years now.



**JIM CODI**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Aveda Institute**  
**Hairstyling**

I have chosen to go to this school and to be in this program because I would like to start my own hairstyling program for First Nations students. This is my ultimate main goal. I want it to be more accessible for First Nations students to attend a program such as this. Through my own experience, I understand it can be hard to get funded. As for a short term goal I want to go through this program with high grades and to be super successful in this work industry after I complete the course.



**TEANNA NOEL DUCHARME**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW**  
**Native Education College**  
**Pathways to Health Careers**

My name is Teanna Ducharme and I come from the Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw and I am from the Ganada (frog) Clan. I aspire to become a traditional midwife and work in Aboriginal communities in northern BC. The Pathways to Health Careers Program at Native Education College was an incredible starting point in my educational journey and has prepared me for the road ahead. I hope to one day open a Nisga'a birthing centre in my home community and help build a strong Nation for generations to come.



**DREW GONU**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**  
**UA Piping Industry College of BC**  
**Piping Foundation**

I am Drew L. Gonu, also known as Saxdigitkw Laxgibuu in Nisga'a, which means Man of a War Canoe. I hail from Gitlaxtaamiks, BC. and graduated from Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School in 2012. After gaining employment and receiving wages as a general labourer in 2013, I realized that I needed to continue my education to gain a career in trades.

I entered into trades training in 2014. I am currently enrolled in the Piping Foundation Program at UA Piping Industry College of BC at the Terrace Campus and look forward to gaining employment upon my completion.



**GARRETT GREENWOOD**  
**MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Southern Alberta Institute of Technology**  
**Medical Laboratory Technology**

I was born in Victoria, BC and started my university career at the University of Victoria, graduating in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Bio-Psychology. In June of 2015, I was accepted to a Medical Laboratory Technology Program at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, where I am currently residing. I am looking forward to graduating in 2017 so that I can travel the world and work as a medical laboratory technologist. With the money I earn from my new occupation, I would like to start a business in the near future.



**TIANNA GROSSE**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Camosun College**  
**Indigenous Family Support**

My name is Tianna Grosse and I am from Masset, Haida Gwaii. This year I am taking the Indigenous Family Support program at Camosun College. I chose this program because I will gain knowledge and training to go back home and be a support worker for people, children and/or families. In this program I will have two practicum placements that will help me explore possible career opportunities. I would like to do one of my practicums in an elementary school as this certificate will certify me to be a teachers' assistant, and working in education is one of my interests. Comments: I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for their continued support while I attend post-secondary. Their help has been greatly appreciated.



**STAAS GUUJAAW**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND**  
**Camosun College**  
**Welding Foundations**

My name is Staas Guujaaw from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am starting the Welding Foundations Program at Camosun College this fall. I wanted to take this program because I enjoy welding and there is a need for it in my community. I want to bring my education back to Haida Gwaii for marine and equipment repair.

**I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for supporting me while I pursue my education.**







**VIENNA HENRY**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Hair Design

I was born in Terrace BC. My band is Lax Kw'Alaams. I was raised in Vancouver from an early age. I have been interested in getting my upgrading and returning to what I find I'm good at. From an early age I have been interested in hair design. I became good at it and now I would like to get my license and see where I go from there. Helping people feel good about themselves is a start in a good direction. Working in a salon and eventually having my own business are my goals for the future.



**CORY HUNT**  
**KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION**  
 British Columbia Institute of Technology  
 Electrical Apprentice Level 3

Hi my name is Cory Hunt. I am from Vancouver Island, born and raised Kwakw'waka. My family and community have had the most impact on me, as they raised me into the man I have become. I am soon to be a father and cannot wait to pass on my knowledge and ways of my people. I am currently going to BCIT to become a journeyman electrician. My career is very important to me. I have one more year to take and then I will be done. After becoming a journeyman, I plan on going back to school for electrical engineering.



**PAMELA HOPE**  
**SEABIRD ISLAND BAND**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Practical Nursing

Hi, I am Pamela Hope. I have a career in the healthcare field as a maternal child health support worker. I have been fortunate to be hired on since 2008 by the Seabird Island First Nation band office. I have applied and been accepted into the VCC/Seabird Island Practical Nursing Program. I have had many challenges and am still continuing my studies in my journey in the nursing field.



**DAKOTA JACK**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
 Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
 Criminology 101

I grew up in the lower mainland and am an Okanagan Indian Band member. A recent graduate from the Native Education College (NEC), I am currently enrolled in a two-year criminology program at the Burnaby campus of Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). After graduation, I plan on pursuing a lifelong career in law enforcement in Canada, which is my main objective and goal. Here, I will be able to utilize skills to help Aboriginal people within my community to make right choices. I would also like to be a positive role model and inspire Aboriginal people to continue their education.



**ZACH HOPPER**  
**SECHELT FIRST NATION**  
 British Columbia Institute of Technology  
 Welding Foundations

My name is Zach Hopper and I am from the Shishalh First Nation. I was born and raised in Sechelt, BC. For many years, I desired to move off the coast and pursue my passion of welding, and this has now finally become a reality. After high school, I took a year off to work as a welder's helper, where I became confident in the trade I was choosing. In the future, I hope to work as a welder in the lower mainland, achieve my A ticket, and eventually buy a welding truck to take with me up north.



**LAWRENCE JONES**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Professional Cook Level 1 and Level 2

My name is Lawrence Jones. I am from Old Massett, Haida Gwaii. My goal is to complete Professional Cooking Apprenticeship, levels one and two. I started my level one in August 2015 and my course will be complete in March 2016. I have been cooking for over 30 years. I started in the late 70's. I went to Northwest Community College in 1980-1981 for basic cooking. My first job was cooking in a restaurant in Alberta. Over the years I've cooked in camps and I would like to continue doing this when I complete my course.



**CRYSTAL HOWARD**  
**MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION**  
 Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
 General Arts - Associates Degree

I am a Mowachaht woman that was born and raised in Vancouver. I am also a mother of two. I start my second year at NVIT for my Associate of Arts Degree in fall of 2015. I am working towards getting into the Bachelor of Social Work Program. I work within my community at the local teen center because I believe it is important to give back to where I grew up. I want to make a positive difference in the Indigenous community because I want to show others that if I can do it, so can they—especially my children!



**CANDACE KELLY**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Culinary Art Professional Cook 1 Program

I am Candace Kelly and I am from the Squamish Nation. I attend the Vancouver Community College Culinary Art Professional Cook 1 Program. My goal is to further my culinary education so one day I can have my own catering company for me and my family. My spouse and I have three beautiful children.



Wow! I would like to say thank you very much to the NRTF for awarding me this bursary.



**PATRICIA KELLY**  
**SUMAS FIRST NATION**  
**University of the Fraser Valley**  
**Fashion Design**

Hi! My name is Patricia Kelly and I am attending the University of the Fraser Valley. I am from the Sumas First Nation community. My ultimate life goal is to become fluent in Halq'emeylem and bring back my education to my community!



**MELANIE LAMBSDOWN**  
**ESK'ETEMC FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Culinary Arts**

I am from the Alkali Lake Reserve in BC. I live with my husband Dennis and we have two sons. Both Dennis and my youngest son have also completed the Culinary Arts program at VCC. I have worked in the Jackson Kitchen, which supplies daily hot meals to residents in the downtown eastside, for three years and I am known for my fantastic soups. I am planning on returning to the kitchen with my newfound skills and knowledge when I am finished the VCC program.



**MARK LAMONT**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Camosun College and BCIT Marine Campus**  
**Watchkeeping Certificate**

I have been in the marine industry for 20 years now. I am now in school to get my watchkeeping certificate. Presently I'm studying at Camosun College in Victoria. In December I will go to BCIT in North Vancouver. After I get the certificate, I'll be able to work as a junior officer on ships on the BC coast.



**SHAREESA LARUE**  
**TK'EMLUPS TE SECWPEMC**  
**Okanagan College**  
**Audio Engineering and Music Production**

My name is Shreesa LaRue. I currently attend Okanagan College and I'm really excited about taking the course I'm in. I can't wait until I graduate. When I do, I plan on working with live sound and building my own home studio. I took this course knowing that it was a competitive industry, but everyone in this world has something different to offer. I also took a big leap because I want to be a role model—not just in my community, but everywhere.



**ERICA LOUIS**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Douglas College**  
**Academic Foundations Certificate**

My career goals are continuously evolving. So far I've completed my Bachelor of Arts Degree, majoring in criminology and I plan on continuing my education with the Academic Foundations Certificate Program. This program will allow me to bridge into the Psychiatric Nursing Program. My initial career goal was to work within the criminal justice system but that has evolved into working as a psychiatric nurse as there is a prevalence of mental health issues among those incarcerated.



**SAVANNAH LOUIS**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**En'owkin Center | Developmental**  
**Standards Teaching Certificate**

Way' (hello), my name is Savannah Louis and I am from the Okanagan Indian Band in Vernon, BC. My parents are Byron Louis and Jami Tonasket. I have one sister and her name is Lindsey Louis. I am currently pursuing my Developmental Standards Teaching Certificate (DSTC) which will be completed in June 2016. I then plan on completing my Bachelor of Arts Degree. My educational goals are to obtain my language and cultural teaching degree so I can teach the nsyilxcen language. I am a fancy shawl dancer and I love participating in cultural events and activities.



**TIANNA LOYER**  
**GITXAALA NATION**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Hospitality Management**

From early on in my life I knew I liked working with people. I have the confidence, professionalism, experience, and passion for working in the tourism and hospitality industry. I love learning new things and thrive in new experiences. With the assistance of the Gitxaala Nation, I have been able to commit myself and excel in school. There are more careers in the industry than I knew before I started my program, but I know that by the end I will be able to make an informed decision on which career I want to pursue.

I plan on honoring NTRF's belief in me by continuing my hard work and becoming a successful female Aboriginal in the hospitality and tourism industry. This will have a positive ripple effect to more than myself as an Aboriginal individual.





**SHELLY MACK**  
**EHATTESAHT/CHINEHKINT FIRST NATION**  
 North Island College  
 Business Administration

I am a member of the Ehattesaht/Chinehkint First Nation and a proud young mother of my son Dreyton. I moved from Zeballos, a small village with a population of 500 people, to Campbell River, where I currently attend college. My long-term educational goal is to obtain a bachelor's degree in business. After graduation, I aspire to be an entrepreneur and business owner. The vision I have for my business career focuses on giving back to the First Nations community by creating job opportunities. I wouldn't have come this far without the support from the Aboriginal sponsors, my community, family and friends.



**ANASTASIOS MALAMAS**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Professional Cook Apprenticeship Level 1

My name is Anastasios Malamas. I come from Masset BC and I finished secondary school in 2014. At the time, I thought I'd wanted to become an RCMP officer, but after one year of reflection on my life and planning ahead, I wanted to base my life on happiness, ultimately driving me to chase the career of my dreams: culinary arts. Money, big houses, sports cars—none of that matters to me because nothing can buy happiness. You have to make yourself happy, and that's what I intend to do.



**BROOKLYN MARTIN**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Music Diploma (Vocal Jazz Major)

I am a second year Music Diploma student at VCC. This program has a tremendous learning curve, which some find discouraging. Taking on this challenge with full force, I am now half-way through the second year. After completion, I will be fully equipped to enter the Music Therapy Degree Program offered by Capilano University. Music therapy has been a long-time dream of mine, and the Music Diploma Program is the first step to getting there.



**KRISTY MCKAY**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Applied Business Technology

I am in the first year of the Applied Business Technology course at NCC. My education goal is to continue on in business administration, account-based, and then to continue on to become a Chartered General Accountant. I am very excited about attending school and reaching my future goals.



**THUNDER MITCHELL**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
 Okanagan College  
 Aircraft Maintenance Engineer - Mechanic

I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band. I graduated in 2013 and am 20 years old. I recently was "student for a day" in the Aircraft Maintenance Engineer – Mechanic program and this experience solidified my program of choice. My goal is to become a licensed AME-M so that one day I can achieve my dream of becoming a licensed pilot. My passion is to think outside the box and a career that is hands-on is what interests me the most. I am grateful to have found a program that aligns my passion with my character.



**GREG MOORE**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP**  
 British Columbia Institute of Technology  
 Marine Emergency Duties A2

My name is Greg Moore and I am from the Nisga'a Nation. In 2006, I graduated from the Nisga'a Secondary School in New Aiyansh BC. After high school I made the decision to pursue a career in the Royal Canadian Navy as a boatswain. I served five and a half years sailing the Pacific Ocean on three different class warships. In 2013, I decided that I should explore my options outside the military while I was young enough to do so. I am now 26 years old and I have acquired different training that has enabled me to become a natural resources officer.



**NATASHA MOORE**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Business Administration

I am from the Nisga'a Village of Gingolx. After completing a Business Office Skills Diploma in 2004, I worked in one of our village government offices as an assistant for almost ten years before deciding to return to college for a higher education. My mother was my inspiration for this decision, as she had completed her diploma when all of her children were grown and moved out. I hope to see more adults taking that step to come back to school; it is never too late. I look forward to working once again when I have reached my educational goal.



**MEGAN MUNROE**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXDAMIX**  
 Blanche MacDonald  
 Esthetics and Spa Program

My name is Megan Munroe. I come from New Aiyansh, BC. I hail from the Ganada (frog) Tribe from the house of ksim xsaan. I have a daughter named Brooke and my husband Chester. My goals are to become certified and take my



knowledge back to my community and open up a shop for our Nation so they don't have to travel an hour away from home to go to the spa.



**KANANI NAHANE**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**

**Douglas College**  
**General Arts - Associates Degree**

I am a proud mother to my son and a foster parent. I have worked as a child and youth care worker on my reserve for the last seven years. Now I am moving on with my studies to get my Bachelor of Social Work. I am passionate about helping the children of my community. I practice self-care by doing the things I love such as pow-wow dancing, crossfit, salsa dancing, attending ceremonies, making regalia and traveling.



**ROSE NARCISSE**  
**XAXLI'P FIRST NATION**

**Okanagan College**  
**Advanced GIS Certificate**

I have been working with SGS Heritage and Culture as a Heritage Field Assistant since May of 2013. Prior to working at SGS, I completed my Bachelor of Arts of First Nation Studies from Simon Fraser University and participated in the SFU-Kamloops Archaeology Field School. I will be taking an education leave to study at Okanagan College.



**ALEXANDRIA NIKAL**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**

**Okanagan College**  
**Business Administration**

I wish to open an affordable clothing store within my small community. I would like to complete my Business Administration Diploma, then pursue a job and work towards my bachelor's degree online. I aspire to be a business owner/manager. I also will use my skills to assist my husband with his contracting company when he completes school. Being in school has changed my life.



**DALLAS NIKAL**  
**MORICETOWN BAND**

**Northwest Community College**  
**Associates Degree of Science**

I am 24 years old and going into my second year of sciences. I wish to become a biologist. For fun, I play baseball, hike and spend quality time with my wife and son. I like to camp, fish, hunt and spend a lot of time outdoors. This has inspired me to pursue an environmental career.



**JAMIE NOLE**  
**ISKUT BAND**

**Northwest Community College**  
**First Nations Fine Arts**

I am from the Tahltan and Nisga'a nations of the Frog clan. I currently reside in Terrace, BC. I am a multitasking artist with a natural creativity that helped me learn First Nations Fine Art, Cedar Bark Weaving and a variety of other artistic techniques. My natural ability was encouraged by my supportive parents who provided me with all the required tools of an artist. In 2015, I acquired my first set of limited edition prints and began my business and website called "Injane's Art Life". I am attending college to study First Nations Fine Arts in September 2015.



**TALLON O'NEILL**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**

**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Architectural Building Technology**

Currently I am enrolled at BCIT studying Architecture and Building Technology. After graduation I hope to secure a job in project management with a construction outfit in Vancouver. Beyond just acquiring a job I am also keen on further integrating sustainability and green builds into Vancouver and the lower mainland's infrastructure. Although the industry is definitely profit based, I think there needs to be more of a push to build energy efficient homes that bring communities together. BCIT has been great so far, and I am looking forward to seeing what the next few years have in store.



**SACHA OUELLET**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**

**John Casablancas Institute**  
**Make Up Artistry**

I am a 27 year-old mixed race Haida woman from Victoria, BC. I am currently based in Vancouver, BC, where I work as a freelance make-up artist, and am currently attending John Casablancas Institute for Makeup Artistry including Special FX. In the past two years, I have worked closely with the Indigenous community in Victoria. I participated in the Indigenous Youth Art Program through Open Space, and later became the Indigenous News director for CFUV at the University of Victoria. I look forward to volunteering with Indigenous programs in the downtown eastside after graduation.

I'd like to thank the Creator, my family and the NRT Foundation for supporting my education. I feel as if I have truly found my calling, and now will be able to enjoy my studies to the fullest potential with this generous bursary. Ha'waa.







### VANESSA PARNELL

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Langara College

Aboriginal Studies - Associates degree

My name is Vanessa Parnell. I come from the Haida, Tsimshian, and Nisga'a nations. I am currently in my second year of my program. I am attending Langara for the Aboriginal Studies Program. My educational goals are to transfer to UBC to finish off my bachelors degree. My career goals are to obtain a job that allows me work on building the strengths of Indigenous values and beliefs with in my community.



### IAN PEASE

LYTTON FIRST NATION

Capilano University | Indigenous

Independent Digital Filmmaker Program

My mother is from the Nlaka'pamux First Nation in Lytton BC and my father is from the Absaroka First Nation in Montana. After completing three years of course work at University of Washington, I came back to Lytton to win over a beautiful native woman. I now attend the Indigenous Independent Digital Filmmaking Program at Capilano University. As a father to a three year-old little girl, I write children's fiction that aims to entertain. As a distance runner and First Nations' history student, I write films that centre around the enduring spirit of First Nations people in difficult times.



### RANDALL PHILLIPS

LIL'WAT NATION

Capilano University

Business Administration

My name is Randall Phillips and I am from the Lil'wat First Nation. I am a full-time student completing my second year and starting my third at Capilano University. My main focus right now is completing Bachelor of Business Administration degree with Advanced Accounting so I can apply and continue on to get my Chartered Professional Accounting (CPA) designation. My intent is to gain this education to eventually bring it back to help support my community. Accounting is a field that will always be in demand.



### HAILEY PIERCE

KITSUMKALUM FIRST NATION

Vancouver Community College

Hair Design

I was born and raised in Prince Rupert and my family is from the community of Kitsumkalum. I am a single mom to a seven year-old. I have had little success obtaining full time employment in the city and felt that in order to provide a stable, secure future for my child I needed a long term career.

I enrolled in the Hair Design Program at Vancouver Community College. It's a perfect fit for my personality—I love meeting new people and I look forward to a great career!



### NICOLE PIGEON

ASHCROFT INDIAN BAND

Queen's University | Post Graduate

Certification in Special Education

I am a proud Nlaka'pamux woman from the Ashcroft Indian Band. I was extremely fortunate to have found an amazing career in First Nations education on the Skeetchestn Indian Reserve. I worked as a teacher at Skeetchestn and then as the Principal. Recently I changed paths and have been working as an LST. I am passionate about education! I have seen the challenges and difficulties many First Nations children encounter and that is why I am pursuing my Special Education Diploma. I owe a debt of gratitude to my family who have supported me and encouraged me throughout my journey.



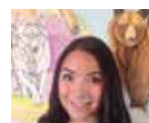
### JORDAN POLLARD

SKIDEGATE BAND

Selkirk College

Esthetics

I was raised in Skidegate, Haida Gwaii since birth and recently graduated from Queen Charlotte Secondary School. I am attending Selkirk College in September to become an Esthetician. Once I finish this course I will have my Special Beauty Culture Licence. I am excited to return to Skidegate and start my own small business where I can provide professional beauty and skin services that are not available within our community.



### JAZMINE RICHARD

TK'EMLUPS TE SECWEPENC

Thompson Rivers University

Resort and Hotel Management Diploma

Weyktp, I am from the Tk'emlúps te Secwépenc Indian Band from the Secwépenc Nation. I'm Shuswap, Cree and Coast Salish. I've lived in Vancouver and Kamloops, BC most of life and lived in Calgary for one year. Recently, I got married to my "high school sweetheart" and we just celebrated our 10-year anniversary. Currently, I'm enrolled in the Resort and Hotel Management Diploma. Five years from today I see myself becoming a successful manager or coordinator for a hotel business dealing with tourism. The possibilities in the tourism field are endless and I'm excited for my educational and career endeavours!

Thanks you once again for your generous bursary and for your dedication to First Nations' education.





## CODY NORRIS

**SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS**

**Northern Light College & SFU  
Education - Teaching Certificate**

Hello, My name is Cody Norris. I am a proud member of the Saulneau First Nations and mother of twin girls. I am continuing my education so I can become a First Nations teacher in BC. I will show our Aboriginal students that they can achieve their goals. I hope to be an adult

that our Aboriginal students can relate to. I want every child to strive to reach their potential while feeling confident and important in their individual journeys. I thank the NRT Foundation for supporting me in my journey to help children feel success in theirs.

I am extremely grateful for this award. The NRT Foundation has helped me achieve my goal and I cannot express the gratitude I feel. As a single mother living in rural northeastern BC, it was a huge financial burden to leave my job to pursue my education, especially knowing I would have to travel three and a half to four hours a day to do so. This award will ease my financial burden and allow me to focus on my education and my children. Mussi Cho.



**SARAH J. ROBERTSON**  
**DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Professional Cook Training Level 2**

My name is Sarah J. Robertson and I am from Musqamakw-Dzawada'enuxw First Nation of Kingcome Village. I lived there until I was seven years old and my parents moved us to Campbell River, BC so I could get a better education. At the age of 18-19, I went through Malaspina Collage for a Culinary Art Program. I received my First Cook Training Certificate and since then all my jobs have been in restaurant kitchens. I currently live in the lower mainland. I completed my level 1 professional cook training at VCC in 2014 and in 2015 I went back to do my level 2. I have over 15 years of cooking experience. I am dedicated, committed and proud of all my accomplishments. To work in a hospital again or a camp as a cook is my career goal.



**SERAPHINE ROBINS**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Criminology-Associates Degree**

I am from the Okanagan Vernon Indian Band. I am a single mother. I am studying criminology, and hope one day to become an RCMP officer. If that does not go according to plan, then I hope to be working within the same field, within the justice system. I also want to work with First Nations people.



**SAMANTHA RULLIN**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Capilano University**  
**Arts and Entertainment Management**

My name is Samantha Rullin. I am from Old Massett on Haida Gwaii. My Haida name is Skil Jaadee. I have completed a diploma in Arts and Entertainment Management. Continuing with my education I hope to find a career in event planning.



**HARVEY JAMES RUSSELL**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Western Maritime Institute**  
**150 Ton Master**

I am Tsimshian from the North Coast. After completing my bachelor's degree in natural resource protection at 22, I returned home to work with Lax Kw'alaams' fisheries program; after three ground-breaking years, we've established significant monitoring projects in the Skeena River Estuary. In those three years, I also devoted time to business education, completing the NW Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneur Program. Since, I've been furthering my

marine education with the 150 Ton Masters certificate in my sights. I hope to combine my various skills and interests to help shape a positive future within our territory.



**KARLY SANTIAGO**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**  
**Aveda Institute**  
**Hair Stylist**

My dream is to tell my kids and my grandkids that I made it somewhere and so will they.



**NATASHA SMITH**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Culinary Arts Professional Cook 1**

I started teaching myself how to cook at the age of 15. Eventually I started experimenting with dishes, then I was cooking every day for my family. Once I realized it was a passion more than a hobby, I started to think about a career in the industry. I went from a high school drop-out to absolutely loving college. Being in a male-dominant industry and me being one of two Aboriginal people out of a class of 20, I have a lot to prove and I love the challenge! One day I hope to open my own Aboriginal restaurant.



**KARL STEVENS**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Piping Foundation**

I am a single father attending BCIT's Piping Foundation Program and my career goals are to obtain my Red Seal in plumbing and own my own business. This bursary will help me a lot with the cost of living in Vancouver on a single income. It will also give me the freedom to spend the weekends doing homework and spending quality time with my three boys.



**CAMILLA STEWART**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Native Education College**  
**Aboriginal Justice Studies Program**

As a single mother of two young children, I have always struggled to get ahead, gain independence and bring my family into the technical world. I am currently in the Native Education College's Aboriginal Justice Studies Program. I hope to continue with my education for a few more years to gain a degree and enter into the law field. I hope to become a Paralegal or work in transformative justice. I would like to gain independence, live sufficiently and take care of my family and community.





**DANIEL STEWART**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Heavy Equipment Operator Technician

I am 51 years old, half Haida and half Nisga'a. I have lived on Haida Gwaii all my life, been married for 23 years and have five children. I have been working on getting my Class 1 Licence and Heavy Machinery Tickets and I achieved that this October, 2015. I also just received my Adult Dogwood, which I have worked over the past three years. Over the past 30+ years working for Old Massett Village Council, I worked my way up to Bush Supervisor and for the past 25+ years I have had my OFA Level 3 first aid ticket.



**FARLEY STEWART**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX**  
 McMaster University  
 Diploma in Human Resources

I have two teenage daughters: Grace and Hannah Stewart. I was born and raised in Port Edward Village and I am Nisga'a from Kincolith, BC. My parents are James and Simone Stewart. I think it is important for me to be there for my daughters who are growing up too fast. I also believe it is important to give back to the community and volunteering is something I enjoy doing. Over the past year, I helped in a number of volunteer activities for our local government and within the community.



**BIANCA SWANSON**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 Northwest Community College  
 Social Service Work

My English name is Bianca Swanson, and I am a first year social service work student at Northwest Community College. My long-term goal is to become a Youth Counselor. I also would like to travel to various Aboriginal communities to get insight as to how they deal with youth issues. I will be continuing my studies, and will be working toward a Bachelor of Social Work degree. I look forward to my future in youth work. I believe that for youth to be our future, we must make the present wonderful for them.



**JARED TAIT**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**  
 UA Piping Industry College  
 Piping Foundation

I bring valuable insight and knowledge to the building construction trades. I have learned that once you get good at what you are interested in, you can use those skills to branch out into other areas. I began my career with an electrical company where I learned ducting, electrical and plumbing skills. Once I collected enough hours I

successfully completed Electrical Level 1 and I am currently taking the Piping Foundation Program in Terrace to get into steamfitting.



**SHANE TAIT**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXDAMI**  
 UA Piping Industry College  
 Foundations of Welding Level 1

I'm from the Nisga'a nation, the village of New Aiyansh and my short term goals are to become an apprentice in welding. Long term goals are to be a Red seal in the next 20 years or so. I was privileged to take an ITC course in Terrace B.C. There are other campuses but it was the Intro to Trades course that opened my eyes to a variety of trades, not just welding. I choose welding because of how versatile the trade is, it is fun, I like working with my hands and if you're interested in the trades look up UAPIC.



**JESSICA TOLMIE**  
**TAHLTAN FIRST NATION**  
 Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
 Human Resources Management Diploma

My name is Jessica Tolmie and I am very happy that I have the opportunity to be a part of the New Relationship Trust Bursary Program. Not only does this help me with my studies but it also enables me to further my career growth. I'm working towards a Human Resources Management Degree, however completing my Business Management Diploma will be the first step. I have always been determined on my career path and appreciate the support the New Relationship Trust Bursary Program for being a part of my journey. Thank you!



**SHELDON TOUCHIE**  
**UCLUELET FIRST NATION**  
 Capilano University | Indigenous Independent  
 Filmmaking Development Program

I am Sheldon Touchie: Kwa'aaK'walth (sea otter hitting clam with rock), from the Ucluelet and Ahousaht First Nations on the edge of Vancouver Island. I love to surf; I love to play basketball; I love to dream! I've participated in my fair share of employment (chamber of commerce, fish plant, retail, surf instructor, carpenter's apprentice, electrician's apprentice, and even dishwashing). Receiving basic training from an independent filmmaking company at the end of 2012, I became inspired to enrol into post-secondary education. It's now my motivation to produce a web-series under my own script and production! After graduation, I will return and transition into third-year Motion Picture of Arts and continue my independent production. I am excited to complete my second year of Indigenous filmmaking, and am even more so to produce upcoming projects!







**RODNEY VICTOR**  
**CHEAM FIRST NATION**

**Vancouver College of Massage Therapy**  
**Registered Massage Therapy**

From a small fishing community along the Fraser River at the foot of the rocky mountains, I now live close to my school in the city of Vancouver. I believe my role in life involves helping people and I feel that I have picked the best career for myself. BC's Registered Massage Therapists are among the most educated and highly trained professionals in their field. To become an RMT in BC, students must complete extensive training at an accredited college. I'm currently excelling in my classes. I plan to continue performing well, then secure fulfilling work when school is finished.



**WILLIAM WADHAMS**  
**TLOWITSIS TRIBE**

**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Piping foundation**

I am a student in the Piping Foundation Program at BCIT in Burnaby, BC. I was born and raised in Vancouver, with Cree roots from the Ochapowace Nation in Saskatchewan, and am a member of the Tlowitsis Tribe of the Kwak'waka People. I enjoy watching Vancouver Canucks hockey games. I work out at the gym on weekdays, and boxing training on weekends. I also recently began participating in an acting program. My career goals include achieving the Red Seal in trades. I will then assist my relatives to build and establish a new community in the Campbell River area.



**LARISSA WALKUS**  
**WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION**

**Camosun College**  
**Associate Degree in Arts**

I grew up in a small town on Vancouver Island called Port Hardy and I have lived there pretty much my whole life. I took two years off of school after graduating high school in 2012. In the two years off, I worked as a lifeguard/instructor and as a barista. If it wasn't for my best friend who convinced me to move with her and go to school in Victoria I wouldn't be here. My goals are to finish my four years of school and get a degree in social work and start my new career.



**CRYSTAL WALLACE**  
**LIL'WAT FIRST NATION**

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Environmental Resource Technology**

My career goals are to keep the earth's resources sustainable and protect the land that we need and love so much. I have a strong connection to nature and look forward to working in my element.

I am very excited and appreciate the bursary. As a student with three children it is hard to go to school and have enough time and money to support my family. Thank you very much!



**JOEY WESLEY**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**

**Brighton College**  
**International Trade and Freight Forwarding**

My name is Joey Wesley. I grew up in Lax kw'alaams and Prince Rupert, later moving to Vancouver. Currently, attending Brighton College in downtown Vancouver, I am enrolled in this amazing program called International Trades and Freight Forwarding. My goal upon completion is to get into the import/export industry.



**SHATASHA WESLEY**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**

**Langara College**  
**General Arts - Associates Degree**

My name is Tasha Wesley. I am Tsimshian and Haida. I have a seven year-old daughter and she is my inspiration as well as my world. I grew up near Prince Rupert, BC and currently reside in North Vancouver, BC. I am working toward a degree in Social Work and would like to work with families and youth in the greater Vancouver area.



**MORIAH WILBER**  
**SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND**

**University of the Fraser Valley**  
**Agriculture Technology**

I grew up at Skuppah First Nation where I was involved in playing baseball with the Skuppah Sluggers and was a member of our community's dirt biking team – the Rez Riders. I attended Aboriginal Youth First camps as a participant for six years and as a leader/instructor for three years and have certifications in lifeguarding, teaching aquatics and scuba diving. Our family moved to Chilliwack during my Grade 11 year and I became interested in livestock animals. I enrolled in the University of the Fraser Valley's Agriculture Program in January 2015 and hope to work in the animal health field after graduation.



**ATHENA WILSON**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**

**Blanche MacDonald Centre**  
**Professional Hairstyling Diploma**

Hello, My name is Athena Wilson and I'm from the Musqueam First Nation. I am a student at Blanche MacDonald and I have various personal and career goals.



Some of my personal goals are to graduate from my post secondary school with the best grades and outcomes that I can possibly get. My main career goals are to use my post secondary education to further my life and my career in hair dressing and to also advance my life through ongoing education, specifically through the Makeup Artistry Program. Thank you.



**LEANNE WRIGHT**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Construction Safety Officer Training**

My name is Leanne Wright and I was born and raised "two miles south of Heaven" in the Nisga'a village of New Aiyansh (Gitlaxt'amix) located in the Nass Valley in northwestern BC. My Nisga'a name is Miilukw hli Haykw Gibuu (Dancing Spirit Wolf). The atmosphere in my territory has been greatly and rapidly changing with so much focus on pipelines, which have inevitably increased my level of concern and heightened my sensitivity to the effects on our land, waters, fish and wildlife. After attending public forums on future developments proposed, I changed my focus to environmental sustainability and resource management.

The way I see it, we seem to have no choice in the global market demands that are going to directly affect the Nisga'a territory; however, if that is the case then I fully intend to be a part of the developments to ensure they will be carried out in as environmentally friendly and sustainable a manner as possible.



**NOELLE YOUNG**  
**TZEACHTEN BAND** The School of Toronto  
**Dance Theatre | Contemporary Dance,**  
**Professional Training Program**

I am a member of the Tzeachten Band and native to Chilliwack, BC. I began dancing competitively at the age of eight. At the age of 14, I was exposed to contemporary dance and found my passion. In 2012 I was given the opportunity to dance for Team Canada in the IDO World Cup Event in Frankfurt, Germany, and have had other great accomplishments since then. I am currently going into my third and final year at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre and plan to continue my studies in London, England at London Contemporary Dance School.

## UNDERGRADUATE



**TAYLOR BAKER**  
**TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION**  
**Acadia University**  
**Arts - Psychology**

Hello! I am a 2014 graduate of Delta Secondary School in Ladner BC and I currently live and work on Tsawwassen First Nation lands. I will be moving to Nova Scotia in August and I am so excited! I am truly grateful to receive this scholarship as it has given me the opportunity to pursue my personal goal of going to an amazing university. My career goal for the future would be to go into the field of law, but there are so many options so I am unsure; I am sure it will hit me!



**RHONDA BIRD**  
**LAKE BABINE NATION**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Social Work**

I am from Carrier First Nation of Lake Babine Nation which is located in Burns Lake, BC. I was raised off reserve in Vancouver. I am a grandmother of a newborn grandson and one year-old granddaughter. I am also, the mother of a 23 year-old daughter and 3 year-old highly spirited son. It is my intention to become a social worker in order to protect and work with Aboriginal families and children. It is my goal to work towards eliminating child poverty, abuse and lack of education amongst First Nations children. I am very thankful for this award.



**RILEY BONSHOR**  
**DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Arts**

Hi there, my name is Riley and this is my second year studying in the Faculty of Arts here at UBC. Right now I am undeclared with my undergraduate degree, but in the future I am interested in careers in law or education. An exciting new opportunity I will undertake this year is being in the role of Residence Advisor in the dorms here on campus. Some personal goals I have for the year are being able to create a nice balance between work, academics and my social life along with creating the best possible experience for my residents.

I want to thank NRT Foundation for aiding me again in my academic journey. Their support has allowed me to keep full attention on my studies and I really appreciate the support they have given me.





## SHANNON CAMPBELL

MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

Simon Fraser University  
Arts - Sociology

My ancestral name is Tsatsomatiya. I am Coast Salish and a mother to a newborn daughter. After completing my degree in

Sociology and First Nations Studies I hope to find a career in the social services field. As a former youth in care, I would love to work

with youth transitioning out of the foster care system. I struggled with the transition from foster care to adulthood, and I would like

to use my experience and education to give back to the community. My goal is to be a part of the healing journey for our people.

This scholarship has enabled me to focus on my education by relieving stress associated with the high cost of living. I not only have myself to worry about, but my newborn daughter and costs related to caring for her. As the daughter of two residential school survivors, and a former youth in care, I would like to be a part of breaking the cycle by helping our people work towards a healthy community for our future generations. By helping me achieve my education and career goals, this scholarship allows me to contribute to my community's healing journey. I hope to show my daughter the importance of "walking in two worlds"—that it is important to achieve a post-secondary education while maintaining connections to our culture. I want to show her and others in her generation that despite experiencing hardships it is possible to achieve a post-secondary education and contribute to the betterment of our people. I am extremely grateful to have been chosen for the NRT Foundation undergrad scholarship.





**SHANIA CUNNINGHAM**  
**NAZKO FIRST NATION**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Arts**

My personal goals are maintaining my mental, physical and spiritual health and improving my social skills during my post-secondary education. My career goal is to become an elementary school teacher to help young students, more specifically First Nations students, throughout their primary years. I would like to assist all students to find their full potential in their education and encourage them to do their best. I have participated in the disciplined art of Tae Kwon Do for five years, during which I obtained my first degree black belt status. I have also participated in competitive annual girls softball for nine years.



**ASHLIE DANIELS**  
**CANIM LAKE FIRST NATION**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Social Work**

My name is Ashlie Daniels. I am the mother of a four year-old son. I have graduated with a Diploma in Human Services. I will be going into my final year of the Bachelor of Social Work. I am also working towards achieving a Certificate in Aboriginal Studies. I am planning to use my education to work with Aboriginal youth in my community. This has been my goal from the start because I would like to use my education to help the future of our people.



**CHELSEA GLADSTONE**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Arts**

I am a member of the Haida Nation from Skidegate, BC. I recently graduated from Shawnigan Lake Boarding School with an average of 90.3%. Throughout my senior years of high school I was elected and granted an opportunity to voice the growing concerns of adolescents. I learned that advocating for peoples' needs is something that I would like to pursue in a more formal way. UBC has programs that will respond to this aspiration. I am excited to start my post-secondary education in the Faculty of Arts. I will be undertaking law and society as well as Spanish and German.



**EVA GRANT**  
**CAYOOSE CREEK INDIAN BAND**  
**Stanford University**  
**Arts - Theatre and Performance Studies**

I am an avid rock-climber, poet, buddy-reader, actor and academic who is excited and humbled to join the Stanford Class of 2019. Speaking four languages, I have found my love speaking to youth parliaments and UN headquarters

alike on topics of social justice and indigenous identity. I have worked as a Spanish-English interpreter in Nicaragua for a medical clinic, assisting over 1,000 patients and filming my experience. I keep my love of acting alive through community theatre and the odd stint as a body double. I will be representing Canada at the Girls20 Summit in Turkey in fall 2015.



**LUCY HACHÉ**  
**GWA'SALA-'NAKWAXDA'XW NATIONS**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Arts - Indigenous Studies**

Much of my life was spent on the ocean or in the forest, adventuring and harvesting wild traditional foods. I see the important role traditional foods and medicines play in our lives, in promoting our physical, mental and spiritual health. Four years ago, I worked with the Elders in my community to create a food sovereignty and nutrition program. I now understand that traditional food revitalization is linked to our language, culture and ceremony, and therefore all these areas must work in conjunction. I'm attending UBC to gain the tools needed in order to help my community in these areas.



**STEPHANIE HOLMES**  
**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Social Work**

My name is Stephanie Holmes, I am Carrier from Tl'azt'en Nation in Northern BC. I am in my third year of the BSW Program at NVIT in Burnaby with plans of obtaining a Master of Social Work later on. I am honored to be awarded the NRTF Scholarship which will help alleviate the the high cost of being a student as well as a single mother of two boys. I am grateful for this amazing opportunity, Thank you.



**DAVINA HUNT**  
**KWAKIUTL BAND**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Education - Language Revitalization**

My name is Davina Hunt, Wadzidalaga, Kwakiutl Band member living on the Fort Rupert reserve. I am a single parent of four children and four beautiful granddaughters. I am honoured to receive a scholarship to assist in my post-secondary education from NRTF. My work for the past five years has been a community-based delivery of our UVIC program; which also gave my cohort the opportunity to continue our learning of the Kwakwala language with fluent speakers. Speaking the language is connected to family, community, lands and the resources all around us. My goal is to awaken the language in myself, my family and the speakers. Gilakas'la.







**AMY JOE**  
**LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Education

My name is Amy Joe and I am a member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band in Merritt, BC. I am completing the 12 month Bachelor of Education program at the University of British Columbia. My passion has always been working with children, and it is my dream to become a teacher. As a teacher, I want to have a significant impact on the future of education, specifically First Nations education. My career goal is to work with First Nations students and help them overcome barriers so they can reach their full potential in school.



**NAOMI G. JULES**  
**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
 Vancouver Community College  
 Hospitality Management

I am from the Tl'azt'en Nation in Fort St. James, BC. My mother is Vivienne Jules from Tl'azt'en Nation and my biological father is Earl Sutherland from Nakazdli. I was raised on the Kamloops Indian Band reservation by my late father John Jules and was taught the Secwepemc ways by my family. My Indian name Red Deer Woman was given to me by my aunties Freda and Jeanette. I am a single mother of three beautiful children and am glad to be the role model of a woman who continues her education and follows her dreams.



**DAMIEN KETLO**  
**NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION**  
 University of Lethbridge  
 Arts - Indigenous Studies

My name is Damien Ketlo and I am from the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation. I am of Carrier descent and am part of the Frog clan. My plan is to continue to be a student-athlete at the U of L until I finish my undergraduate degree in Native American Studies. When my university is complete I plan to continue my career as a professional hockey player and as a musician. When hockey is eventually over I will use my degree for the workforce and hope to be a positive influence for fellow First Nations in the process.



**KRISTIN KOZAR**  
**HWLITSUM FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Education

I am a First Nations woman from the non-sanctioned Hwlitsum First Nation. I am the mother to two precious little boys and since becoming a mother it has become my goal to show them anything is possible. I intend to be an elementary school teacher and work closely with my community to develop a curriculum that best represents the Coast Salish people.



**FREDRICK LEVI WILSON**  
**GITGA'AT NATION**  
 Simon Fraser University  
 Arts

Fredrick Levi Wilson is a fourth year student at SFU with a major in First Nations Studies and a minor in History, working towards becoming a high school social studies, P.E. and industrial technology teacher. He is a carpenter with twelve years of experience building and renovating dozens of houses. Levi is a member of the Gitga'at Nation who is a passionate and dedicated supporter of community sports and education. He has served on the board of the SFU First Nations Student Association, the Galiano Activity Center, and founded an afterschool hockey program for young people on Galiano Island.

I really appreciate this scholarship as it will go a long way in helping me achieve my personal career goal of becoming a teacher so that I can help youth, my family and other members of First Nations communities achieve their visions of our future.



**CANDICE LORING**  
**GITWANGAK BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Management

My name is Candice Loring and I am a proud member of the Gitksan nation and mother of 2 boys. My world revolves around my two boys, Jonah and Caleb. My oldest son Jonah has Down Syndrome and is an extraordinary blessing to my whole family. My children are my inspiration and my educational journey has been driven by the desire to provide a better life for my children and be a positive role model to them and my community.



**SHANNY MCIVOR**  
**COLDWATER INDIAN BAND**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Education

My name is Shanny McIvor, I am 24 years old and I am a member of the Coldwater Indian Band from the Thompson Interior Salish Nation. I am an undergraduate attending the University of British Columbia in the West Kootenay Teacher Education Program (WKTEP). I completed my first degree in kinesiology from UBC in December of 2014. WKTEP is the last degree in which I am studying to become a secondary teacher in the subjects of physical education and Canadian history.





**ALEENA MCLEAN**  
**PENTICTON INDIAN BAND**  
**University of Guelph**  
**Arts - Sociology**

My name is Aleena McLean and I am heading into my second year of post-secondary at the University of Guelph. In March of 2015, I completed the Aboriginal Leadership in the Justice System program with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. From there I decided a career in the justice system would satisfy my desire to help people and make positive changes in my community. I plan to complete my Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 2018 and go to law school the following fall for graduate studies. I am planning on becoming a lawyer for the Okanagan Nation Alliance.



**RACHELLE NIELSEN**  
**KISPIOX BAND**  
**Texas A&M University Kingsville**  
**Mechanical Engineering**

My name is Rachelle Nielsen and I am a member of the Kispiox First Nation. I grew up in Summerland, BC and am excited to start my post-secondary education. I will be a freshman at TAMUK and will be pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. I will also be a part of the varsity golf program, I am very excited to learn what it is like to be a student athlete. I hope to have an excellent university experience and discover what I want to accomplish in future endeavours.



**KARISTA OLSON**  
**GLEN VOWELL INDIAN BAND**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Arts - English and Environmental Studies**

I am born of mixed Gitksan/Carrier Sekani heritage and have been endeavoring to groom myself to be a representative that my people can be proud of. At the age of 22, I returned to complete my Grade 12 through the Gitksan/Wet'suwet'en Education Society where I subsequently completed an Associate of Arts Degree in First Nations Studies. Beyond the textbooks, I have learned so much through my work with youth all across the world during programs in both Peru and Spain. This coming fall, I will relocate and take on the joint major English/environmental studies (BA) at UNBC.



**LAURA PHYPERS**  
**LOWER KOOTENAY INDIAN BAND**  
**University of Lethbridge**  
**Arts - Indigenous Studies**

My name is Laura Phipers and I am a proud Ktunaxa woman. The past few years of my personal and academic life have been preparing me for the important work I am engaging in regards to Aboriginal title with my BC First

Nation. I am passionate about helping Aboriginal people achieve self-reliance and self-respect. I believe Aboriginal title is a way for First Nations to achieve these things out of treaty. Once I complete my undergrad degree this year I intend on continuing to a JD in Law to further assist Aboriginal people and others in need.



**TYLER SAM**  
**BURNS LAKE FIRST NATION**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Science - Wildlife and Fisheries**

Hello, my name is Tyler Sam. I am 18 years of age and I enjoy being out in the wilderness and maintaining ecological balance. My career goals have to do with making environmental issues known to everyone and learning how to counter dangerous activities that cause harm to the environment. I also enjoy learning all of the natural aspects about the environment and want to expand my knowledge.



**CLAYTON SCHROEDER**  
**TZEACHTEN FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Commerce - Management**

I come from the Tzeachten First Nation. I am in the fourth year of my undergraduate in business management at UBC Okanagan. Like my parents, I hope to find a career that has a positive influence in the lives of First Nations people. I see a bright future for our people and I am excited to be a part of our progress.

Thank you for the incredible support you have provided to myself and the many other Aboriginal students across the province. I am truly grateful.



**PAULINE STEWART**  
**LAXGALTS'AP VILLAGE GOVERNMENT**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Arts - Indigenous Studies**

Anhluut'uksim Gakw (Precious Swan) is my Nisga'a name hailing from the house of Duuk'. I am living in my hometown of Laxgalts'ap and continue to pursue my educational goal of completing my bachelor's degree in First Nations and Nisga'a studies. My main objective after completing my education is to teach our younger generation about our fading Nisga'a language and culture. When thinking of the different struggles that First Nations people deal with on a daily basis, I believe this has potential positive opportunities. We, as a growing Nation and government, need to move beyond these struggles and raise quality of life by assisting people to make better choices.





**JACKSON STIRLING**  
**WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION**  
 University of Victoria  
 Arts - Psychology

Hi, my name is Jackson Stirling and I'm a member of the Campbell River Indian Band (The Wei Wai Kum Nation). I am currently attending the University of Victoria in Victoria, BC. I am entering my second year of studies in the psychology program through the Faculty of Social Sciences. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree and I am striving for a career as a therapist or clinical psychologist. My dream is to help people as a psychologist and gain as much knowledge along the way as possible.



**JESSIE STIRLING**  
**WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Arts

My name is Jessie Stirling and I am a member of the Wei Wai Kum First Nation in Campbell River. I am currently in my third year of undergraduate studies at the University of British Columbia within the Faculty of Arts, and I am majoring in Political Science and minoring in Law and Society. After graduation, I plan to attend law school and focus my degree on Aboriginal law. In my free time, I am the director of local community service projects for the Rotaract Club of Vancouver, as well as a writer for my campus newspaper.



**DENZEL SUTHERLAND-WILSON**  
**GITXSAN NATION**  
 McGill University  
 Commerce

I grew up in Anspayxw (Kispiox), a Gitxsan village, where the Skeena and Kispiox rivers meet. I am a member of the Fireweed clan, Wilp Ts' Basa. I am now attending McGill University and am enrolled in a Bachelor of Commerce with an International Business speciality. One of my personal goals is to complete my formal education so that I may return to Anspayxw and help with economic development and citizen engagement within my community. I would love to study abroad and travel to learn from other cultures in order to help with the healing of my own Nation.



**KATARINA WAWRYKOW**  
**SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND**  
 Alberta College of Art and Design  
 Design

My name is Katarina Wawrykow and I am a graphic design major from ACAD. Storytelling is in my blood, and I'm thankful to be part of a family that has valued such a skill for generations. My design aspires to help clients share their own stories with the world. In my high school years I had the

pleasure of founding an online arts and culture magazine that quickly acquired an international staff. During that time I fell in love with art direction and now I am working towards becoming an art director for publications or agencies in years to come.



**DYLAN WHITNEY**  
**XAXLI'P FIRST NATION**  
 University of British Columbia  
 Applied Science - Engineering

I have just completed my first year in the Faculty of Applied Science (Engineering) at UBC and next year I will specialize in engineering physics. I am proud to be on the Dean's honour list once again. After I complete my undergraduate degree, I intend to apply to medical or dental school. I hope to one day give back to my Indigenous community that has helped to shape me into the strong, confident, and independent individual I am today.

## MASTERS



**LUCY BELL**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
 University of Victoria  
 Indigenous Language Revitalization

I am a Haida graduate student in the UVIC Indigenous Language Revitalization program. In my final year I am conducting interviews, researching and writing. I am researching the ancient ways of becoming a great orator, singer and storyteller. I believe reviving these ancestral practices can help to bring the Haida language back from the brink of extinction. I belong to the Tsiits Gitanee Eagle clan and I have a deep love for all things Haida. I enjoy making regalia, smoking fish and learning Xaad Kil. I also keep busy with my family and by baking cinnamon buns at my Haida Rose café.



**DEANNA DANIELS**  
**PAUQUACHIN FIRST NATION**  
 University of Victoria  
 Indigenous Language Revitalization

Huy chq u Siem (Thank you – respected ones). My family name is Xway'Waata (Deanna Daniels). I proudly represent the Pauquachin, Skwxwú7mesh, and Khowutzun Nations. I am at the University of Victoria in the Master in Indigenous Language Revitalization program. I want to support our BC languages to ensure that our Indigenous identity and worldview are never lost. I wish to thank the NRT Foundation and prestigious donors for this education award and congratulate all other students for continuing your education journey. This award will support my education endeavours and my family this year.





**MONIQUE RENEE FRY**

**CHEAM FIRST NATION**

**University of Calgary**

**Arts - Communication and Culture**

I have been told that I am a woman who gets things done. It has been a long journey for me to obtain my Masters of Arts in Communication and Culture, so it is taking as long as it needs to take I suppose! I am a wife, a mother, a sister, a daughter and an aunty among other things. These duties that I perform for my family and my community are the most important ones next to student and employee. I hope to continue to work for our communities as I get the job done.



**AMANDA NEUFELD**

**SKEETCHESTN INDIAN BAND**

**University of British Columbia**

**Social Work**

During the five years of my undergraduate degree I tried to define my career goals, in my final semester, social work became the clear choice. My goal is to work with at-risk youth and I hope to focus my career on suicide prevention in small communities. I have never been more driven and focused on my education. I can never thank my family and Perry enough, I hope they know how much their unwavering support has helped me complete my undergraduate degree. In the next chapter of my education I am eager to continue to learn and grow, personally and academically.



**JEFFREY RYAN NICHOLLS**

**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**

**University of Victoria**

**Juris Doctor**

I was born into the Ganhada Clan of the Tsimshian Nation and love spending time on my Nation's territory. I am just entering my first year of the JD Program and hope to use my education to help support my Nation's efforts to assert our laws on our ancestral lands and waters. In my spare time I love to volunteer with the friendship centre movement.



**BAILEY QUINN**

**SECHELT FIRST NATION**

**University of British Columbia**

**Juris Doctor**

I am of Shísháhl ancestry and dedicated to using my education and work experience to build capacity in my First Nations community. I am currently in the third year of my law degree and have taken a particular interest to Aboriginal law, business law, and environmental and natural resource law. I plan to represent the Shísháhl Nation and other First Nations bands from across BC in their resource development. I am currently in the process of learning the traditional Shísháhl language which my ancestors have spoken for thousands of years.



**YUUCQA LAYLA RORICK**

**HESQUIAHT FIRST NATION**

**University of Victoria**

**Indigenous Language Revitalization**

Nuu-chah-nulth has only 1.7% fluent language speakers left. With the help of my Elders, I have progressed from being a non-speaker who grew up on our remote Hesquiaht reserve to being an intermediate-level speaker who supports individuals and families to revitalize our language. In the past five years my family and I have made conscious changes and sacrifices to learn and keep our language alive. I chose the Master in Indigenous Language Revitalization program because I would like to continue doing the full-time volunteer work that is meaningful to my life and vital to the life of our language.



**KRISTA STELKIA**

**OSOYOOS INDIAN BAND**

**Simon Fraser University**

**Arts - Criminology**

My name is Krista Stelkia and I am currently a Master of Arts student in the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University. My research has primarily focused on the police use of excessive force, police investigating police, and the financial cost of police oversight. I really enjoy researching and exploring various criminological topics which is why I plan to continue my education by pursuing a PhD in criminology. I also volunteer for an organization where I have the opportunity to help mentor Aboriginal youth and encourage them to pursue their education.



**SUZANNE STERLING**

**NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION**

**University of the Fraser Valley**

**Social Work**

I come from both the N'lakapm'x and Sto:lo Nations and was adopted into the Nadleh Whut'en Indian Band. For me, culture is integral to my educational success and I ensure any career and further educational opportunities I pursue have a focus on serving Aboriginal communities. Currently in the Master of Social Work program at UFV, I will get a chance to travel to Aotearoa, New Zealand. There, I will be studying Maori traditional values and beliefs and creating an assessment and evaluation processes based upon First Nations worldview.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to receive a scholarship! It has helped me financially to be able to focus on my educational goals!







**HJALMER WENSTOB**  
**TLA-O-QUI-AHT FIRST NATION**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Visual Arts**

My name is Hjalmer Wenstob; my traditional Nuu-chah-nulth name is Tlehpik and I am Tla-o-qui-aht from the west coast of Vancouver Island on my father's side, and Norwegian and English on my mother's. This September of 2015, I will be continuing my education in the University of Victoria's visual arts masters program as well as completing the final of three totem poles for the University of Victoria. It is such an honour to be awarded the NRTF Scholarship Award, I am humbled and so thankful to all who have made this a possibility! Kleco Kleco.

## DOCTORATE



**SHERRY BOUDREAU**  
**SECHELT FIRST NATION**  
**University of Manitoba**  
**Philosophy - Natural Resources**

As a fisherman's daughter this educational endeavor is inspired by the love and support received from family, community and friends. Following 14 years with Environment Canada as an advisor and facilitator, it is a pleasure to have this chance to explore the broad community focus around water. My hope is that this opportunity will support future informed discourse around water and the management of people as we support our living rivers.



**NICOLA CAMPBELL**  
**LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**  
**University of British Columbia Okanagan**  
**Philosophy - Aboriginal Storytelling**

I am Nle7kepmx, Nsilx and Métis from the Nicola Valley. I have a BFA and an MFA in Creative Writing and am working towards a Doctor of Philosophy focusing on contemporary Aboriginal Storytelling at the UBC Okanagan campus in Kelowna, BC. I am the award-winning author of three children's picture books with a fourth book soon to be published: Grandpa's Girls; Shin-chi's Canoe, and Shi-shi-etko. I write adult and children's poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and my goal is to become a post-secondary professor. I have a strong respect and an absolute belief in First Nations' spirituality, culture and tradition.



**KARMEN CREY**  
**CHEAM FIRST NATION**  
**University of California, Los Angeles**  
**Philosophy - Cinema and Media Studies**

I'm currently a PhD candidate in the Cinema and Media Studies Program at the University of California, where I'm writing my dissertation on the infrastructure for Aboriginal

media in Canada. Prior to beginning my doctoral work I received my Master of Arts in Cinema Studies at the University of Toronto. My research background includes co-developing "What I Learned in Class Today: Aboriginal Issues in the Classroom," a research project that examines difficult issues arising from the discussion of Aboriginal content in university classrooms, which can be found at [www.whatilearnedinclasstoday.com](http://www.whatilearnedinclasstoday.com).



**JOYCE SCHNEIDER**  
**SAMAHQUAM BAND**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Philosophy - Educational Studies**

Ama sqit. Kicya7 nskwátsitsa. Ntsa Ucwalmicw. It is my goal to finish my PhD in UBC's EDST program in the 2015/16 school year and to continue striving for the transformation of education systems by taking up and utilizing Indigenous pedagogies in all university classrooms. I feel these ways of coming to know that center on harmony and relationships have much to contribute to true relationship building between First Peoples and Canada. Through the Indigenous education of Canada change is possible and learning about First Peoples through engagement with Indigenous pedagogies, we create the path while walking it together. I am grateful to the NRTF for this financial support which will allow me to complete my PhD program. Without it, I would not be able to focus the time and attention that writing my dissertation demands. The only concern I have had in regards to finishing is the financial instability that comes with being a sessional instructor; there is no guarantee that I will be working from one semester to the next and constantly being in this precarious situation greatly impedes my ability to concentrate and write! Kukwstum'ckálap, NRTF! The work you do is important and ripples out in good ways in our communities and Nations with every student who graduates because of your hard work and generous support!



**CHERRY SMILEY**  
**LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**  
**Concordia University**  
**Philosophy - Communications**

My name is Cherry Smiley, and I am from the Nlaka'pamux and Navajo Nations. I am beginning my first year of doctoral studies in communications, where my art practice and research focuses on ending violence against Aboriginal women and girls. In addition to my academic work, I raise awareness about the issue of violence against Aboriginal women and girls through volunteer work, speaking locally, nationally and internationally at conferences, rallies and other events. I will continue this work in academia, using my art and research to share, educate and inspire action.





## TRENA SUTTON

T'SOU-KE NATION

University of Victoria

Indigenous Language Revitalization

I'Y SC'A'CELE E TIA' A'NEC  
SIIA'M TTE NE SC'A'LEC'  
(Good day my dear respected  
friends and relatives). I am  
Trena Sutton from T'Sou-ke  
Nation. I am in the Master  
of Indigenous Language  
Revitalization program at the  
University of Victoria. I have  
been teaching for sixteen  
years in every grade from

kindergarten to grade twelve.  
Grade one is my favorite  
grade to teach because  
it is when the children  
discover the magical world  
of reading. I am dedicated to  
my efforts in preserving and  
revitalizing my language and  
I am grateful to my relatives  
for their love and support.  
HI'SWEKE SIEM!

I am grateful for the New Relationship  
Trust Foundation for supporting me  
and helping our T'Sou-ke language to  
be revitalized.



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