



INVESTING

IN OUR

FUTURE





NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST
FOUNDATION

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

2017-2018
SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY
AWARD RECIPIENTS



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

Letter from the Chairs & CEO

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2017–18 Scholarship and Bursary Recipient Brochure.

Each year, we support Indigenous students across the province as they pursue their post-secondary educational goals and move toward realizing the career of their dreams. Immersed in nearly every form of trade and academic discipline imaginable—from welding to culinary arts; nursing to business; education to law—these ambitious students will become the work force of the future. We are extremely proud to be able to help them along their journeys as they strive to better their own lives and the lives of those around them.

In 2017, we provided funding support for 308 students. This is nearly 25% more than the

previous year and represents the highest number of students supported in a scholastic year to date. For the first time, we supported Métis recipients and students who are from communities outside BC and now live in the province. While most are studying here in BC, some students are completing their studies at institutions as far away as Stanford University and Hawai'i Pacific University.

Regardless of where they are from, or what they are studying, recipients express an overwhelming amount of appreciation for the support that these awards provide. Many are struggling with multiple priorities and responsibilities and often don't have another form of financial aid. Time and time again, recipients tell us that they simply would not be able to pursue their academic goals were it not for the support of this initiative.

Demand for scholarships and bursaries is high, and every year we are sorry to have to turn down a large number of applicants due to the lack of funds. Thanks to our donor partners, however, that number is decreasing.

Our newest partner in 2017, the Province of BC – Early Years & Indigenous Early Years Policy and Programs, supported 64 new bursaries and scholarships. We also welcomed several returning partners: First Nations Health Authority, Chief Joe Mathias Foundation, Scotiabank, Canfor, The Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation, Drillwell Enterprises, and Peace Hills Trust. Together, we are closing the gap between the number of students needing financial support and those receiving it.

We hope this brochure and the many students it showcases will inspire you to contact the

New Relationship Trust Foundation to find out how you can become part of this critical initiative.

Respectfully,

Judith Sayers
Chair, New Relationship Trust Foundation

Hugh Braker
Chair, New Relationship Trust

Cliff Fregin
CEO, New Relationship Trust



About the New Relationship Trust Foundation

MISSION: TO ASSIST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN BC SEPARATELY AND COLLECTIVELY TO MEET THEIR EDUCATION GOALS.

The New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRT Foundation) is the largest Indigenous-run education charity in British Columbia (BC). Since 2008, the New Relationship Trust and NRT Foundation have awarded 2,025 scholarships and bursaries totaling \$10.6 million in post-secondary financial aid.

By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, the NRT Foundation is building the capacity of our communities, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and creating the skilled work force that will enable BC to meet its future economic and social development needs.

The two primary objectives of the NRT Foundation are to endow \$30 million for a perpetual education fund, while at the same time continuing the scholarship and bursary commitment to student education.

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 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.

2,025 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 are contacted by the NRT Foundation to inform them about employment opportunities. This service is available to NRT Foundation sponsors who are looking to fill positions with qualified employees. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Rochelle Saddleman, Partnerships and Marketing Manager at (604) 925-3338 or rsaddleman@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
2016/17	129	85	17	14	-	245
2017/18	171	93	29	15	-	308
TOTAL	946	623	217	115	124	2,025

Funding

Since 2007, the New Relationship Trust, NRT Foundation and funding partners have contributed more than \$10.6 million to support the post-secondary education of First Nations people in BC.

Funds Leveraged

	NRT FUND	PARTNER FUNDS	GOLF TOURNAMENT	TOTAL
2007-08	\$710,000	-	-	\$710,000
2008-09	\$763,000	-	-	\$763,000
2009-10	\$747,500	-	-	\$747,500
2010-11	\$743,000	-	-	\$743,000
2011-12	\$855,000	-	\$18,049	\$873,049
2012-13	\$605,000	\$276,100	\$18,958	\$900,058
2013-14	\$605,000	\$337,300	\$21,729	\$964,029
2014-15	\$605,000	\$238,300	\$26,228	\$869,528
2015-16	\$605,000	\$490,100	\$31,927	\$1,127,027
2016-17	\$705,000	\$581,550	\$30,970	\$1,317,520
2017-18	\$705,000	\$869,604	\$32,634	\$1,607,238
TOTAL	\$7,648,500	\$2,792,954	\$180,495	\$10,621,949



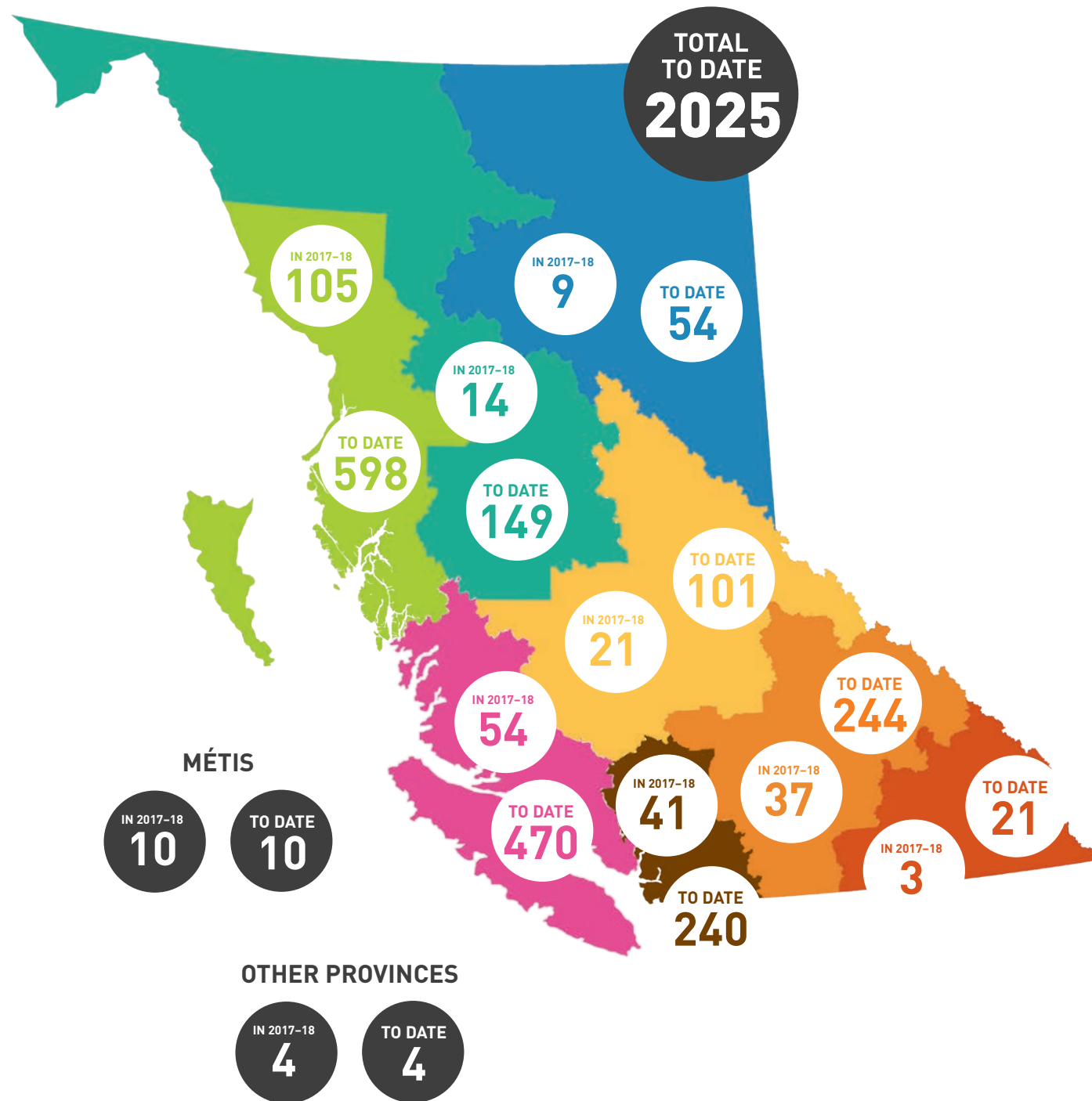
2018 GOLF TOURNAMENT AUGUST 2, 2018

A great way to support BC 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 Trust Foundation and contribute to scholarships and bursaries.

To learn more, visit the NRTF website's golf page: www.NRTFGOLF.ca and contact Marie Alaimo at (604) 925-3338 or malaimo@nrtf.ca.

Where the Funding Goes

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



Help Us Make a Difference

The time to support Indigenous education is now!

Indigenous students have historically been disadvantaged and underrepresented at all levels of post-secondary education. Investing in Indigenous education achieves a profound impact in addressing these disparities:

- Non-Indigenous Canadians are 5 times more likely to have a university degree than Indigenous people.
- 50% of Indigenous people have some form of post-secondary education compared to 66% of non-Indigenous people.
- Indigenous people are the fastest growing population in BC, creating a growing demand for employment opportunities and academic financial aid.

FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO
HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE
CONTACT US TODAY

Seeking Industry Support

The New Relationship Trust Foundation is seeking industry partnerships. If you are interested in setting up an award for your company, or for an Indigenous community that you do business with, please contact us today!



If interested, please contact:
Rochelle Saddleman
Partnerships and Marketing Manager
604-925-3338
rsaddleman@nrtf.ca

Partners Make It Happen

The NRT Foundation offers partners the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to building the capacity of BC First Nations. Sponsored scholarships and bursaries support students working toward an industry-specific post-secondary degree, diploma, trade or certificate. By investing in First Nations post-secondary education, every partner is realizing a student's education goals, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and helping to create the skilled work force that will enable British Columbia to meet its future economic and social development needs.

NRT Foundation is seeking additional industry partners to build mutually beneficial partnerships that build capacity through investment in education for BC First Nations. Each partnership is tailored to meet the needs of potential funding partners and BC First Nations. Together, we are doing something great.

For information on partnering opportunities, contact Rochelle Saddleman, the NRT Foundation's Partnerships & Marketing Manager, at (604) 925-3338 ext. 107 or rsaddleman@nrta.ca.

Our Partners for 2017-18



First Nations Health Authority

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY

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. Since its inception, the FNHA has been working to increase the number and retention of First Nations people in health careers. Education is a key factor in achieving these goals. With a vision of healthy, self-determining and vibrant children, families and communities, FNHA has chosen to partner with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage First Nations people to explore exciting career opportunities in the health field.

There are a multitude of career opportunities in health, and many programs can be completed in under a year. Working in health can bring a sense of satisfaction in helping others on their path to wellness. It is a dynamic, ever-changing environment, and there is a growing demand for jobs. By investing in First Nations students, FNHA aims to train those with a passion for working in First Nations communities, who have an interest in supporting community health by providing culturally safe services.

FNHA raises our hands to all the students who have received scholarships and bursaries and look forward to supporting those yet to come. FNHA recognizes your hard work and dedication to your own dream and also acknowledge your families who support you. You are an inspiration to other First Nations people who may choose to pursue a career in health.

Recipient bios begin on page 14.



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

EARLY YEARS AND INDIGENOUS EARLY YEARS POLICY AND PROGRAMS

The Early Years and Indigenous Early Years Policy and Programs, formerly known as the Provincial Office for the Early Years, is pleased to announce the second year of the \$1 million Indigenous Early Years Scholarship and Bursary program. The Indigenous Early Years Scholarship and Bursary Program will ensure that more Indigenous students living in BC will be able to access post-secondary funding. The NRT Foundation is offering scholarships to Indigenous students who currently reside in British Columbia and are enrolled in Early Years related programs. Professions supported in this stream include Early Childhood Educators (ECE), Infant Toddler and Special Needs ECE, Early Intervention Therapies (Speech Language Pathologists and Audiology, Occupational and Physio Therapists, Applied Behavioural Analysts), Child and Youth Care, Human Service Development, Educational Psychology, and Community, Child and Family Support.

Recipient bios begin on page 20.



CHIEF JOE MATHIAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Chief Joe Mathias BC Aboriginal Scholarship Fund was established to honour the memory of the late Chief Joe Mathias, a hereditary and elected Chief of the Squamish Nation. Chief Mathias is remembered for his vision and his leadership for the rights of Aboriginal people in British Columbia and across the country. Central to that vision was his passionate belief and advocacy for higher education for Aboriginal people. The Scholarship Fund is dedicated to helping realize Joe's dream of providing post-secondary opportunities for energetic, dedicated, and aspiring British Columbia First Nation students. The goal of the Scholarship Fund is to assist them in realizing their dreams of becoming aspiring leaders of tomorrow in the career of their choosing.

There is no more appropriate tribute to the work of Chief Mathias than to witness the success of the Aboriginal graduates and scholarship recipients presented here. First Nation doctors, businessmen and women, scientists, social workers, engineers, nurses, computer programmers, lawyers, and teachers...these are the leaders of the future who will continue his legacy and ensure a bright and prosperous future for First Nations citizens and their communities. The Chief Joe Mathias Scholarship has provided 248 scholarships to 183 students from almost 100 First Nations in BC since its inception in 2002.

Recipient bios begin on page 44.



SCOTIABANK

Scotiabank is dedicated to offering specialized financial services to Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. We have been working with Aboriginal communities for the past 46 years. In fact, Scotiabank was the first bank in Canada to open an on reserve branch. We are a proud 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.

Recipient bios begin on page 44.



CANFOR

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

Recipient bios begin on page 45.



THE CONNOR CLARK & LUNN FOUNDATION

Created in 1999, the CC&L Foundation responds to requests from clients, staff and others to fund programs and not-for-profit organizations that help promote a better environment, improvements to education, advances in science and medicine, stronger communities and the arts. We believe our success as individuals and as a company depends on the health of the communities in which we live and do business. We are committed to building strong and vibrant communities by supporting causes that are important to our customers, employees, partners and stakeholders.

Recipient bios begin on page 45.



DRILLWELL ENTERPRISES LTD.

Drillwell Enterprises is one of Western Canada's largest and most experienced water well drilling contractors. Drillwell maintains a fleet of equipment of varying size and capability, specializing in Water Well Drilling, Hydro-fracturing, and Exploration ventures.

Recipient bios begin on page 45.



PEACE HILLS TRUST

Peace Hills Trust is Canada's largest and oldest First Nations owned federally regulated financial institution and is also Canada's only independent Trust Company. Driven by a vision to satisfy the unique financial needs of the Native community, the Samson Cree Nation embarked on an ambitious project in 1972 which culminated with the incorporation of Peace Hills Trust on November 19, 1980. Nearly 40 years has passed since that historic day when Peace Hills Trust first opened its doors. We were founded with the objective of providing financial and trust services, on a national basis, to First Nations and their communities. The company has a primary market in First Nations' administrations, their businesses and in their members. Peace Hills Trust has a regional branch concept to position itself, on or off reserve, to serve the largest number of First Nations' customers in a given area. In addition to First Nations' business, we have many opportunities with non-First Nations customers. We're proud that we are fulfilling the predictions of the founding members who worked hard to get our Company set in motion.

Recipient bios begin on page 45.



NRT

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

NRT invests in BC First Nations by supporting them in five key capacity development areas: Governance Capacity, Education, Language & Culture, Youth & Elders, and Economic Development.

Recipient bios begin on page 46.



Dora-lyne Bedard
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
Vancouver Community College
Health Unit Coordinator

My name is Dora-lyne Bedard and I am from the Haida Nation. My Haida name is Jaad Gulee, which means 'Golden Girl'. I have always been interested in the healthcare field and worked as a medical office assistant for two years before returning to school. I am currently enrolled in the Health Unit Coordinator program at Vancouver Community College. I chose the Health Unit Coordinator program because careers in healthcare are very rewarding and offer great working conditions.



Jamie Dexel
NOOAITCH INDIAN BAND
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addiction Certificate

I realized that I wanted my three amazing children to never settle and to always strive to reach their goals. That being said, I saw that I myself had to be a role model for them in order to set the standard. Now that I am back in school, I never want to leave and feel I will find a way to be involved in academia for the rest of my life. Returning to school has given me my power back and now I am able to reach my goals with ease.



Leanne Doolan
KINCOLITH NISGA'A FIRST NATION
Native Education College
Family and Community Counseling

My name is Leanne Doolan. I am currently taking family and community counselling at Native Education College. I grew up in Kincolith, BC and moved to Vancouver in 2015. After my schooling, I plan to be a youth worker in my community and give the youth an opportunity to live a good life. I would like to work with youth as long as I can, to give them the life they deserve.

I would like to thank NRT for allowing me to apply for this bursary. This helps so much. Thank you.



Valerie Doolan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
Rhodes Wellness College
Addictions Counsellor

I am a proud member of the Nisga'a Nation and am currently employed by the First Nations Health Authority as an assessor. I have a certificate in Aboriginal leadership, special events planning and grant writing. I realized along my journey that we can't move forward until we address the effects of colonization and residential school abuse. I want to make a positive difference in the lives of others.



Danielle Finney
XAXLI'P
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling

I am a 36 year-old Aboriginal male with a trades background. My interests and hobbies include everything from computers and mechanics to welding and human service work. What drew me to counseling psychology with families and communities is an increasing awareness of the difficulties that Aboriginal people experience in relationships. I wanted to help, but I was unsure what I could do.



Chailynn Fletcher
HIGH BAR FIRST NATION
Okanagan College
Practical Nursing

I am currently a care aid and would like to expand my knowledge and become a nurse! My short-term career goal is to become a licensed practical nurse. My long-term career goal is to become a registered nurse. I enjoy working with the elderly and helping people. I see myself continuing to work in this environment, but I am excited to try different work environments.



Rochelle Francois
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW
University of Northern British Columbia
Occupational Health and Safety Practitioner

My name is Rochelle Francois and I come from the Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw. I was raised on the Northcoast, moving to Vancouver in the early 2000's and moved back to the north in 2011. In Vancouver, I worked in the

construction business, then returned to school for Aboriginal leadership. I was employed as a community support worker in Kitimat, and I am currently the employment advisor for my village government. Through my employment, I am working to obtain my Essential Skills Practitioner certificate, for completion in 2018. I am also working to obtain my Occupational Health and Safety certificate.



Louis Gagnon
WET'SUWET'EN FIRST NATION
College of New Caledonia
Kinesiology Diploma

My name is Louis Gagnon. I grew up in Moricetown, BC. I have been seeking treatment for chronic pain for the past five years and have known many who suffer in a similar fashion. My goal, simply put, is to develop a solid foundation of knowledge in the field of kinesiology, which I can use to help myself as well as my community. After obtaining a bachelor's in kinesiology, I hope to enter a program to obtain a Master of Physiotherapy, which can be used to heal others and provide a framework for prescribed exercise medicine.



Alexandra Hall
GITWANGAK BAND
Canadian School of Natural Nutrition
Natural Nutrition Program

I am Alexandra Hall and I live on Vancouver Island. My passion has always been helping people. It was only after I had struggles with my health that I began to realize my path. After many hours of self-education, I restored my health using alternative medicine. My results ignited a passion in me for learning more about natural health. I discovered the Canadian School of Natural Nutrition after researching many schools across Canada. When I graduate with a certificate in holistic nutrition, I will become a nutritional consultant and work with people to heal themselves using a holistic health approach.

I am so grateful for the bursary I received. Because of it I am able to continue my education and help many others on their journey to living a happy healthy life. Thank you!



Doreen Hance
TL'ETINQOX-TIN FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University
Human Service Diploma

My name is Doreen Hance and I am a Tl'etinqox-tin First Nation member. I attend Thompson Rivers University in Williams Lake, BC. My career goal is to be a social worker and give back to my community. My main goals are to advocate, enable and support people to make positive changes in their lives. I want to be a healer. It's a privilege to bear witness to someone's story when they may have not had the chance to tell it before. A special thanks to New Relationship Trust for the bursary and helping me get closer to reaching my goals.



Jodi Harry
HAISLA NATION
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling

My name is Jodi Harry and I come from the Haisla Nation and Homalco First Nation. I am 22 years old. My goal is to achieve my master's in social work, and to help our people who are struggling in their every day lives. I also want to one day open up a group home for our Aboriginal/First Nations children.



Kristen Helin
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Diagnostic Medical Sonography

My name is Kristen Helin I am from Lax Kw'alaams Band and am a member of the Tsimshian Nation. I am in my second year of the sonography program. I previously worked at a community pharmacy and a hospital lab. I would like to return to my home community to work as a dual technician—both a general sonographer and an echocardiographer. My passion is health care and in particular working in communities that serve a large Aboriginal population. I hope to improve the health of our communities and help First Nations people feel comfortable in accessing health care.



Dallas Henry
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Northwest Community College
Social Service Worker Program

I am from Lax Kw'alaams Band. I'm currently in my first year of the Social Service Worker program at Northwest Community College in Terrace, BC. This program will give me the training I need to go more in-depth when reaching out to people. I would like to be a positive role model for youth because I believe that they need someone to look up to and a safe place and person to reach out to when needed. It would make me feel accomplished to see that I made a positive difference in peoples' lives.



Heather Holland
MORICETOWN BAND
College of New Caledonia
Social Work - First Nation Specialization

I am from the Witset Nation of Northern BC, and I belong to Gitumden Clan. I am a mother of five beautiful children. I am presently in my second year of social work in the First Nation Specialization program at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George. My goal is to complete my studies, obtain my B.A. in social work, and continue to empower and strengthen our people and future generations to grow and maintain the strength of our Nation to live healthy, productive lives. I hope to be a mentor and voice for our Nation.



Stephanie Holmes
TL'AZT'EN NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions

I am a proud Tl'azt'en woman. I have worked hard to get to where I am today. I have battled with addictions for so many years of my life, and I'm happy to say that addictions have lost this fight. I know that my life is worth so much more, and now I am studying to help others realize the same about their lives. I won't give up until I can proudly say I help people overcome their addictions and live happier and healthier lives. Snachailya.



Darlynda Jack
ULKATCHO FIRST NATION
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling Diploma

My name is Darlynda Jack. I am from the Ulkatcho First Nation, located in central BC. I am the mother of three daughters and I'm currently expecting my fourth child. I'm in my second year of family and community counselling and I intend on returning to school to obtain my Bachelor of Social Work after this school year is completed. I'm very grateful that I had the opportunity to attend NEC these past two years, as they have provided me with extensive knowledge and pride in my culture.



Melody Johnson
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Justice Institute of British Columbia
Complex Trauma and Child Sexual Abuse Intervention

My name is Melody Johnson, and I am from the Tsimshian Nation. I am enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Complex Trauma and Child Sexual Abuse Intervention program at the Justice Institute of BC. My career goals are to strengthen my skills and knowledge in the treatment of trauma. My approach to healing is identifying sources of personal strength and resiliency within the individuals I work alongside on their journey to wellness. In my private practice, I nurture self-compassion and promote holistic health.



Julian Lowley
LAKE BABINE NATION
College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker (Aboriginal Focus)

I moved to Prince George, BC about four years ago, from Burns Lake, BC, to attend the College of New Caledonia and to take the Criminology diploma program. I successfully received my diploma three years later and decided to pursue a diploma in social services. Once I receive my diploma in social services, I will pursue a degree in social work and work to become a full fledged social worker. I am planning to work in the north and serve our isolated communities that would otherwise not be able to access social services and resources.



Sherry McKinnon
MORICETOWN BAND
Langara College
Social Service Worker

After many years of working and raising my four children, I decided to return to school to enhance my career as the Justice Coordinator for the Office of the Wet'suwet'en. I was born and raised in Witset (formerly known as Moricetown) and I belong to the Laksilyu (small frog) clan. I have a passion to work with people to build their self-esteem and encourage them to live a better lifestyle. My motto in life is: "however good or bad, every situation you are put in is a lesson to be learned; it helps shape you."



Nicolette Moore
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addiction Diploma

My name is Nicolette and I come from the Nisga'a Nation. I became interested in the CHAD program when I decided to make healthier lifestyle choices for myself and my children. Having come out of an addiction over four years ago, I turned to others in this field to help me and I now want to make a difference in our Aboriginal communities. Education is key to my doing this. I believe we need to encourage education and other resources to heal ourselves as a people.



Theresa Morris
MORICETOWN BAND
University of British Columbia | Aboriginal
Health and Community Administration

I am a forward-thinking, strong Wet'suwet'en woman committed to ameliorating the lives of all citizens in society. I reluctantly declined a position with the office of the province's Indigenous Affairs to honor scholarships I was granted for this program at UBC, so this bursary gave me so much inspiration in my education goals of achieving a law degree. My diverse background in education and experience have ignited an interest in strengthening and solidifying the relationship and administration of and between government, industry, fiduciaries and community.



Stephanie Mullin
UPPER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND
Douglas College
Hearing Instrument Practitioner

My name is Stephanie and I am in my first year at Douglas College studying to become a hearing instrument practitioner. On a personal level, I am going to school to find self-confidence and self-esteem — from hard work and good grades — while building a career opportunity. When I am licensed, I'll be able to test hearing in adults, fit and dispense hearing aids, and create impressions for custom hearing protection.



Bianca Myers
FORT NELSON FIRST NATION
Vancouver Island University
Health Care Assistant

I am mother of two young daughters and my goal is to provide a great life for them. I chose to return to school so I could provide for them. I wanted to pursue a career as a health care assistant because I am passionate about helping others and would love to work with my Elders. I would love to pursue a career with the First Nations Health Authority after I have completed school. After I have worked for a few years, I hope to return to school to pursue a career as a licensed practical nurse.



Christopher Eli Paul
HAISLA NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker Certificate

I am an addict. I am an addict in recovery. I am an addict in recovery enrolled in chemical addictions at NVIT. My life goal is to give back to the community; I want to work in the downtown eastside throughout the alleys and doorways that used to be home.



Allison Pootlass
NUXALK NATION
Vancouver Community College
Practical Nursing

My name is Allison Pootlass, and I am from the Nuxalk Nation in Bella Coola, BC. I am currently a full-time mom as well as a student. I have been at VCC in the Practical Nursing program for one year. Nursing is something I

have always been interested in and passionate about. My goal is to go back home to work for my community, where my son can grow up knowing his family, culture and traditions. In the future, I hope to further my education and work towards becoming a registered nurse.



Joycelyn Poulton
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
North Island College
University Studies Program

My education plan is to continue my studies at North Island College until 2019 in order to get my prerequisites for the Bachelor of Science (psychiatric nursing) program at Douglas College in New Westminster. This will lead to my long-term goal of becoming a psychiatric nurse. When I look into my future, I hope to see myself helping the Aboriginal community and being a support for many individuals. I have a desire to help prevent and treat others in-need with mental or emotional disorders.



Shawn Price
HAISLA NATION
Justice Institute of British Columbia
Primary Care Paramedic

My name is Shawn Price and I come from a small town in Prince Rupert, BC. It is there I spent most of my life growing up, but wanting to do something bigger with my life. That is when my brother told me about his career as a paramedic with BCAS. I always wanted to do something with my life where I was in a position to help someone in need, so I applied to the Justice Institute of BC and am thrilled that I am on my way to a career where I know I will make a difference.



Jessie Russell
WE WAI KAI NATION
Vancouver Island University
Dental Hygiene

Hello, my name is Jessie Russell. I am 21 years old and graduated from GP Vanier in the Comox Valley. I am currently a second year dental hygiene student at Vancouver Island University and have been on the Dean's honor roll through my first year and a half. I am planning to graduate this year, and after graduation am hoping to move back to the Comox Valley to



Meagan Wilson
WEI WAI KUM NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Family & Community Counselling

My name is Meagan Wilson and my traditional name is Sibelxawidzemga. I am from Campbell River, BC and I am currently studying to become a social worker. Right now, obtaining an education is my goal. I would love to pursue a career in the field of addictions and recovery as I have personal ties to that area. With experience and education, I believe that I can become a great social worker that can help our people.



Jayson Wing
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Douglas College
Sport Science Kinesiology

My name is Jayson Wing and I'm a proud Canadian and First Nations citizen. I'm originally from Seattle, Washington, but I'm proud to represent my Canadian roots and to this day I call myself a Canadian without hesitation. I'm also a former student of the Native Education College here in Vancouver and I'm still a supporter of the school today.

begin my career as a dental hygienist. One day, I want to further my education by going back and getting my degree in order to open my own dental hygiene office.



Renee Wilson

KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling

My name is Renee Wilson and I am part of the Gitksan Nation from Northern BC. My parents are from the Gitksan and Carrier Nations. My career goals have always been to work in the helping field, to help children and community members either by advocating or supporting.

My personal goal would be to help break inter-generational trauma. Since moving to Vancouver, I have been part of the Friendship Centre as a youth volunteer. I have received bronze, silver and gold medals in the Duke of Edinburgh International Leadership program.

I would just like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation and the First Nations Health Authority for considering me as a worthy candidate for the First Nations health bursary. Thank you!



Cooper Wilson

OLD MASSET VILLAGE COUNCIL
Douglas College
Physical Education and Coaching

For my personal goals I would like to finish my last semester and obtain my degree with a specialization in kinesiology. After I do this, I plan to work in the field for a couple of years

to gain as much experience as possible. Then if my love for it is still there I will continue my educational goal of pursuing a Master of Physical Therapy.

I would like to thank both the donors who have been so generous throughout my years at school, as well as the New Relationship Trust Foundation.



Stephanie Seamans
?ESDILAGH FIRST NATION
Native Education College
Health Care Assistant

Hi my name is Stephanie. I'm a mother of two beautiful daughters. I'm from the Carrier Nation. I'm currently at Native Education College, enrolled in the Health Care Assistant program. I want to be able to give back and honour our Elders. I also want to support families while their loved ones age and face health challenges. I'll graduate in July 2018 and am excited to start a new career in healthcare.



Reginald Smith
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling

My name is Reg Smith. I live in Vancouver and am attending Native Education College to get my certificate in family and community counselling. I am hoping to one day have my own youth program, where I provide youth with a chance to work on cars, as well as get the one to one support they need. Right now I am on the path to achieve my goals.



Shannon Smith
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND/GITXSAN NATION
Camosun College
Indigenous Health Care Assistant

I'm Shannon Smith. I am a Lax Kw'alaams/Gitksan Nation member from Prince Rupert. I was a high school drop-out, but I returned in 2015 to get my diploma in Kamloops. I currently live in Victoria where I am pursuing my dreams of excelling into the health care field and I plan to go even further as my preparations for the licensed practical nurse course has already begun as well.



Amber Swakum
LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Human Service

I worked in early childhood education for approximately six years and then decided I wanted make a career change after having my son. My long-term career goal is to continue my education to complete a Bachelor of Social Work degree. My personal goal is to relearn my traditions and culture to show my son that you can live both lifestyles. With my education, I would like to contribute as a positive role model to help my First Nations community.



Lorelei Thevarge
LÍLWAT NATION
Vancouver Community College
Canadian Dental Assistant

As a mother of three who worked as a cashier for more than 10 years, making only \$13.50 an hour, it was hard to live and pay all the bills at the same time. So, I made a big decision to go back to school. Going to school full-time was hard for me. I started off as a below average student; reading and writing was hard for me. Now I that I have graduated, I find it easier. I now work full time in a beautiful office in Lynn Valley center and am living my dream.



Danielle Thomas
TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION
Native Education College
Family and Community Counselling

As an Indigenous transgender woman, I have become all too familiar with the overall hardships of adversity, from the suffocating limitations of systemic poverty, to the bottomless bounds of a broken bottle, and far beyond the relentless onslaught of the North American gatekeeper's oppressive nature. I have found myself in pursuit of a passionate career in social change, and within the confines of such change I plan on taking it all the way to the front doorstep of modern society, and my local communities as well. It is there I truly believe social justice itself can be thoroughly recognized.



Judi Thomas
DITIDAHT FIRST NATION
North Island College
Human Services

I am rooted in Nuu-chah-nulth and Coast Salish ancestry and thus celebrate multiculturalism. Growing up in a small village on the west coast of Vancouver Island is one of the most memorable experiences of my life. Teachings from my grandfather led me to believe I can do anything I want if I put my mind to it. I learned hard work from my father. Passing on a learned behaviour from her grandmother, I am a beacon of strength for my eight children. In my mother's footsteps, I am a lifelong learner who embraces life.



Luke Thomas
TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Social Work

I am from the Tsleil-Waututh Nation in North Vancouver, BC. I am starting my second year at NVIT. My goals are to become a social worker and to carry on working with children and families. I am grateful to NRT for the financial support.



Julie Vantunen
MORICETOWN BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Human Service

I am continuing my education so I can create a healthy future for my daughter and myself. My educational goal is to complete the Bachelor or Social Work program after obtaining my Human Service diploma.

I'd like to give thanks to NRTF for the generous bursary they have granted me. I'd like to recognize my family for all the support through the years.



Holly Weget
KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL
Northwest Community College
Social Service Worker

Greeting from the far north, where the snow is falling and the brains are filling. My name is Holly Weget and I am a Gitksan woman who has the opportunity to further myself in the social service field. I'm bettering myself so I am able to serve my community, my Nation and myself to advance. As a grandmother going back to school, I hope my grandson will see that one must obtain an education at any age. At a very young age, I was always assisting the people. My granny would call all her grandchildren; little did we know she was giving lessons outside of the classroom. Today, many of these lessons are visible within the classroom. Granny brought us to pick berries up on the outskirts of the village she explained why everything mattered. She taught us what plants were good to use for medicine, something sweet to eat, and prepare food for future use, granny was a regular botanist and could prepare meals out of nothing as times were hard. These are the life lessons my grandmother taught me and this is what I'm preparing to give to my grandchildren. Society can exist if the knowledge is passed down from generation to generation ensuring the sacred knowledge lives on. Sa Bax.



Elainah Andrew
LIL'WAT FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Dental Science - Dental Hygiene

I grew up in Mt. Currie, where I spent most of my time hiking and camping with friends while enjoying the scenery that BC has to offer. I have always been interested in dentistry and from a young age I had my career goals set in place; attending the University of British Columbia for dental hygiene is a dream come true and I am truly thankful for those who have helped me get to where I am.



Lyric Atchison
SQUAMISH NATION
University of British Columbia
Kinesiology

I grew up in North Vancouver, BC. I am a proud member of the Squamish Nation. I graduated with honours from Carson Graham Secondary in 2017. I was the recipient of the 2017 BC Premier's Award for Aboriginal Youth Excellence in Sports. I will be starting my first year of a Bachelor of Kinesiology degree at UBC this fall. I will also be playing varsity rugby for UBC with the goal of making the Canadian national team. After completing my undergraduate degree, I hope to write the MCAT and apply to medical school.



Jacqueline Badine
FORT NELSON FIRST NATION
Arizona State University
Bachelor of Science - Nutrition (Dietetics)

My name is Jacqueline Badine. I am in my last semester of my nutrition (dietetics) undergraduate program. I am a Dene mother of three. I am so happy to finally graduate with my university degree. After completing my degree I will pursue a dietetic internship to gain my nutrition competencies to sit for the Registered Dietitian (RD) exam, so I can be a credentialed RD. I would like to work in the areas of diabetes education, food security and nutrition education. I look forward to graduate school and adding a complementary degree to my skill set.



Gezina Baehr
SONGHEES FIRST NATION
University of Alberta
Pharmacy

My name is Gezina and I am a 20 year old pharmacy student. I am pursuing the career of my dreams, and can't wait to be a pharmacist. I aim to achieve my doctorate of pharmacy and the ability to prescribe. In the future, I wish to own a pharmacy or create my own business. Personal goals include travelling the world, practising yoga daily and learning better ways to cope with stress.



Tamara Bob
NANOOSE FIRST NATION
Langara College
Science - Nursing

My name is Tamara Bob and I am excited to be in my third year of nursing courses at Langara College. Langara offers an accelerated program that will allow me to work as a registered nurse upon graduation. My personal goal is to finish my fourth year in the program next year, which will require a lot of hard work. My career goals are to work in general medicine upon graduation and to gain nursing experience before attending BCIT for further education in a nursing specialty. I feel that the generous funding of NRTF has allowed me to focus on my studies.



Kristina Bray
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
University of Saskatchewan
Science - Nursing

My name is Kristina. I am a member of Stelat'en First Nation. I am currently in my first year of studies with hopes of admission into nursing for the upcoming school year. I have a passion for helping people and want to turn it into a career I will love for the rest of my life. I hope to eventually be a neonatal nurse, working closely with infants and their families. I want to make positive differences and think my career choice will help me do that every day.



Melissa Creyke
TAHLTAN BAND COUNCIL
University of Calgary
Bachelor of Social Work

I am Tahlтан First Nations member. I just graduated from Mount Royal University with a social work diploma. In the Fall of 2017, I will attend the University of Calgary to pursue my Bachelor of Social work. This journey to be where I am has not been the easiest, however, through support, dedication and determination, I have been able to achieve my goals. My mom always told me "as long as I try to live life in the right way every day, Creator will always be there to help me." I try every day to live by this teaching.



Tatyana Daniels
GITANMAAX BAND
University of British Columbia
Science - Food, Nutrition, and Health

I am Lax Se'el (frog clan), Wilps (house of) Miluulak from the Gitksan Nation. Ever since I was a child I have had a strong interest in biological science and Indigenous health. I completed three years of microbiology before realizing that my passion was to help improve Indigenous health through proper diet and nutrition. Currently, I am in the process of reaching my goal of becoming a registered dietitian and I would like to incorporate traditional foods and medicinal plants into my practice. I hope to further my education in this field by receiving my doctorate.

This scholarship has helped to relieve the financial stress of post-secondary education, moving to a new city, and changing educational programs. I am incredibly grateful to be a recipient of this award. I would like to thank New Relationship Trust Foundation as well as First Nations Health Authority for supporting First Nations students with their post-secondary educational goals.



Nicole Dawydiuk
SPUZZUM FIRST NATION
Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Science - Health Sciences

I am Nicole Dawydiuk and I am a fourth year student studying health sciences at Simon Fraser University. I am from Spuzzum First Nation, BC. I have been focusing my studies at SFU on population and quantitative health, with a focus on Aboriginal health inequities in Canada. In addition to my academic work, I volunteer as a peer cousin in the SFU Aboriginal department, where I help new Indigenous students adapt to university life. Looking ahead, I hope to use my education to obtain a position where I can help to decrease inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous health in Canada.



Toni Dube
TAHLTAN BAND
University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Science - Health

Hi, My name is Toni Dube. I'm 18 years old and graduated high school in 2017 with honours. I'm from the Tahlтан Band in Telegraph Creek, BC. I am currently starting my first year of a Bachelor of Science at UBCO with hopes and dreams of getting a bachelor's in biochemistry and continuing on to attend medical school. My future goal is to become a First Nations doctor and work in small communities.



Danielle Harkey
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND
Simon Fraser University
Science - Health Sciences

My name is Danielle Harkey and I am from the Musqueam Indian Band in Vancouver. I am currently in the third year of an undergraduate degree at Simon Fraser University, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in health sciences. I have always immersed myself in the health field whether it be from writing health policy to nursing. It is a huge passion of mine and I hope to one day see a change in the health inequities between First Nations and Non-First Nations peoples.

**Amber Hawkins**
TAHLTAN BAND**University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Science - Nursing**

My name is Amber Hawkins and I am from the Tahltan Band. I am entering my fourth and last year of the nursing program at UBC Okanagan! It has been a challenging, but extremely rewarding journey so far and I am looking forward to finishing my degree and starting my career as a registered nurse. Two of my career goals are to study more rural and emergency nursing and to eventually work in an Aboriginal community that is in need of health care professionals.

**Alicia Heathcliff**
NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION**University of Northern British Columbia
Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate
Nursing Program**

My name is Alicia Heathcliff and I am a member of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation. I am in my fourth year of my nursing degree. I have a passion for helping others and hold an interest in health sciences. After I graduate I hope to work towards becoming an emergency or neonatal registered nurse.

I am very thankful for this opportunity as well as the support from my family and friends.

**Erica Joe**
LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**Thompson Rivers University
Science - Nursing**

I am going into my second year of the Bachelor of Science in nursing program at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC. I have previous experience in the health care field from working as a therapy assistant where I realized I have a passion for health care and seniors. Currently I am enthusiastic and enjoying my studies. My goal is to specialize in working with Elders/seniors when I graduate, to promote a healthy lifestyle, make a difference in their lives, listen to their stories and learn from their past experiences.

**Rudy Langstaff**
SQUAMISH NATION**University of British Columbia
Science - Pharmacy**

I am completing my final year at the University of British Columbia in the Bachelor of Science in pharmacy program. I hope to pursue a career as a clinical pharmacist. I am passionate about working with youth. I have spent my past few summers volunteering at various Christian summer camps. I enjoy a fine balance of sports (i.e. basketball, ultimate frisbee, skiing, snowboarding and wake surfing), studying and sleep. A future aspiration is to one day use the skills obtained throughout my career to serve and assist in developing countries.

**Justine Manuel**
UPPER NICOLA INDIAN BAND**Thompson Rivers University
Arts - Sociology**

Way', I am Justine Manuel. I come from Spaxomin, Upper Nicola Indian Band, Okanagan Nation. With my education, I will be working in First Nation communities focusing on community development through holistic health. It is my goal to bring healing through our culture and language for our future generations. I have interests in politics, traditional governance, title and rights. My goal is to create security for our future generations, preserving our land, culture and language. I truly believe when we embrace our traditional practices and speak our languages we will come full circle and do the work that is needed.

**Levana Rose Mastrangelo**
UCLUELET FIRST NATION**University of Victoria
Biochemistry and Microbiology**

My name is Levana Rose Mastrangelo. I am Yuuʔuʔiʔʔath (Ucluelet First Nations), I have naʔuk-strong maʔsaap-ties with Yuuʔuʔiʔʔath nismʔa- land and ʔaaʔaas-ocean, I ʔuʔaaʔuksa-take care of our nismʔa-land, ʔaaʔaas-oceans, and our saʔtuup-wildlife. My bachelor's degree is in microbiology and my field of interest after completion is to focus on Indigenous lands and resources, traditional medicine and our important harvest areas along the west coast of Vancouver. I would like to pursue my

master's and have it focused on traditional west coast medicine of Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations.

**Owen McNeil-Joseph**
SEABIRD ISLAND BAND**University of the Fraser Valley
Science - Biology**

I have never been certain on what I wanted to do. I took one criminology class and now I have decided I want to be a lawyer to help the people who need it most. To help the people who have gone through similar things that I have gone through. To try and make an impact on people's lives the best way I can.

**Mary Mearns**
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**Simon Fraser University
Science - Biological Physics**

I am an Elphinstone Secondary School honour roll graduate from Gibsons, BC. I will attend Simon Fraser University for biological physics. I am excited to start my post-secondary courses in biology, chemistry, physics and calculus. Passionate about math and science, I will use the knowledge from my BSc to obtain employment within the science field. Some career options I am considering include health educator, DNA analyst or toxicologist. I will continue to strive for academic excellence during my time at SFU, thus providing a role model for other young Aboriginal women.

**Stacy Mitchell**
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**British Columbia Institute of Technology
Science - Nursing**

My name is Stacy Mitchell. I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band in Vernon, BC. I am entering my second year at BCIT in the nursing program. When I graduate in May 2019 as a registered nurse, I plan on moving somewhere in Northern BC or the Yukon to work in the Aboriginal communities. My goal is to ensure that the northern communities are well supported and feel culturally safe. I also want to promote health and wellness that incorporates traditional healing methods.

**Paige Richardson-Dudoward**
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**University of British Columbia
Kinesiology**

My name is Paige Richardson-Dudoward, and I am from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am entering my second year of kinesiology at UBC. I am passionate about health, wellness, fitness and nutrition, and I try my best to take a holistic approach to all of these aspects of overall health. I aspire to continue on with a professional degree in healthcare upon completion of my undergraduate degree. My goal is to work in healthcare with First Nations communities throughout BC.

**Reinelda Sankey**
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**Simon Fraser University
Arts - Health Sciences**

I am in my fifth year of my undergraduate degree at Simon Fraser University, where I am majoring in health sciences. I anticipate graduating in the spring of 2018. Upon completion of my degree, I have hopes of being accepted to the University of British Columbia's Northern Medical Program with a long-term goal of becoming a physician and returning to Northern BC to practice medicine.

**Shyanna Sawyer**
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**Camosun College
Science - Nursing**

My name is Shyanna Sawyer, I am a 19 year old Haida woman from Skidegate on Haida Gwaii. I am from the Naa 'Yuuwans ʔaaydaga Eagle clan. I am a first year nursing student at Camosun College. My plan is to become a registered nurse and move back to my village on Haida Gwaii. It has always been a dream of mine to better my community and be a role model for the young kids of Skidegate. I feel extremely blessed to have received this scholarship and I hope to help many people throughout my lifetime.



Chelsea Sylvester
WE WAI KAI NATION
Vancouver Community College
Science - Nursing

I am a third year student in the Bachelor of Science in nursing program. I plan to pursue my career as a registered nurse in acute care upon graduating from my program.



Courtney Taylor
GITWANGAK BAND
Northwest Community College
Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate
Nursing

My name is Courtney Taylor and I am a First Nations member of the Gitwangak community. I am continuing my education at Northwest Community College to get my bachelor's degree in science and nursing. My long-term career goal is to become a registered nurse and stay here in the region and help care for people of this community. Receiving this scholarship will help me to focus more on my studies and my long-term goals.



Nicola Terbasket
LOWER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND
Vancouver Island University
Sports, Health and Physical Education

My name is Nicola Terbasket and I am from the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, part of the Okanagan Nation. I grew up in the small town of Cawston, BC and am attending Vancouver Island University where I am continuing my studies in my fourth year of the BA in sports, health, and physical education while playing varsity basketball for the Vancouver Island University Mariners. My goal is to further my education in the sports fields in hopes of bringing back some of my skills to my community. Further down the road, I hope to pursue my master's in physiotherapy.



Aimee Tresierra
WHISPERING PINES INDIAN BAND
University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Science - Nursing

My name is Aimee Tresierra. I currently reside in Kelowna, BC. I am currently attending the University of British Columbia Okanagan pursuing my Bachelor of Science in nursing. My personal goals are to be able to provide for my family and feel accomplished with the career path I have chosen. There are many different avenues that I can choose within the field of nursing and I look forward to figuring out the one that is most suitable for me. I recently had my first child, who inspires me every day to work hard for our family.



Michael Wesley
GITANMAAX BAND
University of British Columbia
Food Nutrition and Health

My name is Michael Wesley and I am Gitxsan. I am a husband and father of two boys that I would like to provide an example of a positive and strong role model for them. I am entering my third year in health sciences working towards a degree in dietetics. This year, I am transferring to the University of British Columbia from Thompson Rivers University to pursue a degree and career in dietetics. My goal is to work with Indigenous peoples to help promote healthy and sustainable lifestyles.

I am very grateful for this scholarship. This award has helped my family get through the school year by relieving us of financial stresses. My family is very appreciative of the support provided from the scholarship and bursary initiative.



Katrina Joseph
?A?AM NATION
University of Montana
Clinical Mental Health Counseling

With the continued support from my three beautiful daughters, family, friends and mentors, I have been given the opportunity to be one step closer in accomplishing my educational goal. I feel my career choice is the stepping stone to reframe our focus creating awareness and open mindedness to new ways of healing and dealing with our past to make a stronger future for our self and our community. Clinical mental health counseling is my key to giving back to my community, family and self through helping others strive to become strong, healthy and self-sufficient.



Brittany Morgan
TOQUAHT NATION
University of Victoria
Masters of Public Health

Hello! My name is Brittany Morgan. I am daughter of a Nuu-chah-nulth mother of the Toquaht Nation and a Secwepemc father of the Bonaparte Indian Band. This fall 2017, I will be returning to the University of Victoria to start my Master of Public Health with a focus on Indigenous peoples health. Indigenous health has always been an interest and passion for me. I plan to work towards supporting and building a more holistic health system for Indigenous peoples. I look forward to bringing this education and knowledge back to Indigenous communities.

I raise my hands to the NRT Foundation and say, Thank-you! I am very honoured to have been selected as a graduate scholarship recipient. This kind of support not only helps students financially but also gives them motivation to keep excelling with their education goals. I give thanks to supportive organizations such as yours who are making that journey so much more enjoyable by supporting First Nations students. You benefit so many with your act of caring and support.



Toni Schutte
TSESHAHT FIRST NATION
Western University of Health Science
Optometry

I am from the Tseshaht First Nation on Vancouver Island. I received my Bachelor of Science in biology at the University of North Dakota. After gaining experience in the field I am now pursuing optometry. The process was far from simple but I'm loving every minute. Once I'm finished, I hope to return to Vancouver Island and be a part of a practice where I can give back to my community. I still have a lot of schooling to get through but I look forward to the day when I can call myself an eye doctor.

I'm grateful to NRT for their support with this scholarship. There aren't many scholarship opportunities in my field and this is helping me achieve my dream of becoming an optometrist. Overall the application process was very smooth. All my questions were answered quickly and it was great having that kind of support. I want to thank everyone at NRT; this scholarship is really making a difference for me.



Brenda Walkem
COOK'S FERRY INDIAN BAND
University of British Columbia
Integrated Studies in Land and Food Systems

As a young Aboriginal woman, I was encouraged by my family to pursue my education. I remember my dad telling me that no one could take my education away from me. I am presently working on my Master of Science degree at UBC researching how much Nlaka'pamux people are increasing their use of deer, moose and elk (ungulates) as sources of protein when they can't get enough salmon, and what Nlaka'pamux hunters are experiencing. I hope to provide useful research information to the Nlaka'pamux communities and other First Nations to support sustainable management of the ungulate species into the future.



Tarissa Alec
TAKLA FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

I am Carrier-Sekani and Gitksan from Takla First Nation, although I am currently living in Prince George completing my degree at UBC's Northern Medical Program. I am a mother to two beautiful boys and I have a loving husband. Together, my husband and I would like to work as general practitioners, providing care to rural and remote communities in Northern BC.



Brittany Bingham
SHÍSHÁLH (SECHLT) NATION
Simon Fraser University
Health Sciences

I am a member of the Shíshálh Nation and a proud mom to two beautiful kids age seven and three. I am a PhD candidate in health sciences at Simon Fraser University. I completed both my BA in psychology and my master's in public health at SFU. I have worked in health research in various capacities with Indigenous communities and government for over 10 years and am a passionate advocate for community-driven research, health equity, maternal health, homelessness, HIV/AIDS and reconciliation. Following graduation, I plan to continue working on reconciliation and research initiatives with the goal of supporting Indigenous community wellness.



Deanna Kerrigan
OLD MASSET VILLAGE COUNCIL
University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

Having spent most of my life in Prince George, BC, I was well aware of what an amazing opportunity the Northern Medical Program would be. As I am now in my clinical years, I have no doubt I made the right decision to train in the north. I'm surrounded by passionate physicians who are more than willing to share their knowledge, and the hands on experience is endless. I look forward to serving mid-sized and smaller communities in the future, as either a family physician or paediatrician.



Joseph Ledo
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND
McMaster University
Doctor of Medicine

I am a first year medical student at McMaster University. I was born and raised off-reserve in Maple Ridge, BC, where I finished high school as an adult. Later, I attended university in a small town part-time while also working. During my undergraduate degree I actually dropped out to work full-time as a long-haul truck driver. It was on those long drives that I put together the plan to become a medical doctor, and to practice in one of the many northern BC communities in need of First Nations healthcare providers.



Joshua Nash
TAHLTAN BAND
University of Calgary
Doctor of Medicine

I am a member of the wolf clan of the Tahltan Band in BC. I have five brothers and five sisters, who are all younger except for one older sister. In the future I would like to work as a family physician for northern Indigenous communities. I decided to embark on such an ambitious goal because it was important for me to help create equal opportunities for Indigenous people living in remote regions and access to proper and appropriate healthcare should never be a limiting factor.



Steven Tresierra
WHISPERING PINES/CLINTON INDIAN BAND
Queen's University
Doctor of Medicine

I am a proud member of the Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band. I would like to thank my wife, family and friends for supporting me on my educational journey and for encouraging me to pursue my goals. After I complete medical school, I would like to help improve the health of our Indigenous peoples and communities through the development of appropriate healthcare education modules for patients and care providers. I plan to advocate for the delivery of culturally appropriate care to reduce the disparity and racism faced by many Indigenous peoples when they enter the clinical setting.



Natasha Wawrykow

SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND
University of British Columbia
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 UBC. I counsel from a narrative therapy therapeutic orientation and my therapy focus includes inter-generational trauma and anxiety reduction with Aboriginal populations. In 2015, I began my PhD

program, which included practicums at the Ministry of Child and Family Development - Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health, Fraser Health Authority - Acquired Brain Injury Services, and Surrey Memorial Hospital - Adolescent Psychiatric Unit. My dissertation explores areas of self-worth that facilitate Aboriginal students' well-being. Huy ch q'u.k

I would like to thank New Relationship Trust for this life changing opportunity. Through your financial support, I will be able to achieve my goal of becoming a counselling psychologist. In order to become a psychologist in BC you need to complete bachelors, masters, and PhD degrees, which requires many years of study and financial assets. With the generous support from your organization, my goal of becoming a 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. Due to the high degree of study and time commitment required by my program, it would be difficult to excel in my program or spend time volunteering if I was also having to work to support my doctoral training. Your generosity will allow me the freedom to take additional training opportunities beyond the core curriculum requirements of my program, which will make me a stronger clinician as I will be able to address more mental health areas.



Elena Adams
KATZIE FIRST NATION
Ridge Meadows College
Early Childhood Education

My name is Elena Adams from the Katzie First Nation. I am married with four children. I knew it was time to get back into school and decided that now was the time. I always knew that my passion was to work with children and I see the early childhood years as very important to children's development. Once I am done my program, I look forward to being able to provide a safe and nurturing environment for young children. I especially look forward to working within my community and others to help shape our children in the best way possible.



Jennifer Anderson
MÉTIS
Northwest Community College
Social Service Worker

My name is Jenni Anderson, and I am 31 years old. I am in my second year of the Social Service Worker program. I have always had a love for working with people, and finally decided to go back to school after being out of school for ten years so I could make that happen. I also have a love of the outdoors and for animals, which I someday hope to combine with my social work practice. I have seen first hand the healing powers that animals hold, and would love to be able to use this to help clients, especially children. I am looking forward to giving back to the community of Terrace, BC, and helping those in need. I also plan to continue with my education to obtain a degree in social work at UNBC.

I would like to say a big thank you to New Relationship Trust Foundation for this bursary. Education has become extremely expensive and stressful because of all the costs that go along with it. This money will help me worry less about the bills I have to pay and focus more on the school work that I need to accomplish in order to obtain my current and future goals. I am forever grateful for your support.



Ashley Azak
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW
College of the Rockies
Child and Youth Family Services

Hlguu Daath Hlwa'y, Gitwinksihlkw Wil witgwi'y, Gitwangak wil jogay'. My Nisga'a name Hlguu Daath means "little matriarch". Named by my maternal grandmother, I come from "the people of the lizards" of the Nisga'a, and reside in the territory of the Gitksan with my partner. I am a mother to three small children and two older stepsons. Having completed an Education Assistant Certificate, I am now pursuing a diploma in child and youth family services. I am grateful for the education I have completed and excited for all the doors my diploma will open.



Heather Brownell
MÉTIS
Ridge Meadows College
Early Childhood Education

I am currently in the Early Childhood Education course at Ridge Meadows College. I currently work in a before-after school program and an age three to five program. I had planned on only taking one course but once I started I just want more information. Working with children has never made me happier, and the more I can learn from the ECE courses the more confident I am. I would like to open my own childcare centre one day. I now know that working with children can be a challenge but the outcome can fill your soul with happiness.



Kathy Crozier
MÉTIS
University of Fraser Valley
Social Worker - First Nations Option

My name is Kathy Crozier. I am from Vancouver and I am Métis. I am beginning my first year of studies in the social work program, First Nations option. My inspiration has been my older brother Joe who overdosed last year. I plan to help those who struggle with addiction and the underlying issues of abuse and trauma. This is close to my heart as I have seen the pain in my own family and the crisis on our streets.



Sheila Denomme
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
Northwest Community College
Infant and Child Mental Health

I am a proud Nisga'a/ Gitksan woman who was raised in my father's home community of Gitwangak. I am of the Lax Gibuu clan and I sit in the house of Malii. My Gitksan name is Luu dii gensxw, which means "leaves mixing up in the water". I believe in our teachings and am truly grateful for the strong influence of the matriarch's on both sides of my family; they have helped shape who I am. I am a mother to three children. I believe education is the way to find your own success. I also truly believe we must be the change we wish to see, in our own children and community. I try and lead by example role modeling to my own children first, family, and the community I live and work for. I never liked the drinking I saw as a child, so I told myself when I have children it will not be something they will see. One small change can make all the difference in making changes for a brighter future. This one small change has huge ripple effects, and it all started with one planted seed. My parents pushed us to further our education, my parents encouraged us to do more, to go further than they had. To not follow their path but to make our own path, that there was nothing wrong with wanting more than what they could give us. My mother shared with us; education is a gift, never stop learning, never stop growing, never stop reading. She would share, education is knowledge and knowledge is power and it's your power to live the life you want to live, and no one can take that from you, as you earned it. So at 42 years old, I returned to Post Secondary taking the Infant and Child Mental Health and loved it. I see more schooling in the works for me. I am going to Keep planting seeds.



Carmen George
PENTICTON INDIAN BAND
Okanagan College
Associate of Arts - Psychology

I am so thankful for the New Relationship Trust Foundation and the help they have given me to reach my goals. I am going to get the education and training I need to be able to support my community. I will be going for my Associate of

Arts degree with an emphasis on psychology, which includes child development. I want to be able to help everyone in my community from children to Elders and this is the first step in reaching those goals.



Randy Govereau
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
Vancouver Island University
Social Services

I originally was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba but moved to Alert Bay, BC when I was a teenager. I have struggled in the past with my own demons but have done many years of healing and personal growth. When I applied for school I had no job, no home and no ambition but after having an epiphany and wanting to change my life, I did just that. Right now, I am going into my second semester and am very proud of myself. I want to further my education as far as I can and, as stated above, to help people.



Jessica Gregg
BOSTON BAR FIRST NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts into AECE

I am very goal oriented and take pride in achieving my personal growth. My education is my main personal goal at the moment. I am pursuing general arts this year and upon completion I can continue with the Aboriginal Early Childhood Education program at NVIT. By attaining these certificates and diplomas, I will be able to further my career in childcare and eventually obtain a Bachelor of Social Work degree to work with adolescents.



Jacey Hargreaves
MÉTIS
Lethbridge College
Child and Youth Care

Growing up, I always had the passion to help others in any way that I could. Living in the small town of Elkford, BC for most of my life has allowed me to interact with my community and get to know the people, especially children and youth, very well. There are so many people who are in great need of guidance and assistance and this has led me to pursue the Child and Youth Care program to the very best of my abilities and help make a positive impact in families' lives in every way that I can.

**Darleen Hildebrandt**
PELICAN LAKE FIRST NATION**Native Education College | Aboriginal Early Childhood Education Special Needs Diploma**

My name is Darlene Hildebrandt. I am from Pelican Lake First Nation and a proud mother of two children. They are my pride and joy, and my greatest desire has always been to be the best mother and role model I can be for my children. Currently, I am working on my Special Needs diploma. It's my joy to work with families and children in this field and I take my work very seriously, operating through patience, love, and collaboration with others. Responsive caregiving is the very key to building successful young people in generations to come.

**Destiny Hoostie**
WHITE BEAR FIRST NATION**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**
Associates of Arts Degree

My name is Destiny Hoostie. I'm from White Bear First Nation located in Saskatchewan. I have chosen to pursue my educational path at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology which is an Aboriginal post-secondary institute. I'm working towards my Bachelor of Social Work. As an Indigenous female, I feel that preserving our Indigeneity is essential in a drastically changing world. This is the beginning of my journey, and because of the many imposed limitations throughout my life, I am passionate about my people and our culture.

**Anna-Marie Horn**
MÉTIS**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**
Associate of Arts - Social Work

My mother had ten children, and I am the youngest of my siblings. I was born in Prince George, BC. My family belongs to the Cree Nation. It is important that I am able to study in an Indigenous college that recognizes my Indigenous culture. My personal career goals are to continue my education towards a Bachelor of Social Work and then to continue on to receive a master's degree in psychology. I love to study First Nations' history.

**Janean Hunt**
KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION**North Island College**
Early Childhood Care Educator

I am Janean Hunt. I am 26 years old and a Kwakiutl First Nation member. I am mother of two children ages three years old and newborn. I am currently on maternity leave but will be returning to work in July 2018. I work at Kwigwis Daycare as an ECCE Assistant and I also work the after school program. I enjoy working with children and helping guide our next generation to be our next leaders. My goals for my future are to finish the ECCE program to obtain my certificate and then to continue on to get my diploma in ECCE.

**Kristine Jack**
PENTICTON INDIAN BAND**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

Way, hello, my name is Kristine Jack I am a Syilx woman raised on the Penticton Indian Band. I was raised in a traditional household by my parents Clara and Edna Jack, and I am fluent in the Syilx language and culture. My husband and I have been married for 30 years and together we have seven children. I have worked as an Aboriginal educator and language teacher for 17 years on and off reserve. In 2015, I started my journey as an AECE student with the goal of one day starting a daycare where children can learn our culture and language fluently.

**Lenore Jones**
PACHEEDAHT FIRST NATION**Native Education College**
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

My name is Lenore Jones. I am from Pacheedaht First Nation. I am a student at Native Education College in the Aboriginal Early Childhood Education Post Basic Diploma program. I am a mother of three children and have one grandson. I really enjoy working with children and families and seeing their growth over the years. Things I enjoy doing are beading and scrapbooking. I have been living in Vancouver, furthering my education so that I can return home to my community and work for my people and be a positive role-model. I am very grateful for this award.

**Billie Kowalski**
MÉTIS**Okanagan College**
Associate of Arts - Psychology

My name is Billie Kowalski. I am currently enrolled in my second year of my Associates of Arts Diploma. Upon completion of my diploma I hope to apply to the University of British Columbia and obtain my full Associate of Arts degree. A long term goal I have is to get involved with the Canadian legal system.

Thank you for this bursary. I appreciate the efforts this institution makes to help students reach their goals and achieve desired career outcomes.

**Alica Marchand**
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**College of the Rockies****Aboriginal Education Support Worker**

I was born and raised on the Okanagan Indian Band. I have three wonderful boys—ages 13, four and 19 months—with a wonderful husband. My family is my rock, and I want nothing but the best for them along with our Aboriginal youth. My goal is to complete the AESW program and work within our education system from K-12. My passion is to help our youth grow and succeed in their education and into post-secondary, to help them see that nothing is impossible. Hard work and dedication are the paths to a successful career.

**Cherise Matilpi**
KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION**North Island College | Early Childhood Education Certificate Program**

I come from the Kwakiutl First Nation and I am a single mother to two young daughters, ages 10 and five. After suffering a spinal tumor, I decided to continue my education. I am enrolled in the ECCE three-year certificate program that starts this fall. I am currently working within my community daycare as an NVIATS ECE trainee and I dream of obtaining all the certification that I need for full-time employment to work with the children in my community.

**Timothy Miterick**
LAC LA RONGE INDIAN BAND**Okanagan College****Associate of the Arts - Social Work**

I am attending full-time studies at the Okanagan College, and am committed to completing my associates degree and transferring to University of Victoria in September of 2018. I intend to complete graduate level studies, so I may pursue a career in psychiatric social work. My interests include skills development, searching for motivational tools and rethinking methodologies that ensure client support. I am a supporter of the community, and have worked with multiple Band activities, including assisting in ceremonial activities. I have contributed to many extra-curricular activities, from volunteering to offering time to the Kelowna Gospel Mission Centre.

**Charmayne Nikal**
MORICETOWN BAND**Northwest Community College**
Infant Child Mental Health

I'm from the community of Moricetown. I am the oldest of five siblings. I have three beautiful boys and a supportive husband. I work full-time as a manager within our Aboriginal Head Start program and I am actively involved with our community and my family. I plan on becoming a child psychologist in the future; advocating and supporting the needs of all children within our community is a huge priority.

**Zoey Parent**
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALST'AP**Northwest Community College**
Early Childhood Education

I am from the Nisga'a Nation and am currently living and studying in my hometown in Northern BC where I raise my two girls. Early childhood has always been a passion of mine and I've had much experience in this field. I hope to be able to transfer this program to a degree program as a long-term goal.



Shanice Parr
NUXALK NATION
Native Education College
Early Childhood Education

I am eighteen and currently in my first year of early childhood education. I will continue my education to achieve a diploma in infant and toddler and special needs. I am super excited on the career path I have chosen. I come from a small Nuxalk Community located in Bella Coola. I am a twin and have twin siblings. I have found my passion in life at a young age: working with children and specifically special needs children. My goal is to return to my community to educate special needs children or children of all ages.



Dionne Phillips
SODA CREEK INDIAN BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Early Childhood Education

I am Dionne Phillips, from the Soda Creek Indian Band. I have been working with kids for the last six years and I have enjoyed it so much that I decided to pursue a career where I could work with them every day. I am going to Thompson Rivers University to pursue my Early Childhood Education diploma. I have been very committed to my schoolwork and have found all the information very helpful since I started working at the Soda Creek Headstart part-time.



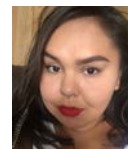
Chantelle Stephens
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP
Northwest Community College
Early Childhood Education

I am a 29 year old Nisga'a mother of three. I am to be engaged this year to my boyfriend of six years. I reside in Laxgalts'ap and come from the wolf tribe. Aside from my three children, I have been caring for my two nieces for the past two years. I have had a huge hand in raising them and have big dreams for them and through my schooling I will show them anything is possible.



Emily Strecker
MÉTIS
College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker

As a care aid and life skills support worker, I work with people living with dementia and/or mental illness. In doing this, I realized how passionately I feel about working in the field of mental health and addictions. My objective is to obtain my Bachelor of Social Work and pursue a career as a mental health counsellor in rural communities. I wish to provide support for those who are struggling in order to help them reach a better quality of life.



Bianca Swanson
OLD MASSET VILLAGE COUNCIL
Northwest Community College
Social Service Worker

My name is Bianca Swanson. I am a Haida from Old Massett, and I am studying social service work. My goals are to complete the second year Social Service Worker diploma program, move back to my community and seek a career in youth work. My long-term goal is to plan and implement as many youth programs on reserve as possible that contain culture, recreation, empowerment and life skills. My ultimate personal goal is to set a great example for my three children, nieces and nephews and local youth.



Aliyah Williams
SKATIN FIRST NATION
University of the Fraser Valley
General Studies Diploma

I'm an Aboriginal graduate of the Chilliwack Education Centre, 2017. I graduated with several awards of recognition. I am actively involved in my cultural practices and also enrolled at the University of the Fraser Valley. I am currently working on obtaining my General Studies diploma. Next semester, I plan on getting my Bachelor of Early Childhood Education. My desire is to uplift and encourage Aboriginal youth.



Jeanette Mercer

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
Camosun College
Associates Degree - Psychology

My name is Jeanette Mercer. I am from the Nisga'a Nation and I am of the killer whale tribe. I currently reside in Victoria, BC and am enrolled in the Associates Degree program in psychology at Camosun College. I will eventually pursue my psychology degree at the University

of Victoria. My end goal is to complete my master's in psychology at the University of British Columbia, and then return home to work with my community in the hopes to improve the quality of life for Nisga'a citizens. A new found dream is to write lots of books in my field of study.

I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation from the bottom of my heart for supporting me with my educational goals. This foundation changes lives. Thank you so much.



Keenan Andrew
AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION
 Univeristy of Victoria
 School of Child and Youth Care

Uu-klah-muh, Imscha hístuuk-shilth Ahousaht hístuuk-shilth Nuu'chah'nulth Isaak camis Chuu – Kleko kleko. My traditional name is Imscha. I come from the people of Ahousaht of the Nuu'chah'nulth Nation. I would like to acknowledge the Lekwungen, WESANEC, and Esquimalt territories which I have had the honour of living, learning and supporting my Indigenous community on over the past three years. I feel proud to be taking the Indigenous specialization in the Child and Youth Care program. I have had many teachings and mentorships that have helped develop my praxis to support my culture, traditions, Indigenous language and community.



Shakti Baker
SQUAMISH NATION
 University of British Columbia
 Indigenous Teacher Education Program

My name is Shakti Baker and I am from the Squamish Nation. I am currently in my third year at the University of British Columbia in the Indigenous Teacher Education Program. My short term goal is to become an elementary school teacher and my long term goal is to become a school counsellor for Indigenous children. I think holistic education is the foundation of success and instills a sense of belonging, which is a feeling I hope to evoke in all of my students.



Cheryl Beler
KLAHOOSE FIRST NATION
 Vancouver Island University
 Social Work

Hello, my name is Cheryl and I live on the east coast of beautiful Vancouver Island. I am a single mother of a delightful, smart and sweet 12 year old daughter. We identify as proud members of the Klahoose First Nation on Cortes Island. We visit our community often and get involved with our culture and traditions while visiting family and friends to stay connected. I will be graduating in the spring and hope to use my degree to work closely supporting First Nations children and families.



Natasha Billy
XAXLI'P FIRST NATION
 Thompson Rivers University
 Social Work

I plan on specializing in child welfare and working with the Indigenous families. I believe it is important to have Indigenous social workers who have seen the extent of the harm that has occurred to our people in the past system. After working and gaining knowledge of the current system, my goal is to work within policy development to make the much needed changes so our own people can have control of our own child welfare system.



Alicia Carlow
SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION
 Univeristy of Victoria
 Social Work

My educational journey started three years ago when I took an Indigenous Family Support Program. From there I transitioned into UVic to start my social work degree. Recently I have decided to compliment my degree by obtaining a minor in Indigenous studies. I believe this will enhance my capacity to work with community in a more meaningful and culturally safe way. My passions are in raising awareness about violence against Indigenous women and children, advocacy for youth, restorative justice and encouraging community members to invest in themselves through education.



Estelle Carmona
SECHELT INDIAN BAND
 Univeristy of Victoria
 Child and Youth Care

Hola, mi nombre es Estelle Carmona. I grew up on the Sunshine Coast, BC. I've been dedicated in my career and education since high school. My passion is working with my Indigenous community and offering the knowledge, support and guidance to uplift our children. I am currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Child and Youth Care program, and I can see my self getting a doctorate in the future. I live a passionate life dedicated to health and happiness; I teach part-time yoga in my 'free' time. I am also raising two beautiful daughters.



Ragina Charlie
PENELAKUT FIRST NATION
 Vancouver Island University
 Arts - Child and Youth Care

My name is Ragina Charlie and I'm a proud member of Penelakut Tribe. I've always had a passion for working with children. My goal is to promote positive changes for First Nations families and children. I feel we need to nurture children and guide them to reach their full potential in life. After I complete my degree, I plan on applying to the Master of Arts in Child and Youth Care Program at the University of Victoria. My goal is to work as a family and youth counsellor or as a helper within a school-based setting.



Jonathan Doane
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
 University of Northern British Columbia
 Bachelor of Education

My name is Jonathan Doane and I am a member of the Lax Kw'alaams Band. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Education. I am supported on my educational endeavor by my amazing wife and our one year old daughter. I am so fortunate to complete this journey in my hometown of Terrace, BC, and I hope that when I'm finished that I can give back to a community that has done so much for me.



Leon Erickson
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN
 University of Northern British Columbia
 Arts - History

I returned to school for two main reasons: primarily, my three year old daughter who has cerebral palsy and secondly my first born son. At age 23, he is surviving with a disease he acquired in December 2016 called 'vasculitis'. It is a disease where one's immune system attacks the red blood cells. Watching these two make the best of their lives has given me hope and resolve. I quit school long ago to get a job. In essence, I gave up. My dad had said: "there are no excuses. Get it done!" I never appreciated those words until now.



Jacquelyn Gladstone
HEILTSUK NATION
 Capilano University
 Early Child Care and Education

My name is Jacquelyn. I am a mother of two, a member of the Heiltsuk Nation and I am currently in my third year at Capilano University in the Early Child Care and Education program. I am working towards my degree in ECCE. Upon obtaining my degree, I plan on taking the PDP program at SFU to become an elementary teacher. Working with children has always been a passion of mine.



Tianna Grosse
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
 University of British Columbia
 Education - Indigenous Teacher Education Program

I am working towards my Bachelor of Education and plan to return to my home of Haida Gwaii to work as an elementary school teacher upon completion. My goal as a teacher is to be a positive role model for the students I will work with and to create a safe space for learning to teach children the importance of education.



Chelsey Hardy
NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION
 Capilano University
 Early Childhood Care and Education.

My name is Chelsey Hardy and I am from a small interior community named Nadleh, and I am a part of the Dulhtseyoo clan. I have been a part of the early childhood education field since I was 18, as I believe that children are the hope for the future and it is our job to build their foundations strong. I would like to thank my family, friends, community and the New Relationship Trust Foundation for all their support as I achieve my Bachelor of Early Childhood Care and Education degree.



Megan Harkey
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND
 University of British Columbia
 Indigenous Teacher Education Program

As a mother of two beautiful boys, I'm absolutely thrilled to be entering the Indigenous Teacher Education Program

(NITEP). I feel that my life experiences and strong cultural upbringing will be extremely beneficial in my abilities as an elementary teacher. I am a licensed practical nurse by trade, so the leap into a teaching degree is going to be a big, but exciting change.



Crystal Howard
MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Social Work - Child Welfare Specialization

My name is Crystal Howard and I am from the Mowachaht/Muchalaht Nation. I am a single mother of two and I am going into my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work program in CWS here at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). I look forward to going to grad school after I work in the field of social work for a year or two. I have come a long way to be where I am today and it's thanks to initiatives like the New Relationship Trust bursaries/scholarships that have greatly supported us along my way.



Alana LaMalice
K'ATL'ODEECHE FIRST NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Social Work

I'm Dene/Cree from K'atl'odeeche First Nation, Northwest Territories. Previously, I completed two terms at NVIT's Burnaby Campus. I am currently completing my third year of a Bachelor of Social Work degree at the NVIT Merritt Campus and will commence my fourth year this fall. Both my parents were residential school survivors, and I'm working on no longer just surviving—as an intergenerational residential school survivor but—on thriving. My hope is to empower First Nations youth and young adults and to work within the HIV field as a social worker, or within the correctional institutions sector.



Jaulie LeBlanc
COWICHAN TRIBES
Vancouver Island University
Arts - Child and Youth Care

My name is Jaulie LeBlanc. I am a student at Vancouver Island University in third year of my Bachelor of Arts in child and youth care. My career goal is to support Indigenous children



Tish Lovely
MÉTIS NATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Arts - Psychology

I am a single mother of a beautiful five year old daughter. Prior to being a mother and student, I managed a group home for children with autism. This year, I am completing my bachelor's degree in psychology at UBC Okanagan. My ancestry is Métis and an extinct Kooteney First Nations tribe. I am grateful to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for the financial assistance to reach my educational goals so that I may be an asset in my community.



Nona Marchand
DITIDAHT FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Indigenous Teacher Education Program

I come from the Ditidaht First Nation located on Vancouver Island. I started my path to becoming an educator through the NITEP program. I am now in my professional year of UBC's Bachelor of Education program and will graduate in July 2018. My goal is to work in the mental health field both in the classroom and in communities. Important changes can be made within classrooms; I want to help youth find their passion and to become strong leaders. I want to create spaces where youth/adults can feel empowered and safe to express themselves as they find their way.



Rosalee Morgan
GITWANGAK BAND
University of Northern British Columbia
Social Work

I'm a Gitksan/Unistoten woman that is doing what wasn't possible for my grandmothers and I am proud of my accomplishments so far. My personal goals were to simply be the change that I wanted to see in my community by going back to school to change my career. Resiliency

and youth, especially the ones in the ministry's care. I feel I can empathize with what these children and youth are going through because I have been in and out of foster care all my life. I feel my experience and education will assist youth and children in care in a positive way.



Nikita Jack

BOOTHROYD INDIAN BAND
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Social Work

I have always had a passion to help people especially people who are of Aboriginal descent. I have two beautiful children for whom I hope to be a good role model. I enjoy learning, and I hope they will grow to enjoy education,

because I believe school is very important, especially to get out of poverty. My career goal is to get my Bachelor of Social Work degree. My ultimate goal is to get my master's in social work.

I want to say how grateful I am to receive some support, while I attend university. It is like a big weight has lifted off my shoulders. Now I can continue my studies and not have to worry about mine and my families physical needs, such as food, shelter and transportation.



Breyanna Hiebert

KELOWNA MÉTIS ASSOCIATION
University of British Columbia
Social Work

Hello, my name is Breyanna Hiebert. I am a new social work student at UBC and am excited to continue my education in the social services field. In the next few

years, I hope to work as a social worker in the health care field before moving on to pursue a master's in social work so I can become a women's counsellor.

I am beyond thankful for this contribution to my education. Without the financial support of scholarships like this I would find it very difficult managing both school and my finances.

and perseverance is what carried me through, and I feel confident as I work toward completing my bachelor's degree that I will succeed. I am now considering my master's degree.



Nadine Pascal
LIL'WAT NATION
University of British Columbia
Education

Kalhwa7acw entsa7s mahyeqs, Lil'watul lhkan – Hello my name is Nadine Pascal. I am from Lil'wat Nation I am currently in my second year studying for my Bachelor of Education – Indigenous Teacher Education Program. My goals are to be an elementary teacher and work with children in their early years of education. I am very excited about my journey and finishing the program so that I can move forward continuing helping our community in education.



Darrien Pollard
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Vancouver Island University
Arts - Child and Youth Care

My name is Darrian Pollard, from Haida Gwaii, BC. I was awarded the undergrad scholarship for pursuing child and youth care at Vancouver Island University for four years.



Shezell-Rae Sam
AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION
University of Victoria
Child and Youth Care

My name is Shezell-Rae Sam. I am from the Ahousesht First Nation located on the west coast of Vancouver Island. My career goal is to obtain a master's in social work, because I have the passion and devotion to protect and support our First Nations children and families. My personal goal is to continue to thrive as a First Nations female, by completing my master's, and supporting my children and family.



Marie Sandy
WILLIAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND
Thompson Rivers University Education /
DSTC First Nation Teacher Education

Weytkp, I am a member of the Secwepemc Nation, T'exelcemic in the Williams Lake area of BC. I decided to pursue post-secondary education because I am passionate about ensuring the Secwepemc language continues

into the following generations. To follow through on my goal, I enrolled and was accepted into the DSTC First Nations Language Teacher Certificate program, and the Bachelor of Education program at Thompson Rivers University. My hopes, and dreams, after completing my education, are to teach the Secwepemc language, with future aspirations to tackle a Master of Education degree in Indigenous language revitalization at the University of Victoria.



Lisa Snow
NUXALK NATION
Douglas College
Arts - Child and Youth Care

I started working with early years in a daycare. In my last experience there were a lot of vulnerable families, and this lead me to see the bigger picture in the society we live today. I have so much empathy and compassion for those who are in need because at one point in my life I was there too. With the proper support system in place, I could move forward and work harder to get where I am today. My goal is to work harder to help those who cross my path in life, to make a difference in their lives.



Brett Wallace
LIL'WAT NATION
University of British Columbia
First Nation Studies

Future goals that I have set for myself are to learn my native tongue of Ucwalmicwts and to become as fluent as possible, so our language will carry on into the future. After receiving my degree, I would like to teach in the classroom for a couple of years. One day, I would love to get a master's degree in education.



Tina Wenman
BOSTON BAR FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Education

I am from Boston Bar First Nation, which is one of the First Nation bands within the Nlaka'pamux territory. I am currently residing in the Sts'ailes community with my husband and two children. This is my first year of studies. Currently, I work at the Sts'ailes Community School as an education assistant. One of my favourite hobbies is playing baseball.



Caydeen Clayton
NOVA MÉTIS
University of the Fraser Valley
Masters of Social Work

My name is Caydeen Clayton. I am in my final year of the Master of Social Work program at the University of the Fraser Valley. I am so proud to be accomplishing a goal I never imagined I ever could. Much of my work as a social worker has been with youth in the school environment. I am passionate about providing tools to youth so they can develop healthy, holistic, balanced lifestyles and overall positive well-being. I'd like to say a big THANK YOU to my family for all their support and encouragement.



Simone Compton
K'ÓMOKS FIRST NATION
University of Calgary
Master of Counselling

I am Coast Salish and Kwakwaka'wakw from the K'ómoks and Shísháhl Nations and have the privilege of living on Lkwungen territory. I completed my BSc in psychology and Indigenous studies at UVic and am currently in my second year of the Master of Counselling distance program at the University of Calgary. My passion is working with Indigenous children and youth. I was a youth support worker before beginning my master's and, once my program is complete, I hope to work with children and youth again in my community to be a support and tool for positive change.



Montana Livingstone
LAKE COWICHAN FIRST NATION
University of Victoria

Social Work - Indigenous specialization
As a First Nations woman I have always been taught to value culture, community and family. Social work has allowed me to incorporate those values into a rewarding career. I am honored to be able to walk alongside First Nations families in their many different journeys. The combination of traditional knowledge and western education has given me the tools to advocate towards better care for our Indigenous children and families to help create positive change for our future generations.



Ashley Rosman
LYTTON FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Social Work

Hello! My name is Ashley Rosman and I am Nlaka'pamux from Lytton. I have been working in the field of social work since 2012 and I am returning to school this fall to attain my master's degree. My practicum placement is with Child and Youth Mental Health. For the past three years I have been working as a youth transitions counselor helping youth in care get ready for aging out. A major gap I have noticed is in mental health and addiction support, which is why I am now interested in a mental health specialization.

Kuk'stemec for this scholarship!



Roberta Tait
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP
University of British Columbia
Advanced Master of Social Work

My ancestral name is Heleltw and I am from the Nisga'a and Gitksan Nations. My English name is Roberta Tait. I grew up in the Lower Mainland. When my daughter turned five, I started my journey of post secondary education. I did two years at Langara College in the Aboriginal Studies program and then two years at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Burnaby in the Bachelor of Social Work program. After I graduated in 2011, I began to work for a delegated Aboriginal agency as a child protection social worker. I am now learning about working in a health care setting. I have great gratitude for my parents for instilling the importance of education in me. My mom fought hard to make it to my MSW graduation but sadly she made her journey home. I am also grateful to my late great uncle Ken Harris who said that it is never too late to go back to school.



Bernadine Brown

OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND
University of British Columbia
Occupational Therapy

Way'. My name is Bernadine Brown and I am from the Syilx Nation. In May 2017, I graduated with a Bachelors of Kinesiology from UBC and I started a Master of Occupational Therapy at UBC in August, 2017. I am passionate about learning, health, wellness and my

culture. I am excited to become and practice as an occupational therapist. My overall goal is to use my knowledge and experience to enhance the health and wellness of First Nations people, particularly our children and Elders. Lim Limpt'.

Thank you to New Relationship Trust Foundation for the Indigenous Early Years Masters Scholarship award. I am really looking forward to becoming an occupational therapist and I really appreciate the support!



Teresa Morishita

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA
University of Calgary
Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies

I am a PhD student in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary with a community rehabilitation and disabilities studies

specialization. My current research focuses on expanding inclusive educational opportunities for learners with disabilities.



Laeticia Doolan
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Vancouver Island University
Business Fundamentals for Aboriginal Communities

My name is Laeticia Doolan. I am from the Tsimshian, Gitksan and Nisga'a Nations. In 2016, I was one of 40 First Nation students across Canada selected for the Youth in Business program at VIU. This program is what inspired me to change career paths to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in business and First Nations studies. My dreams are to work with First Nation communities and to serve as an example to my younger siblings and many others, to show them that higher education and academic achievement is possible.



Leah Muenier
KATZIE FIRST NATION
Simon Fraser University
Graduate Certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language

My name is Leah Meunier and I have had a strong passion for my traditional language – *hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓* – from the time I was seven years old. I have had many opportunities to learn from several teachers, from community members to Elders from various Nations, as well as from various linguists. I have used, and continue to use, the teachings I've acquired to broaden my own knowledge, while also teaching it to the children and adults within my community. My five children learn alongside others in class as well as at home.



Kayla Uren
SQUAMISH NATION
Simon Fraser University
Arts - Communication

I am the great granddaughter of the late Chief Simon Baker. I have recently started my fifth year as a communications major and publishing minor. I am also part of the co-op program where I am given the opportunity to explore the different areas in my field of study. My future educational and career goals include completing my degree and further exploring ways I can apply my knowledge and skills to help and strengthen my community.

work I do with the Indigenous Life School building curriculum and supporting parents to teach their children according to their traditional ways of being. I have over 10 years of experience working with youth and look forward to many more.



Adina Williams
SQUAMISH NATION
University of British Columbia
Arts - First Nations and Indigenous Studies

Greetings! My name is Adina Williams and I proudly descended from the Squamish and 'Namgis peoples. I'm currently in my third year at UBC. While for many years I've wanted to move forward into medical school, my focus in Indigenous studies has helped me realize that I have an incredible passion for working with First Nations politics and governance. This was reinforced last summer when I got the grand opportunity to work in Squamish Nation rights and title. I know that whatever I do, be it medicine or law, I want to be doing it with Squamish and 'Namgis peoples.



Jennifer Wickham
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
University of Northern British Columbia
Education

I am Gitdumten (Bear/Wolf) clan, Casseyeh (Grizzly Bear) house of the Wetsuweten people. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree from UVic with a major in English and an Indigenous studies minor. My goal is to become a secondary teacher in my home community in Smithers, BC and I want to help build a more culturally relevant curriculum. I will also continue the



Tamara Andrew
SEABIRD ISLAND BAND
 Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Business Administration Accounting

My personal aspiration for the future is to become a constructive part in my community's future. I hope to achieve that by gaining experience and knowledge in the business world. I plan to finish my bachelor's and then gain experience in the accounting field and go back to university to gain a master's in business. I would like to make a difference in my community by building the business aspect of the community to help fund advancement.



Kaija Goertzen
WE WAI KAI NATION
 University of British Columbia
Arts - Business

While at UBC, I intend to study international relations and business. I am very interested in other cultures and languages. One of the things I am excited about in my program is being able to do a study abroad and learn a new language. I would love to work for the United Nations or the Foreign Service one day. As an Aboriginal person I think I could bring a unique perspective to this area and I can share my experience back home. I think the more people learn about each other the better the world can be.



Seraphine Munroe
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN FIRST NATION
 University of British Columbia
Science - Forestry

Growing up Dakelh, it was evident that our culture is closely tied to the forest. However, at a young age I witnessed the sad reality that clearcut logging brought. Seeking advocacy to reduce this process, I obtained a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology, then continued my path as a professional archaeologist. As a further step to understanding the mechanisms that undermine Aboriginal decision-makers, I am currently working on my Master of Science in forestry. With this, I hope to gain a greater understanding in traditional governance structures and their effective use in forest management planning.



Earl Parnell
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
 Langara College
Associate Of Arts - Commerce and Business Studies

My name is Earl Parnell and I am a member of the Old Massett Band Council. I am currently finishing off the Associate of Arts degree - Commerce and Business Studies program at Langara College. It has been quite the journey and has had its ups and downs. I envision combining both soft and hard skills learned at school to help me pursue a new direction in economic development.

I would like to thank NRT and Connor, Clark and Lunn Foundation for their continued support in helping me achieve my educational goals.



Reiley Terbasket

LOWER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND
 Okanagan College
Associate of Science

I am from the Lower Similkameen Indian Band of the Okanagan Nation. I have grown up in a small rural community and have been raised with the traditions of my culture. I have been active in my Nation and community as a youth leader and volunteer at many functions and events.

I am in my second year at Okanagan College and play on the Okanagan College Coyotes women's basketball team. I am in a full-time Bachelor of Science program studying biology and chemistry. I aspire to go to pharmacy school and become a pharmacist.



Tracey Aljam
COLDWATER INDIAN BAND
 Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Executive Assistant

I am a second-year college student who is studying to become an executive assistant and I will be graduating with my diploma in May of 2018 from Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. Recently, I was elected as councillor for my community. In this role, I wish to engage with thought leaders and I am ready for a challenge. Robin S. Sharma said: "Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence and inspiration. Impact involves getting results; influence is about spreading the passion you have for your work, and you have to inspire team-mates and customers."



Pala Kovacs
ST'AT'IMC NATION
 Langara College
Associate of Arts - Commerce

My given name is Neekiki, and I'm a proud Ucwalmicw from the Lil'wat Nation. Currently, I am enrolled in commerce studies at Langara College. From here, I plan on continuing my studies at UBC Okanagan in their Bachelor of Management program. My goal is to become properly equipped to further enhance any financial/entrepreneurial understanding amongst Aboriginal people. I believe that Indigenous people are strong, intelligent and fully capable of running strong businesses to generate incomes that can further help our communities.



Frankie Abel
GITANMAAX BAND

University of Victoria | Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs

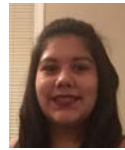
My name is Frankie Abel. I am from the Gitksan Nation and live on my traditional territory. I am married with two daughters. I am currently working full-time and just recently completed the Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs Program. My community service career started 10 years ago on Vancouver Island where I was working at the Salvation Army New Hope Center. Recently, I returned home to carry on the same line of work to support and enhance my community. I work full-time at Hazelton Community Services as a support worker. Throughout my career, I discovered the lack of support services provided for my people, and that's why I have dedicated countless hours to advocating for vulnerable adults and children. Since 2014, Community Living BC offers programs and services to individuals living on reserve. I have deep roots in my community and this is where my ancestors are from and thus have taken it upon myself to embark on a new business venture—opening my own service provider company. It will be 100% Aboriginal owned and operated and will take a cultural approach to its programs. I will specialize in providing support services such as inclusion, employment and residential assistance for individuals 19+ living with developmental disabilities within the Gitksan territory.



Luke Alexis
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

Okanagan College
Steam Fitter/Pipefitter

In 2012, I moved to Fort St. John. I was hired by an oil and gas company and started apprenticing as a pipefitter. I completed my first three levels at BCIT. I will be completing my apprenticeship at Okanagan College's Kelowna campus this fall. I look forward to gaining as much knowledge as I can from my final year of school and translating that knowledge into the skills needed to progress as a trades person.



Paige Archie
CANIM LAKE BAND

Okanagan College
Business Administration

My name is Paige Archie and I am from the Canim Lake Band. Throughout high school, my passions were science and math and when I began University I tried out the sciences but eventually transferred programs in May, 2017. I enrolled at Okanagan College in the Business Administration diploma program with a concentration in accounting. Once I complete my diploma, it is my goal to find employment and eventually return to school to complete my degree to become a chartered professional accountant. A CPA designation opens the doors for travel, which I love to do, while looking for employment.



Nikita Atkinson
WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION

Camosun College
Associate of Science - Dental Hygiene

My name is Nikita Atkinson and I am from the Wei Wai Kum First Nation in Campbell River. I am attending my first year at Camosun College, currently taking general science and art courses that are pre-requisites for the Dental Hygiene program. I am motivated to spread awareness about the importance of oral hygiene in our Aboriginal community, and I hope to continue my education in the dentistry field. Thanks to the New Relationship Trust Foundation - I can look forward to continuing my post-secondary education with a significantly smaller student loan.

I am beyond grateful for the resources and opportunities our Aboriginal communities are gifted with from the New Relationship Trust. Our future is looking bright; with the support from our family and friends and a good mindset, anything is possible. I look forward to updating you all in the future with my accomplishments!



Hailey Bennett
OLD MASETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

Langara College
Arts and Science General

My name is Hailey Bennett and I am from the Yahgulaanas Raven clan of the Haida nation. I was raised on Haida Gwaii and have begun living and studying at Langara College in Vancouver, BC. Langara has been a great learning environment and has been helping me with my transition to university. After my time spent in Vancouver, I am going to continue my journey in eastern Canada to get my Bachelor of Arts degree in English.



Kaitlan Bill
CAYOOSE CREEK INDIAN BAND

LaSalle College
Baking and Pastry Arts

I have just completed the Baking and Pastry diploma program; it was amazing. I continued school again right after I graduated from the Culinary Arts diploma program. I am happy I was able to take these two programs. They are both very different and I am glad I was able to experience both fields of work. My future goal is to open my own bake shop. I want to travel first to see different styles of pastry and food from around the world. I will then have a better idea what I would love to bake and sell.



Mitchell Bryant
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

United Association Piping Industry College
Welding Level B

My name is Mitchell James Bryant. I am from the community of New Aiyansh, BC. I took the Welding Foundation program last year and continued right into the Level B program in hopes of attaining a great career in the trades industry. Trades are becoming in high in demand here in BC and I would love to be a part of that demand, be it working in the city of Vancouver or out on a pipeline somewhere. Being a young man, I am eager to get out in the work force and attain the hours I need to go further in my education towards a Red Seal journeyman designation.



Eureka Carty
MCLEOD LAKE INDIAN BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Retail Meat Cutting and Processing

I'm an outdoor enthusiast and learning about the land is an endless adventure. I grew up in Northern BC, but spent a majority of my adult life exploring the world. I love to travel, meet new people and take on new experiences. We are never too old to learn and improve. Wildlife and nature are my passions and where my soul lies. Working towards becoming a journeyman meat cutter will help me achieve my dreams of owning my own custom meat shop in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Work hard; play harder!



Cueyolaux Cataldo
BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

Algonquin College
Construction/Civil Engineering Technician

My name is Cueyolaux Jameson Cataldo and I am enrolled in a construction engineering program at Algonquin College. I chose to pursue engineering as a career because I have always been interested in structures and buildings. I have a background in residential carpentry and sustainable home construction. Upon graduation, I hope to work towards providing sustainable housing to First Nations communities while inspiring others to pursue trades in renewable energies, high performance home construction and sustainable design.



Roberta Charlie
COWICHAN TRIBES

Simon Fraser University
Linguistics of a First Nations Language (Hul'q'umi'num')

I am Roberta Charlie (Yulektunaat) from Cowichan Tribes. I was raised by a family who was very strong in language and traditional teachings. My lifelong goal is to become fluent and teach Hul'q'umi'num' to our youngest children. I believe that an early start in our language provides a foundation for all learning. I am the culture teacher at Le'lum'uy'lh Daycare and am earning my certificate in Hul'q'umi'num' language through Simon Fraser University. It is an honor for me to work

alongside and learn from our Elders, as they have helped deepen my understanding and fluency in the language.



William Clayton
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
Northwest Community College
Millwright Foundation

My name is William Clayton. I am Nisga'a and I come from the Killer Whale tribe, house of Wisin Xbil'tkw. I am currently in a six-month millwright foundation course. I have worked with millwrights when building the gold mill at the Brucejack Mine. I found what we did there really interesting, so I applied to NWCC and was accepted. Now, I will return to the workforce looking for work and as a first year apprentice. In about five or six years, I see myself becoming a Red Seal certified millwright.



Gerald Couldwell
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
College of the Rockies
Timber Framing

A baby boomer born in Vancouver, my childhood was in the north. Our playground was the virgin timber across the street. Earliest memories of my grandfather are him carving poles in Prince Rupert. Master carvers of old carved and erected the huge posts and beams of the west coast long house. As an apprentice carver, my uncle had us erecting a trapper's cabin using logs harvested by hand from the surrounding area. Family Elders want to begin rebuilding an abandoned village on the Skenna - Babine River confluence. The Timber Framing program completes my training. Dwellings for my family are my top priority.



Lorraine Cress
PAQUACHIN FIRST NATION
University of Washington
Native Education Certificate

I am Lorraine Cress and I am from the Pauquachin Tribe on Vancouver Island. I am honored to follow in my grandfather—Pauquachin Chief Norman Williams'—footsteps in Native education. My grandfather was one of the four Saanich Tribal Chiefs who dedicated their leadership to building the Tsartlip Indian Day School. With this class in Native education

I will help the local schools learn cultural responsive pedagogies and effectively educate Native students in ways that students thrive with pride in school. I will be able to create and implement learning environments that respect and engage with Native students and families' culture, traditions and experiences.



Dwyer Cross
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship

When I first thought about applying for the electrical program I was already working towards getting my red seal ticket in carpentry. I took a 10-week bridging-to-trades program, which includes a two-week introduction to each of four trades: plumbing, welding, millwright, and electrical, plus 2-weeks of theory. With the electrical pre-apprenticeship program coming up at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology shortly after the bridging-to-trades, I decided to pursue it. Once I complete both programs, I plan to start up my own trades company on Haida Gwaii where I will employ locals and ensure safe and stable homes.



Cheyenne Cunningham
KATZIE FIRST NATION
Simon Fraser University
Linguistics of a First Nations Language

I am member of the ᑕᓴᓴᓴᓴ (Katzie) First Nation, located along the Fraser River in Pitt Meadows, BC. I recently graduated from Simon Fraser University with a major in First Nations studies and a minor in gender, sexuality, and women's studies. I have decided to continue my studies and am currently enrolled in the graduate certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language program, and hope to support my community through language revitalization initiatives.



Sharon Daniels
GITANMAAX BAND
Loxx Academy
Cosmetology of Hair

My name is Sharon Daniels. I am the mother of four beautiful children and have been married for 10 years. I went to school at Hazelton Secondary School and am currently attending

Loxx Academy. I have worked many different jobs but decided now that my children are older that it is time to pursue my dream of being a hairdresser, so here I am living in Prince George with my family, loving every minute of school and showing my children that hard work does pay off, because my children are my world.



Dallas Deneault
SKETCHSTN INDIAN BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Steamfitting / Pipefitting

My name is Dallas Deneault. I grew up ranching on the Skeetchstn Indian Reservation. I am 22 years old. After graduating from South Kamloops Secondary, I began my career in the mining and fuel industries. I've decided to earn a few trades before pursuing a career in an engineering field. Education is very important to me. Without it, I wouldn't have been able to become successful.



Ayesha Elliott
LAKE BABINE NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts - Business

My name is Ayesha Elliott. I am currently enrolled at NVIT in the General Arts degree program. I plan to continue my studies at SFU so that I can become an entrepreneur! I cannot express how excited I am to begin my journey as a successful business woman.



Kendal Etzerza
METLAKATLA FIRST NATION
Northwest Community College
Heavy Duty Mechanical Apprenticeship

My goal is to be a journeyman heavy duty mechanic and run my own business, operating a service truck in the field.



Cheyenne Fleming
LYTTON FIRST NATION
Douglas College
Academic Foundations

I am very grateful for the support of NRTF! It will help me to achieve the things I never thought possible. It has been a long journey but I am enjoying college and I look ahead with excitement and anticipation. I want to work in a

career where I will be helping others. Right now I am interested in criminology and I would like to complete a bachelor's degree. Thank you for helping me to reach my career goals. My personal goal is to gain more confidence.



Cassidy Fraser
KITASOO/XAI'XAIS FIRST NATION
Langara College
Criminal Justice

My name's Cassidy. I'm from Salt Spring Island but currently live in Vancouver. I'm finishing up my Criminal Justice diploma and hope to work for a year before I finish my degree. I'm either going to get a degree in social work or in criminology. I would love to work abroad in Australia or New Zealand with the Aborigines and Maori tribes. Ideally, I will learn about the relationships between the tribes and government, and then bring those ideas back to Canada. I love to travel and meet new people, and hope to continue my life doing just that!



Jarrod Fregin
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Northwest Community College
Welding Foundations

I was born in Queen Charlotte City on Haida Gwaii. I attended Skaadanaay Elementary School for kindergarten, then moved to Ottawa for two and a half years, and then moved to Coquitlam, BC. I moved back to Skidegate in grade six and went to highschool in Queen Charlotte City, where I graduated this year: 2017. I have enjoyed welding and have helped my Chini Gilless who owns his own welding business. I am attending NWCC in Terrace until July 2018. I intend to return home and work for my Chini, and eventually take over his business.

I feel blessed to have access to an initiative like this. I found the application process very accessible. Thank You! Keep up the great work!



Cheyenne Cook

KATZIE FIRST NATION
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Business Management

I am a very proud member of the Katzie First Nation. I am a dedicated and decorated equestrian that many First Nation tribal groups are extremely proud of. I am not only an avid equestrian but I also work with the horses at a barn in Chilliwack. I have been to some of the local

breeding barns witnessing the mares foaling for the experience of watching the start of life for my favorite animals in the entire world. I have volunteered my time with my father, harvesting salmon and providing the Elders and less fortunate with their traditional food.



Michael Bracken

GITWANGAK BAND
Northwest Community College
Associate of Arts - Criminology

I am a member of the Gitksan Nation and am currently working towards my Associate of Arts in criminology. Next year, I will be transferring to a university located in Vancouver, BC. It is my goal to earn a bachelor's degree in criminology with the

intent of pursuing a career in a criminal justice related field. After graduating from high school, I had the opportunity to work in various industries in many places. Criminology was always a field that interested me, and it drew me in. I haven't looked back since.

I want to take this time to say a big thank you to the NRTF for the bursary. It is an honour and a privilege. This will allow me to fully commit to my studies and absolutely assists me as a post secondary student.



Gina Gentile
NISGAA VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
New Image College
Fashion and Film Makeup Design

Hello! My name is Gina Gentile and I am a business graduate currently enrolled at New Image College pursuing my passion for makeup. I always get asked what I love about what I do and it's enhancing peoples' natural beauty, whether they know they have it or not. My end goal is to freelance, doing weddings, fashion and special events. I am very fortunate to be following my dreams and I thank the New Relationship Trust for being one of my supporters.



Patti Gladstone
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
University of Northern British Columbia
Developmental Standard Term Certificate Program

Siin.gaay 'laa. My name is Patti Gladstone. I am Haida on my maternal side and Heiltsuk on my paternal side. In 2014, I was one of 15 ladies who enrolled into the Haida Language and Culture certificate program through UNBC. I graduated in July, 2015 and continued on and graduated from the diploma program in June, 2017. Of the original 15, nine of us are continuing in the Developmental Standard Term certificate program again through UNBC. It has been a difficult but rewarding journey. My future goal is to obtain my Bachelor of Education degree by 2020 and teach Haida culture and language on Haida Gwaii.



Henry Gott
TK'EMLUPS TE SECWPEMC
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Motor Vehicle Body Repair Technician Foundation

My name is Henry Gott. I was raised in Tk'emlúps First Nation and am part of the Ulkatcho First Nation. I am enrolled in the Motor Vehicle Body Repair Technician program at BCIT. My career goal is to own my own company in my community and employ anyone who is struggling to find work. My personal goal is to see my community and family being independent. My role models are my grandparents and my brothers; most aren't

here now, but I feel them still pushing me to this day. Attending BCIT will help me achieve these goals for my community and myself.



Deanna Gray
HAIsla NATION
Northwest Community College
Electrical Apprenticeship

My name is Deanna Gray. I am from the Haisla First Nation. I am a mother of three. I am a mature student and I have returned to school for an electrical apprenticeship program. I will be returning to complete level two of my apprenticeship. My personal goal is to complete all four levels of the electrical apprenticeship. My career goal is to work and get enough hours to complete the apprenticeship.



Katie Gray
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Langara College
Associate of Arts - Commerce

My personal goals are to maintain a well-rounded, healthy life, covering the four aspects of the medicine wheel: mental, physical, emotional and spiritual. My career goal is to attain my Bachelor of Commerce degree. I then plan to pursue a career in a business. Helping our Indigenous people is of high importance on my journey; I want to give back to the community that has helped me and in some way to uplift with the knowledge I will have attained. I plan to volunteer as I pursue my studies as well.



Judy Gregg
ULKATCHO FIRST NATION
University of Northern British Columbia
Tsilhqot'in Language Diploma

My name is Judy Gregg I live at Nimpo Lake with my family and pets on the Old Hunlin Ranch. Currently, I am enrolled in the First Nations studies BA and Tsilhqot'in Language diploma programs with the University of Northern British Columbia. As a mother and grandmother, I have an open mind and willingness to explore, learn and experience new and old ideas to contribute to the well-being of all living beings. I am thankful for the support of my education and look forward to completing my degree and diploma to help our community to thrive.



Diana Guno

KITSUMKALUM FIRST NATION

University of Victoria Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneur Program

My main concept is to start a viable business that will not only help others become sustainable for themselves but also for myself as a business owner. I have been a net mender (making nets) for 30 years. I was taught not only by my late father Lloyd Nelson but I also took a course with NWCC to become a certified net mender. We were both involved in a three year Young Fishers program with Northern Native Fishing Corporation (providing the vessel everything needed to fish). Lloyd was my mentor and we fished for eight years together along with my husband Douglas Guno Sr.



Amy Hakki

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

University of Victoria Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs Program

My name is Amy Hakki. I am Tsimshian and Nisga'a. I am a mother of two lovely daughters. My oldest is 10 years old and my youngest is almost one year old. I received my Early Childhood Education certificate in 2008 and have been an early childhood educator since then. I recently completed the Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs Program. The NW-ACE Program provided me with the knowledge and skillset necessary to launch my business concept. My business concept is to launch a home-based daycare.



Owen Harris

GITWANGAK BAND

Douglas College Engineering Essentials Diploma

My personal goal is to explore the world and learn more about my own Gitksan culture after I complete my engineering program. I want to continue my search for knowledge outside of the classroom by gaining a better appreciation of the natural world around me. My career goal is to not settle for a job I don't believe in and that doesn't make me happy.



Tori Hunter

BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology Associates Degree Criminology

I am a single mom of one. My son is my main reason for beginning this journey. My goal is to become a psychologist. I am in the right mindset to achieve these goals.



Geoffrey Huston

LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

First Nations Technical Institute First Peoples Aviation

My name is Geoffrey Huston. I am 31 years old. My fiancée and I moved to Belleville, Ontario so I could pursue my passion for flying. My fiancée and her sister bought me a discovery flight for my birthday a couple of years back and that is what sparked the fire in me to pursue a career in aviation; even the flight instructor said I was a natural at flying. My goals once I finish school are to move back to BC and find work, preferably on a float plane or possibly a smaller airline up north. I greatly appreciate the support.



Linda Jack

ALEXIS CREEK FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia Tsilhqot'in Language Certificate

I want to be able to teach my language, Tsilhqot'in, to my future generation community members. I am a proud Tsilhqot'in woman from Tsideldel. I want our new and existing members to be able to learn our culture and language and this is why education is so important. To be Certified as a Tsilhqot'in language teacher will give me the ability to teach our language and culture. This is being lost and the only way to keep this strong is to be certified with the ability to teach.



Hayden Jeffrey

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

British Columbia Institute of Technology Nautical Sciences Cadet Diploma

I'm a proud member of the Lax Kw'alaams First Nation. I am in my first year at the British Columbia Institute of Technology taking nautical sciences. I previously attended Vancouver Island University where I played on

the men's varsity basketball team. I also had the privilege to be selected for Team BC at ages sixteen and nineteen to compete at the North American Indigenous games for basketball in Regina and Toronto. I love working on the ocean. My career goal is to acquire my Master Mariners License then become a BC coast pilot.



Thomas Jensen

TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

Nimbus School of Recording and Media Advanced Audio Engineering and Studio Production

I'm enrolling in Nimbus in the hopes of learning more about music production. I have been teaching myself from home for a few years. With what I learn at Nimbus, I'd like to make music production a career I can provide for myself with. Aside from my career goals, I'd just like to be able to make top quality music for myself and anyone else who may listen.



Bryan Joe

COWICHAN TRIBES

Langara College Accounting

I am an accounting clerk from the Comeakin reservation of Cowichan Tribes. I am determined to return home from Vancouver someday with post secondary training, and contribute to the treaty that is in process. My specialty in audits, payroll and reconciliation amongst other accounting knowledge enables me to continue my studies. Learning clerical accounting from Covenant House and the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society has inspired me to stay within the Indigenous sector of the work force. Culturally inclined, I value my heritage and carry ancestral names: Twowihquluq and Ka'wa'akoa. Indigenous self-governance is my main focus so that my community can prosper.



Natasha Jones

PACHEEDAHT FIRST NATION

Camosun College Business Administration

I am 27 years old and live in Pacheedaht First Nation / Port Renfrew. It is a remote area, and didn't have a lot to offer growing up. I wanted a career that would keep me in my community,

and one where I could give back to and work towards positive change for my people. Being the Band Administrator is a position that would give me the opportunity to do all these things, and this is my career goal. I am excited to finally be working towards bringing my education back to my community.



Salia Joseph

SQUAMISH NATION

Simon Fraser University Squamish Language Immersion Certificate Program

I am from the Skwxwú7mesh Nation. In 2016, I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in First Nations and Indigenous studies from the University of British Columbia. During my time in the program, I primarily focused on the work and resistance of Indigenous women through art, Indigenous feminisms and new media. Currently, I am studying my language, Skwxwú7mesh Snichim, full-time at SFU. I am a part of a Skwxwú7mesh dance and singing group and am dedicated to continuing to learn wool and cedar weaving.



Craig Kelly

GITGA'AT NATION

Camosun College Nautical Upgrading

I'm Craig Kelly, and I have fished on the BC coast for 35 years. I want to become a master on the SMIT landing tugs, and this is the reason I am upgrading my master's ticket. This is an important job to help any container, bulk or oil tanker land at the docks in Prince Rupert or Vancouver. Once I have established working with SMIT, I will be working to get my marine pilot licence.



Kassi Knapp

FORT NELSON FIRST NATION

Gibson Barbershop and School Barber

I am a 27 year old woman and I am going back to school to finally begin the career I've been interested in for years: the hair industry or, to be more specific, old school barbering. This is a very male-dominated workplace that needs more female input. I also hold down a part-time job at a tanning salon that also offers hair

cutting. I am hoping to apprentice under someone to get more experience of how a shop runs day-to-day.



Lowanda Knox
KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION

Thompson Rivers University
Culinary Arts - Professional Cook 1

My name is Lowanda Knox. I am the mother of five beautiful children. I have been a home cook for the past 20 years. I decided to go to school to enhance my skills from a home cook to a professional cook. I love to cook and love the way my food puts a smile on peoples' faces. My goal is to become a red seal chef.



Zachary Kompst
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

Vancouver Community College
Culinary Arts - Professional Cook 1

My name is Zach Kompst. I am currently a 20 year-old studying culinary arts at Vancouver Community College. Culinary arts is a great program at VCC and it has been a great experience so far. I enjoy cooking because it allows me to express who I am as a person. One of my goals is to graduate from culinary school, and I hope to achieve my red seal designation at some point in the future. I look forward to expanding my culinary knowledge and will always appreciate the opportunity that the New Relationship Trust has provided.



Zoe Kompst
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

Langara College
Associate of Arts - Health Sciences

My name is Zoe Kompst. I'm 17 years old and in my first year at Langara. I'm planning on doing two years here and then transferring to UBC to complete a degree in nutrition. I'm hoping to be a nutritionist.



Travis Leighton-Stephens
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

UA Piping Industry College
Welding B Level

My name is Travis Leighton-Stephens. I am connected to both the Ts'msyen Nation and the Nisga'a Nation. I graduated in 1998 from Charles Hays Secondary School in Prince

Rupert B.C. A few years after graduating I enrolled in the first level of the welding program at the North West Community College in Prince Rupert. After moving to Vancouver in 2008, I spent a number of years working in both construction and welding. After a couple of welding jobs, I decided that I needed to further my welding craft in order to access more permanent employment. I am currently enrolled in the B level welding program at the UA Piping Industry College in Delta BC. I look forward to utilizing my increased welding skills once I complete my program.



Blaine Lindstrom
TAHLTAN BAND

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Fish, Wildlife and Recreation

I am a 28 year-old man from the Tahltan Nation. I was raised in a small town called Dease Lake for a time. My mother took me with her to Vancouver to give me more opportunities in life. I've been back and forth between my home territory and the North, but I eventually settled into permanent residence in Vancouver. I found work as an environmental monitor in a project in Tahltan territory which helped to keep me connected to my roots. I am going back to school to further pursue work in the environmental field.



Tian Alexander Warren Lord
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Electrician Pre-Apprenticeship

Hello! Tian Lord is my name. The island of Haida Gwaii is my home; I come from the Skidegate Band. I attended Queen Charlotte secondary school, and I wasn't sure what to do afterwards. I ended up backpacking throughout Southeast Asia for a couple years. A lot of my work experience can't be applied in other parts of the world. This prompted me to pursue a career in electric power and possibly water treatment as these can be used anywhere. I just completed my first year electrician course at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. The possibilities and the amount to learn are endless.



Neil Louie
NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION
University of the Fraser Valley
Liberal Arts Diploma

My name is Neil Louie and I am from the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation in central BC. I am 38 years old and I am continuing my education so that, alongside my wife, I can help provide a better future for our four children.



Dixon Louis
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND
South Alberta Institute of Technology
Diesel Equipment Technician

My name is Dixon Lane Louis, I am 24 years old and am from the Sylix/Okanagan Nation. My home band is the Okanagan Indian Band situated near Vernon, BC. I am currently enrolled in the Diesel Equipment Technician program at South Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary, Alberta. Upon completion of the program, I will continue to work towards my journeyman certification. My ultimate goal is to own and operate a mobile mechanic business. This will assist me to become self-sufficient within the industry. I know the best way to be successful is through education and determination.



Jodie McKay
KITSELAS FIRST NATION
University of Victoria
Northwest Aboriginal
Entrepreneurship Program

I am a registered member of the Kitselas First Nation, which is a matrilineal culture. I am full Tsimshian, but would like to honour my Nisga'a roots as my father is from the community of Laxgalts'ap, where I spent much of my childhood learning the traditions. I am a competent and knowledgeable district leader with Primerica Financial Services, and I have 10 years of business management experience and three years of business advisory experience. I also own E4N Photography and Communications. I volunteer my time as a board member at a private school and the Terrace Church's food bank.



Karon Mckay
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP
Wilp Wilxo'oskwahl Nisga'a
First Nations Studies

My name is Karon Mckay. I am Nisga'a, of the wolf tribe (Laxgibuu) house of N'agwaun in Laxgalts'ap (Greenville) BC. I am attending Wilp Wilxo'oskwahl Nisga'a Institute (WWNI) and University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), living in the Nisga'a community of Gitwinkshilkw and working towards my first certificate in Nisga'a Studies. Then I will go on to a Bachelor of Arts in Nisga'a Studies. I speak and write mainly English. My goal is to speak and write in my own Nisga'a Language. I have decided to pursue my goal through Nisga'a studies to show my children and family that our Nisga'a language and culture is our future.



Basil Morgan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
College of New Caledonia
Millwright Apprentice Level 1

I will always be a skilled tradesman. I am working my way up to be a dual ticket journeyman as millwright and welder. I completed my first year of school for millwright in October, 2017 and was hired by the Bid Group of companies less than a week after school finished. I have been working on my credits for the last two years and was recently approved to finance a 2014 Ford F-150. My next goal is to buy a house for my family of four, for whom I am working hard to provide.



Bobbi Morgan
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
University of Victoria
Northwest Aboriginal
Entrepreneurship Program

My Nisga'a name is ksim Gwiis Lap'iltkw. It means colorful blanket in the sky, and I come from the house of Hýmaas. I have recently received my certificate through the Gustavson School of Business. This newfound knowledge has driven me to want to do more and I am looking at returning to a full-time program for business or marketing management. I also have the desire to become an entrepreneur after finishing this certificate program. I look forward to everything the future has to offer

me and I believe that the appropriate opportunities present themselves when we are ready for them.



Kari Morgan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW
Northwest Community College

Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art
 I am from Prince Rupert and am of the Nisga'a First Nation from the house of Kw'isk'ayn. I have been creating art since my early childhood. I have displayed my artwork in various shows at The Museum of Northern British Columbia, The Lester Center of the Arts, The Terrace Art Gallery, The Kitimat Museum, and The Spirit Wrestler Gallery in Vancouver. Currently, in The Freda Diesing School, I am working on incorporating my knowledge of traditional fine arts with other mediums I am familiar with. I intend to bring my cultural background into my future pieces to display the strengths of my peoples' past.



Zachary Munroe
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
Sprott Shaw College

Business Administration Management
 Hello, my name is Zachary Munroe, and I am from the Nisga'a Nation community of Gitlaxt'amiiks. I am the father of two beautiful girls and two handsome boys. As a father, I must live a positive life for my children to learn from. Post secondary education has given me the opportunity to provide a positive outlook for my children and to show them what it takes to be successful by making simple sacrifices. My education goal is to obtain a business management diploma, which will allow me to successfully run a recreation facility with my sport and recreation background for my Nation and community.



Jennifer Nyce
HAISLA NATION
Northwest Community College
Level 2 Electrical Apprentice

My name is Jennifer Nyce and I am 22 years old. I am a member of the Haisla Nation located in Kitamaat. I am currently a level two electrical apprentice. I began working in the construction industry on the KMP as a data

entry clerk / assistant. My curiosity and adventurism led me to take up an apprenticeship through the IBEW local 993. Since then I have enjoyed every moment. I hope to carve a path for young girls in my community to show them that stepping off the traditional career path is possible.



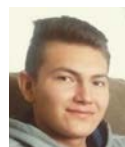
Clara O'Donoghue
SQUAMISH NATION
Douglas College

Veterinary Office and Animal Care
 I am completing the Veterinary Office and Animal Care program at Douglas College. The reason I am pursuing this career is my love of animals and their well-being. The moment I watched a dog skip out the front door with her family after two weeks of hospitalization, was the moment I knew this was what I was meant to do. I look forward to working towards becoming a veterinary technician in the near future. I hope to make my family, friends and colleagues proud of my accomplishments and positive contributions to the veterinary community.



Olivia Palma
TSILHQOT'IN FIRST NATION
Vancouver Community College
Administrative Assistant

My name is Olivia Palma and I am 22 years old. I am from the Tsilhqot'in Nation. I am proudly beginning my post-secondary education in the Administrative Assistant program at the Vancouver Community College in Vancouver, BC. Over the years, I have worked in the business sector focusing mainly in sales, service, marketing and management. My goal is to graduate from the Administrative Assistant program and further my education by obtaining a degree. The bursary will help me be financially secure.



Qaine Parker
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Law Enforcement Preparation

My name is Nxo'mqen (Qaine) Parker, and I am an Okanagan Indian Band member from Vernon. I am currently enrolled in the Law Enforcement Preparation program through

NVIT in Merritt. My plan is to eventually become an RCMP officer and work within my community. So many times members are scared to involve RCMP officers, and many problems carry on for longer than needed. I would like to bridge that gap for my own community by being someone that members can trust.



Cynthia Peal
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
Vancouver Island University
Coastal Stewardship Technician Training

I am a commercial salmon deckhand and experienced office administrator. I returned to school after 12 years in order to continue my post secondary education. I am acquiring and enhancing my skills to improve chances of finding more permanent gainful employment. I enjoy being active and involved in my community. I am always taking part in learning to gather, prepare and store traditional native foods while practicing the traditions of sharing and barter/trade with others. I plan to complete this two-year program and either find employment in one of the coastal communities or continue on to a university degree.



Kailynn Pelletier
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Accounting

My personal goal is to become a certified professional accountant, and to travel to experience new cultures along with gaining priceless memories.



Paula Pellett
TK'EMLUPS TE SECWEPEMC
Interior Academy
Spa Technician Program

I am a TteS member from Kamloops. I am 36 years old and have a 13 year old daughter. I have worked for my band for almost six years in the HR/administration field. I have decided to go back to school to be an esthetician, as I am really good with people and have spoken to many students and employers in the field that sparked my interest. I would eventually like to start my own business as a spa technician within my community. I would eventually like to

further my education as a lash technician and build more clientele.



Felicity Peters
SONGHEES FIRST NATION
Camosun College
Public Administration

My name is Felicity Peters. I am a proud mother of two boys. I am so glad that I chose to return to school and I hope to inspire them to work hard to achieve their dreams. Currently, I am working towards my diploma in public administration. Once I have completed this program, I will be continuing my education further to achieve a bachelors degree in HR management. I love to work with and help people and look forward to making a difference in my community.



Melinda (Guud Xang.ii) Pick
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
University of Northern British Columbia
Haida Developmental Standard Certificate

My name is Guud Xang.ii and I am from the Haida Nation. I spent most of my younger years as a single parent working and raising my family. I currently work full-time for the Haida Enterprise Corporation as a finance and administration assistant. I am enrolled in the Haida Developmental Standard Certificate program. I plan to continue with my studies to get a Bachelor of Education degree. This past year, I also worked as an apprentice in a Haida Mentor Apprentice program. My dream is to become a fluent speaker and to teach language and culture when I retire.

I am grateful to New Relationship Trust Foundation for the financial support. This has contribution is helping the Haida Nation to revitalize our language. Thank you so much!



Burgess Pierre
KATZIE FIRST NATION
Sprott Shaw College
Construction Electrical Level 2

My name is Burgess Reginald Pierre and I am from the Katzie First Nation. I am 33 years old and I have just completed my second year of

the Construction Electrical Apprenticeship program offered through Sprott Shaw College. I have three children and a beautiful wife who have helped me achieve and motivated me towards becoming a successful man in today's society. I have a definitive goal of becoming a strong role model for my children and community members to follow. I strongly encourage you to fight for what you desire, and above all to believe in yourself.



Morgan Pollard
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Electrical Pre-apprenticeship

My name is Morgan Pollard and I was born and raised in a small village on Haida Gwaii, which is a small northwestern island on the north coast of BC. I was raised the traditional Haida way with strong values towards our vast ecosystem and environment. I also have a great respect for culture and the traditional ways. I have grown up on the ocean, fishing and learning the ways of my culture's harvesting and gathering. I recently graduated from Nicola Valley Institute of Technology with a first-year Electrical Apprenticeship certificate and will keep working towards a full certification.



Christa Prince
NAK'AZDLI FIRST NATION
College of New Caledonia
Administration Business Technology

I am a mother of two, and am expecting my third child. I decided to take the leap and go back to school to study applied business technology, a course I have been wanting to take for quite some time. I plan to go into the business administration field once I am done, and am planning to further my education in business management while working full-time and raising my three children.



Lloyd Purdaby
NESKONLITH INDIAN BAND
Okanagan College
Construction Craft Workers Level 2

I chose the Construction Craft Workers 2 program because I knew the program would give me the skills to be a success in the construction field. I grew up on the Neskonlith



Sherry-Vaughn Roberts
GITXAALA NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts - Criminology

I am a First Nations woman whose ancestry stems from the Tsimshian and Nisga'a nations in the North Coast of beautiful BC. I was born and raised on Tsimshian lands, so learning the culture and traditions while growing up was a very natural way of life. I have always had a deep connection to the lands and waters as it has sustained my family and ancestors for many generations. Growing up amidst our Elders was by far the best life one could ask for as we lived, breathed and practiced our culture and traditions. Little did we know that they were preparing us to take the lead in that we now hold the role as keepers of our traditions and culture. I have practiced these as faithfully as possible, for it is imperative that I hand these sacred values down to my children and grandchildren. During September 2016 – July 2017, I was a student at Native Education College's (NEC) Aboriginal Justice Studies (AJS) program. This program had opened my eyes and started me on a decolonization path while living in a colonized world. In 2017, I trained with NEC's Dragon Boat team to race in Vancouver's Dragon Boat Festival with many teams from around the globe. While attending AJS, I made time for extra-curricular activities which included: the Vancouver Sun Run, Regalia Workshop, and a Jam making workshop. In July 2017, I applied at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) for the Associate of Arts ~ Criminology diploma program. This is a beautiful campus and is situated in Burnaby, BC. The program is 2 years, and as I wrap up this semester, I look forward to the next term. I find that you can be successful in any endeavor, but you have to

Indian Band lands just outside Salmon Arm, BC. Jobs can be difficult to find there for someone without certificates and training. In the past, I have done janitorial work, housekeeping and worked in the kitchen for Horizon North. The work was steady but the wages were low. I knew taking the CCW II would help me to earn a better wage while getting my Red Seal hours.

leave that bag of doubt by the door so that it doesn't weigh you down.

I look forward to the new opportunities which will await as I pursue my educational goals. Thank you New Relationship Trust Foundation.



Jasmine Russ
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
Other (specify below)
Business Administration

My name is Jasmine Russ. I am a member of the Haida First Nation. I live in Nova Scotia, where I was born and raised. I connected with my roots in 2009, and I am beyond ecstatic to know more about myself and my relatives and excited to expand my horizons as a business woman. I hope to find myself in a marketing management position with my career focus, as well as being involved in the First Nations community in Gold River, NS.



Tianna Russ
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Camosun College
Indigenous Studies

My name is Tianna Russ and I am of Haida ancestry. I'm currently enrolled in the Indigenous Studies program at Camosun College. My goal is to graduate with a degree in social work. This program allows me to learn and understand the difficulties I may face, as well as how to work through them. In the past there was a lot of distrust between social workers and Indigenous people. I want to help bridge that distrust and possibly be involved in a changing system that will help accommodate all people. I am passionate about this and excited to move forward.



Danica Stephens
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP
Loxx Academy of Hair and Design
Advanced Pivot Point Cosmetology

My Nisga'a name is Bilisim Hihllukw (Beautiful Bright Morning Star). I was born in Greenville, BC on February 14th, 1983, in the community health center. At 20, I was diagnosed with a rare type of arthritis, and as a

result my physical capabilities are very limited. I applied to hairdressing school, as this was my all-time dream. I am now I am in my fourth month of studies and I love it. I attended school in SD 92 where I graduated as the valedictorian. I have worked a number of positions that have all helped me grow to who I am today. These include a casual position for SD 92 Nisga'a and work as a teacher's assistant for about 10 years. During those years, I acquired my Special Education Assistant certificate through NWCC, then acted as the youth coordinator for Nisga'a Lisims Government for three years, until my health started to deteriorate, forcing me to leave my position.



Michelle Stoney
GITXSAN NATION
Native Education College
Northwest Coast Jewellery Arts

I graduated from Emily Carr in 2012 with a fine arts degree. The mediums I worked with while in school were print and metal work (sculpture). Since graduating, I moved back home to Hazelton and have been mainly painting and leading painting workshops around the surrounding area. I am Gitksan but my father is also Cree, so while at Emily Carr I explored that side of my heritage and have come up with my own personal style that I now paint in. I look forward to what kind of jewelry I will be producing at the Native Education College.



Jonah Wesley
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Northwest Community College
Welding Level B

My name is Jonah Wesley. I am a member of the Lax kw'alaams Band. I attended Coast Tsimshian Academy from kindergarten to grade 10. I then moved to Prince Rupert to continue my education for grades 11 and 12 at Charles Hays senior secondary school. My last year of school was offered to take up trades at NWCC. Once I was done at NWCC, I was hired at the Port of Prince Rupert. I worked on phase two of the port until I got enough hours to go back for my second year of welding.



Cory Williams
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Electrical Pre-apprentice

My name is Cory Williams. I'm 28 years old and I am from the Haida band. My goals in life after completing the electrical pre-apprenticeship program are to continue my career and get work as an apprentice. After I get all the hours I need, I will go back and complete all the further schooling to become Red Seal certified. The electrical program has shown me a lot. I have learned the right ways to wire a house and more. As part of the program, we built and designed our own small houses and dog houses, learned how to read blueprints and more.



Isabelle Williams
COWICHAN TRIBES
Vancouver Island University
Criminology Diploma

My name is Isabelle Williams and I am from Cowichan Tribes. I am beginning my second year of Criminology. I would like to gain enough credits to be able to pursue my end goal of working towards a bachelor's degree in criminology. My career goal is to secure a job in the courts or with adult and youth corrections. I hope that my life experience combined with an education can help others in my community who are struggling. I am very excited at the opportunity to further my education and I am enjoying being a committed full-time student.



Dawn Wilson
HEILTSUK NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

I am 35 years old and I have two children of ages 15 and 11. We live in Port Moody. I work part-time for minimum wage and I volunteer four hours each week at the David Suzuki Foundation. I am going to school so that I can provide stability for my family. The goal is to graduate with my bachelors degree in First Nation studies and political science. I would like to work for a First Nations Band in self-governance or community building. If I am smart enough, I will continue on to my master's degree.



Marcellus Wilson
WE WAI KAI NATION
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Environmental Resources Technology

I am from the Quinsam Reserve on Vancouver Island. Having successfully completed my second year at NVIT, I welcomed the opportunity of spending another summer with Capacity Engineering. It was gratifying to use my school knowledge in a hands-on approach out in the field. I am passionate about the environment and over the past five summers I trained under the mentorship of fishery and forestry technicians at Atlegay Fisheries / Capacity Engineering. I plan on enhancing my knowledge base in the environmental studies program. My hobbies include a passion for hunting elk and harvesting salmon as well as playing both soccer and hockey.



Nathaniel Wilson
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Environmental Resources Technology

I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band who has reaffirmed my dedication to my studies to pursue a career in the natural resources industries—specifically fisheries. This experience has provided me with many positive benefits: a strong foundation for my educational portfolio, endless career prospects and a higher earning potential in order to be self-sufficient and a benefit to myself, my family and future generations of the Okanagan Indian Band and the Okanagan Nation.



Hahzinak Schultz

SEABIRD ISLAND BAND
Capilano University | Indigenous
Independent Digital Filmmaking

I have written over twenty books, short stories, novellas and a graphic novel, each filled with rich Indigenous culture, drama, characters and entertainment. Naturally, I want to bring these books to life, as mainstream Indigenous characters in television, film and web media. The Indigenous Independent Digital Filmmaking program is my gateway to success.

Thank you for your support. Together, we can make change.



Cole Sankey
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Langara College
Aboriginal Studies

My name is Cole Sankey. I am Tsimshian from Lax Kw'alaams on BC's northwest coast. Adopted Haida, I grew up in Skidegate, Haida Gwaii from age nine to 18. I graduated high school in June 2016 and the following September I continued my education in the Aboriginal Studies program at Langara College. In April 2018, I will graduate with an Associate of Arts degree.



Cash (Bo) Smith
GITANMAXX BAND
University of Victoria
Northwest Aboriginal Canadian
Entrepreneurs Program

My traditional Gitksan name is 'Git Wil Tim Gibuu', which means 'Warrior Wolf'. I was given this name because I exhibited strength, caring



Susan Sondhi
GITXAALA NATION
Vancouver Community College
Culinary Arts

I'm a single working mother studying culinary arts full-time at Vancouver community college. I love to cook and I work in a hotel kitchen in downtown Vancouver. I plan to be a Red Seal executive chef one day and to hopefully own my own business. I plan to continue my studies and become red seal certified in pastry arts as well.



Holly Spencer
KITSELAS FIRST NATION
Northwest Community College
Welding Level C

I am a Tsimshian/Cree Laxgiik clan mother of three. My given Kitkatla Symalgx name is Namox, which translates to 'before the eagles head turns white'. It was given to me by Elders of Kitkatla. I am an optimistic, determined, artistic, intellectual woman who will grow and age while gathering wisdom and knowledge. I believe that there is always an opportunity to expand and learn, no matter of age or location. Knowledge and learning is the key to having a fulfilling life.



Katerina Stewart
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
Algonquin College
Business Administration - HR Management

My name is Katerina Stewart and I hail from Gitlaxt'aamiks (formerly New Aiyansh). I am currently a full-time online student with Algonquin College and my long term goal is to achieve my degree in business administration - HR management. My personal goals are to remember to live in the moment and to pass on my knowledge and wisdom by leading by example. I want to show others that achieving your goals are possible, as long as you put your mind to it and believe in yourself!



Peter Stewart
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
Vancouver Community College
Automotive Service Technician

My name is Peter Stewart. I am 23 years old. I am very happy that the NRTF was able to reward me with bursary to help me begin my journey into the automotive trade.



Jason Stokes
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
General Arts

I grew up in the far north in Prince Rupert and surrounding communities. I had withdrawn from high school due to circumstance and immediately gravitated toward the fishing

industry, and I have been involved in the laborer culture for many years. At this leg of my journey, I am passionately exploring options that will merge my personal history—much of which has been trial and error—with an education to potentially create new strategies to address transformative and restorative justice issues that involve marginalized peoples and minorities, particularly at-risk youth.



Mishon Sutherland
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN
Capilano University
Associate of Arts - Global Stewardship

I am Lhts'umusyoo (beaver clan) from Nak'azdli in Fort St. James, BC. I am pursuing an associate degree in global stewardship at Capilano University. I look forward to transitioning into UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning and ultimately graduating with my master's degree. I enjoy a growth mindset of the beginner and look forward to a rewarding career as a builder, and ultimately a helper!



Samantha Sutherland
KTUNAXA NATION
Vancouver Community College
Dance

The Arts Umbrella VCC Dance Diploma is a program that has allowed me to grow not only as a dancer but as a human being. It has been a place for me to discover myself as an artist and develop goals. My goal for my studies this year is to graduate from the dance diploma program with skills and experiences that will guide me in a professional dance career. My goal is to have a career of dancing in professional companies and contributing to dance in other ways throughout my life.



Sage Thomas
T'KEMLUPS TE SECWEPENC
Thompson Rivers University
Associate of Arts

I am a member of the T'Kemlups te Secwepenc. I am also a mother of two, an artist and a recreational CrossFit athlete. I am an aspiring Indigenous midwife and have been working as a birth worker (birth/postpartum doula and breastfeeding educator) since 2011.

I am now in my first year at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC. I will be continuing to pursue my goals of studying midwifery at UBC in the future. I am very passionate about working with and advocating for Indigenous families, and I value my work in revitalizing traditional birthing to return birth back to our communities.



Katy Thorne
'NAMGIS FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University
Water and Wastewater Technology

My name is Katy and I am 21 years old. I am in my first year at TRU. After taking a few years off from school, I decided I wanted to learn a trade. The water and wastewater program intrigued me because water is needed worldwide to keep humans alive. While going to school, I participate in many activities, including hockey, soccer, softball, as well as coaching basketball at the high school where I graduated. I plan to finish this diploma with a GPA higher than 3.5 and obtaining a summer time job that I hope will turn into full-time employment.



Gordon Wagstaff
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS
Douglas College
Criminology

My name is Gordon Wagstaff and my family originates from the Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks. My career goal is to work with First Nations youth that are involved in the criminal justice system. Within the criminal justice system, an average of 40 percent of people that are First Nations. My goal is to understand our criminal justice system and help prevent our youth from becoming part of that statistic. With the help of New Relationship Trust, I can continue my education at Douglas College and work towards getting my degree.



Emily Lambie Webb
HAISLA NATION
Langara College
Associate of Arts - Psychology

I am a young and aspiring animation artist, and I also plan to become a psychologist in the future. While attending college with the hopes of transferring to my desired university, I've wondered what my future will hold, and if I will be able to change my life for the better. My dream is to create my ideal animation consisting of my own written story line and characters in hopes of making it world-known. If that doesn't work out, I've always had an interest in psychology, and if not that, acting.



Grace Wells
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
Blanche MacDonald Centre
Pro Hair Program

Hello, my name is Grace Wells and I'm from Lax Kw'alaams, BC. I currently live in Vancouver where I am going to school full-time to become a hair dresser and working part-time at a salon gaining experience. I would love to one day own my own salon as well as to work doing sets/shoots on my days off. I would also love to one day travel the world while doing what I love.

Thank you to NRT for supporting me and my dreams of doing what I am passionate about.



Daryllyn Christman

LIL'WAT FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University

Hello, my name is Daryllyn and I am from Fort Nelson, BC. I am an Aboriginal woman from the Lil'wat First Nation located in Mt. Currie near Pemberton. From an early age, my mother and grandmother encouraged me to get a post-secondary education.

Earlier this year, I lost my grandmother. It is hard but all her teachings will help me on the path to success. My carrier goal in life is to one day teach in a well-rounded classroom. I know for sure my grandmother is happy for me because she knows I'm happy.

I'd like to thank NRTF for this award from the bottom of my heart. With your support, I will be able to further my education and better myself and others. Thanks so much again!



Georgia Baker

SQUAMISH NATION
University of Calgary

Concurrent Bachelor of Education and Art
 Growing up I knew I always wanted to be an elementary school teacher. It allows me to help kids, hangout with kids and guide them in developing their own personality. This scholarship is allowing me to go to school and follow that path into being the best teacher I can be.



Alexis Battle

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Film and Screen Arts
 I am from the Nisga'a Nation, village of Gingolx. While attending Emily Carr University, I explore my interests in phenomenology and technologies of intuition through an embodied practice of cross-cultural dialogue in my work of literature, spoken word and film. My work



Amy Beevor-Potts

STS'AILES BAND
University of Calgary

Health Sciences - Biomedical Sciences
 I am a second year health sciences student at the University of Calgary. At the University, I work in the Native Centre facilitating leadership training to Indigenous youth to promote post-secondary education as an option. Additionally, I work with the admissions office and give tours to Indigenous prospective

explores the complexity of social and political relationships of human behavior through memories and narratives as part of my practice. Using performance and interventionist actions to challenge and transgress physical and mental boundaries, my work is characterized by elaborately layered stories, translating and conveying the poetic moments between reality and fiction.

students. In the future, I am hoping to become a doctor and would like to specialize in either anesthetics or pediatrics. I am also currently in the process of applying to be a project assistant on a volunteer trip to the Yukon that focuses on indigenous leadership and engagement.



Trystan Boyko

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
Hawai'i Pacific University
Science - Marine Biology
 My Haida name is K'aayhldaa Xyaalas and I am from the islands of Haida Gwaii. With my chosen career path, I hope to have a positive impact in my community by sharing knowledge and protecting the natural environment. I have learned about connections between the land, water, air and the creatures of Haida Gwaii since I was a young girl. It is essential for me to learn about these connections from a scientific perspective. We must hold each other up and strengthen our communities so we can ensure protection and respect for a sustainable future.



Samantha Bray

STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
University of Saskatchewan
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
 My name is Samantha Bray. I am in my second year of studies in veterinary medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, and I graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Science degree in 2016. I was inspired to become a veterinarian after having a dog with cancer and not being able to help her. I am a member of the WCVM's Indigenous circle committee that aims to bring awareness to issues surrounding First Nations. In the future, my goal is to have a mobile vet clinic that can frequent rural and northern communities.



Hanna Bryant

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
University of Victoria | Arts - Psychology
 I am Tsimshian and Haida. I grew up in Haida Gwaii and Prince Rupert. My aspiration in life is to become a naturopathic doctor and open a practice in one of my home communities to improve access to alternative healthcare practices in the north coast. It is also my dream

to learn about the traditional medicines of my people and be able to incorporate those into my naturopathic practice. My ultimate goal is to be someone who can facilitate healing within my home communities, within my Nations.



Natasha Cook

KATZIE FIRST NATION
University of the Fraser Valley
Business Administration - Marketing
 My name is Natasha Cook, and I'm from a small fishing Nation named Katzie. Growing up on my father's fishing boat, I always found myself dreaming of success, and giving back to my family everything I know they deserve. Obtaining my degree, and fulfilling my dreams of thriving in the marketing world will enable me to do just that for my family and for myself.



Rachel Dixon

ASHCROFT BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Arts
 My name is Rachel Dixon and I am a first year student at Thompson Rivers University. I am in the Bachelor of Arts program but I would like to move on to Bachelor of Education in a few years. My career goals are to be a teacher for either high school or elementary but I have not yet decided my subject major. Currently, I am a lifeguard/swim instructor at the YMCA located in Kamloops, BC. On top of school and work, I am also a cheerleader for the Wolfpack Competitive team at TRU.



Kailee Duncan

STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Arts
 Hello my name is Kailee Duncan. I am a member of the Stellat'en First Nation. I am in the Bachelor of Arts program at Thompson Rivers University. I am nineteen years old and entering my second year of university. Education is, and always has been, very important to me. I am very thankful to have been accepted again for the undergraduate scholarship. It means the world to me. Thank you very much. I am now able to continue my education and continue the search for my ideal career.



Marion Erickson
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN
University of Northern British Columbia
Public Administration and Community Development

My name is Marion Erickson. I am a member of the Lhts'umusyoo clan, from Nak'azdli. I began the Public Administration and Community Development program at UNBC in 2015. I am currently serving on the senate at UNBC. After completing my undergraduate degree, I hope to move onto completing a master's degree. I am currently looking into international exchange programs where I can learn more about global Indigenous issues. I am looking forward to a career in community development and politics.



Chelsea Gladstone
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL
University of British Columbia
Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice / First Nations Indigenous Studies

I'm currently a third-year UBC student tackling a double major in First Nations Indigenous studies and gender, race, sexuality and social justice. UBC as an institution has phenomenal programs that respond to my aspirations of advocacy and social justice. Through my academic work, I have not only been able to heal as an Indigenous woman in Canada but I am also eager to share my knowledge with others. My goal is to foster reconciliation and contribute to the ongoing movements Indigenous resurgence. With my undergrad degree, I will move on to law school where I am able to do this successfully.



Eva Louise Grant
CAYOOSE CREEK FIRST NATION
Stanford University
Comparative Literature and History

I am an artist, activist and community organizer. Pursuing a degree in comparative literature and history from Stanford University, I have interned with the Canadian Human Rights Commission, served as a fellow for the Institute for Diversity in the Arts (where I created an artist grant and led weekly workshops) and represented my country at the Girls20 Summit in Turkey. With significant coursework in cultural production, social

justice literature, and journalism, it is my goal to use my skills to create cross-cultural dialogues that document ongoing stories, movements and imaginative endeavors conjuring worlds beyond settler colonialism.



Hunter Grant
CAYOOSE CREEK FIRST NATION
University of Victoria
Arts - Humanities

My name is Hunter Jack Grant and I am a member of the St'at'imx Nation. I belong to the Cayoose Creek Indian Creek Band, based in Lillooet, BC. I am named for Chief Hunter Jack, a highly-respected tribal leader in the Cariboo region during the Gold Rush days. I graduated with honours from Esquimalt Secondary School in June 2017 with a bilingual diploma. I was also a two-sport national-level athlete, specializing in rugby and wrestling. I began my Bachelor of Arts degree at UVic in September 2017. My areas of interest are modern languages, creative writing and film studies.



Kiel Harris
GITWANGAK BAND
University of Waterloo
Environment - Honours Planning

I am a mature student here in Ontario. I moved here in 2007 to help support my sister in her time of need. Now I'm moving toward my goal of becoming an urban planner and architect. My career goals for the future are aimed at providing infrastructure for First Nations communities with my educational background. I intend to work with Indigenous peoples across the country to help implement a system that encourages identity and culture, while moving forward with modern society.



Dylan Hunt-Scott
KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION
Vancouver Island University
Arts - First Nations Studies

I am a student at Vancouver Island University in my final year of studies to complete a bachelor's degree. I am a member of the Kwakiutl First Nation from Northern Vancouver Island. My heritage also includes the Taku River Tlinglit First Nation. The focus of my academic journey has been in First Nations

studies, which has given me a sense of grounding in culture and identity. I have also had the opportunity to travel to the University of Alaska Fairbanks to work with archived oral literature. I plan to complete my degree and pursue Aboriginal law.



Janelle Lapointe
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University
Tourism Management

I was drawn towards the tourism industry because of its key component: experiential design. Combine that with the natural storytelling abilities of First Nations, and you are able to create a sustainable product that can contribute to the economic growth of our communities. I hope to empower First Nations communities to create their own authentic Aboriginal tourism products, to tell the story they want to tell and to continue to create positive communal impacts.



Melpatkwa Matthew
SIMPCW FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Science - Global Resource Systems

I am going into my final semester in the Global Resource Systems program at UBC. My degree is interdisciplinary with a focus on Indigenous health. Pursuing an undergraduate degree has provided many opportunities for me, such as going on exchange to the University of Auckland, working on the Decolonizing Water Project and working in my community to learn and teach Secwepemcstin. After I complete my studies in Vancouver, I hope to continue working with my community and other Indigenous people to improve our land, water and food systems.



Aleena McLean
PENTICTON INDIAN BAND
University of Guelph
Arts - Sociology

My name is Aleena McLean and I am a member of the Sylix Nation. I am currently in my third year at the University of Guelph acquiring my Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in sociology with a minor in family and child studies. I hope to finish my degree and obtain my chartered

accounting designation afterwards before working in finance. My ambition, coupled with the support from my family, is my driving force to succeed in all aspects of life.



Lynnea Mills
SQUAMISH NATION
Capilano University
Business Administration

My name is Lynnea Mills and I'm a current second year student at Capilano University. My past education includes a diploma in hair styling, a chemical addictions worker certificate and I am now working on my Bachelor of Business Administration. Moving to North Vancouver assisted me to learn more about my Squamish Nation's culture and about my family on the North Shore. I had the opportunity to manage my grandmother's Aboriginal art gallery and gift shop on the Capilano reserve. I'm lucky to be able to teach people about our culture and showcase local artwork while gaining experience in the business world.

Thank you for this great opportunity! This scholarship will help me focus more on my studies rather than working more than I should. I am so grateful.



Hannah Morales
COWICHAN TRIBES
Vancouver Island University
Post-Baccalaureate Education Program

My name is Hannah Morales and I am a member of Cowichan Tribes. After growing up in Cowichan Bay, I went to Ottawa to complete my undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa. I am now back in the Cowichan Valley and completing the Post-Baccalaureate Education Program at Vancouver Island University. I look forward to using my education degree to educate the next generation and teach the youth in my community.

I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust for the continued support through my education goals.



Michelle Myers
XENI GWET'IN FIRST NATION
University of Alberta
Arts - Native Studies

I grew up in the small community of Xenigwet'in in close relation to the traditional territory of my ancestors. I was raised practicing my culture and aim to raise my son with the same lifestyle. My education has always been very important to me, as well as to my family, and I hope my journey inspires others around me. My goal is to continue advocating for my traditional territory and ensuring the sustainability of my Nation's practices. I want to diversify and alter the path that is driving our climate to failure and provide renewable alternatives for future generations.



Levi Nelson
LIL'WAT NATION
Emily Carr University of Art and Design
Fine Arts

My name is Levi Nelson. I am from the Lil'wat Nation located in Mount Currie BC, Canada. I carry the ancestral name Svypan, meaning "The Younger One." I am an artist - a painter. I favour the medium of oil paints and work on canvas. My work can be described as postcolonial or modern First Nations art. I fuse the work of the ancestors with the present, interpreted through my new mind. I dream of becoming a professional artist, which I see coming true, as my work is now starting to gain recognition, keep an eye out for me!



Karista Olson
GITXSAN NATION
University of Northern British Columbia
Arts - English and Environmental Studies

Ama Sa! My name is Karista Olson and I am from the community of Sik-E-Dakh in Hazelton, BC. Going into my third year at UNBC pursuing a joint major in English and environmental studies with double minors in First Nations studies and international/global studies, I also have the great honor of serving on the Board of Directors for the Northern Undergrad Student Society as the Aboriginal representative and the Prince George United Nations Association as a director-at-large. My goal is to work for the United Nations in the fields of human and Indigenous rights.



Emily Pearson
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia
Science - Biology

My name is Emily Graceanna Pearson and I'm from the Stellat'en First Nation. My family and I have always valued education and I've had big goals ever since I was a young child. Therefore, I'm extremely proud to be studying at one of Canada's top universities. I'm currently in my second year at UBC, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in biology. I can't wait to see where this journey takes me and I hope that I can become a good role model for Indigenous youth in my community.



Ryan (Dion) Smith
WEST MOBERLY FIRST NATION
Concordia University
Fine Arts - Painting and Drawing

My name is Dion (birth name Ryan) and I am a member of West Moberly First Nations. I am currently completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and drawing at Concordia University. I hope to continue to learn more about painting and art, carry myself in a good way throughout this journey, and to practice art professionally.

I wanted to thank the New Relationship Trust for their generous support of my education. It means so much to be supported in this journey. My deepest thanks.



Grace Stewart
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
University of Northern British Columbia
Science

My family comes from Gingolx, and I am from the Killer Whale clan. I grew up in Prince Rupert with a yearning to learn and to experience the world. One of my goals in life is to work in field that will help my community. My plan is to take first year science courses at UNBC, and from there decide whether to further my education in chemistry or psychology, as I have a passion for both. I am looking forward to what the future has in store.



Jackson Stirling
WEI WAI KUM NATION
University of Victoria
Psychology

My name is Jackson Stirling. I study at the University of Victoria, and I am in the psychology program currently attending my fourth year of study. After I finish my undergraduate degree I intend to go straight into a master's program in therapy. It will be very difficult, but when I finish I will have learned a lot and will finally be able to achieve my goal of becoming a therapist. To one day help people with mental illness has been my motivation through my post secondary career.

I want to thank New Relationship Trust from the bottom of my heart for helping me through my schooling. For a student, money can be very tight at times. Without your generous help I would not be able to afford my living expenses. We as recipients are very fortunate to have you investing in our future. Thank you very much!



Samuel Unger
K'ÓMOKS FIRST NATION
Mount Allison University
Arts - Economics

My name is Sam Unger and I'm from the K'ómoks First Nation on Vancouver Island, though I grew up in New Westminster. I am currently going into my second year at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and am studying economics with a minor in Spanish. Before going to Mount Allison, I went to an international boarding school in Victoria called Pearson College with people from all around the world. This experience, combined with my interest in economics, has made it my dream to work in international development, possibly in Latin America or with First Nations communities in Canada.

I want to thank the New Relationship Trust for helping me pursue my studies and hope to continue giving

back to my community in BC, New Brunswick and abroad.



Michael Vegh
HEILTSUK NATION
Simon Fraser University
Resource and Environmental Management

I am a Heiltsuk undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University, studying resource and environmental management. I have recently completed my first field season as a wildlife technician within my traditional territory. I feel privileged to have been active on my Nation's land, employing what I have learned in school. With this award, I can afford the proper gear required for this remote work, and ensure good standing during the school year. In the future, I will continue to conduct field work for my community's resource management department, and find other stewardship roles within Heiltsuk Nation.



Nicki Wolfenden
GITANMAAX BAND
Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Arts

I am single mother and decided to go back to school three years ago, after realizing working six part-time jobs to make ends meet was not what I wanted for my children. The first year was spent upgrading. I am officially into my second year of my Bachelor of Arts degree. My goal is to become a social worker. My children are the main reason I have so much passion and drive for school and wanting to help others. I want to be the best role model possible and I want my children to be proud of their mother's accomplishments.

This scholarship is a live saver. As a single mother with limited funds it helps provide for my children and makes life a little easier for us. It also encourages me to work even harder to continue getting good marks.



Wendy Beaton

LIL'WAT NATION
Vancouver Island University
Education - Educational Leadership

Uy Skweyul. My name is Numnasolga. I have worked in education for two decades, including 16 years as an Aboriginal education assistant before returning to school and earning a Bachelor of Education. I am pursuing a Master of Education, as I want to be the best learner and teacher that

I can be and hope to make a difference in the lives of my students and community. I am grateful to NRT for supporting me and so many others on our educational journey as we grow and work towards reaching our potential and ultimately uplifting our people. Hay ce:p qa

I am just so very grateful to NRT and the many organizations and financial backers who ensure this support is made available to Indigenous learners. I also greatly appreciate how clear the process is and how willing your staff are to receive a phone call or email with questions or concerns. Each time I called I was treated with kindness and offered helpful information. Thank you for that.



Michelle Buchholz
MORICETOWN BAND
Simon Fraser University
Public Policy

I am a proud Wet'suwet'en woman from the Moricetown Band and was raised in Smithers, BC. I am passionate about education and working with First Nation communities. I am grateful for this award as it will assist me in completing the Master of Public Policy program. It will further enable me to implement policies and offer solutions to the disproportionate victimization of Indigenous women and girls. This is not only a public policy issue, but a human rights issue and the MPP program will provide me with the appropriate knowledge to assist in the movement to end violence in Indigenous communities.



Kandice Charlie
XAXLI'P FIRST NATION
Simon Fraser University | Executive MBA -
Aboriginal Management and Leadership

I am of Xaxli'p/St'at'imc ancestry, and am married into Sts'ailes where I live with my husband and two children. I am currently the Project Coordinator for Sts'ailes and am involved in many areas of the organization from comprehensive community planning to lands and project planning. I am a strong believer in life-long learning. I am excited to use the Executive MBA in Aboriginal Management and Leadership program from the Simon Fraser University to enhance my skills and knowledge and contribute towards community growth while maintaining and strengthening family and culture.



Marcia Dawson
DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION
Royal Roads University
Arts - Leadership

I am Gitksan and a member of the Dzawada'enuxw Nation. I am in the Master of Arts in Leadership program at Royal Roads University. I have a bachelors degree in political science, a diploma in public sector management and a certificate in administration of Aboriginal governments from University of Victoria. I have worked with First Nations communities for over twenty years as an

administrator, policy analyst and consultant. My accomplishments include organizing the BC gathering for families of the MMIWG; I created the Diploma in Indigenous Community Development and Governance (UVic) and I created the BC Aboriginal Strategy for Domestic Violence for the BC Government.



Sarah Dickie
FORT NELSON FIRST NATION
Simon Fraser University
Business Administration - Aboriginal
Business and Leadership

I am in the second year of a three-year program and looking for a career that will provide the biggest positive impacts possible. I keep busy with my traditional artwork such as beading, quillwork and sewing moosehide into purses and mocassins. I also have horses and wish I could ride every day, but am often too busy. I am a strong believer in community and business development and hope to find opportunities in this field.



Vanessa Fladmark
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
University of British Columbia
Biological Oceanography

I am Vanessa Fladmark. My Haida name is Skil Jaadas. I am from the Yahgulaanas Jaanas clan in the village of Old Massett, Haida Gwaii. My family and ancestors have lived there for generations, originating from the village of Yaan, across Massett inlet. I grew up surrounded by the ocean and our culture and learned respect and curiosity for our land, sea and the creatures within. I have channeled that love and admiration for the ocean into my studies at UBC and plan to use my oceanography degree to return home to research, protect and be an environmental steward for our cultural marine resources.



Jamie Gagnon
WET'SUWET'EN FIRST NATION
Thompson Rivers University
Juris Doctorate

After completing the law program at TRU, I will be pursuing a career as a lawyer. While I am uncertain at this point in time what area of law I will specialize in, I strongly feel that

Aboriginal law will be the path I take. So many members of my community have no idea that there is help out there; they instead suffer in silence from addictions, alcoholism and domestic abuse. I want to be able to one day offer my professional services to those in need and who would otherwise not have access to legal counsel.



Jessie Hemphill
GWA'SALA-'NAKWAXDA'XW NATIONS
Vancouver Island University
Community Planning

My name is Jessie Hemphill (Tlali'ila'ogwala) and I am from the 'Nakwaxda'xw, Ligwitlda'xw and Métis Nations. Raised in Port Hardy, BC, my love for my community led me to a career in Indigenous community planning and facilitation, working nationally as a partner in Alderhill Planning Inc. It also led me to a seat on Port Hardy's council, where I was elected in 2011 and 2014. I am currently working on my Master of Community Planning degree at Vancouver Island University, with a focus on Indigenous planning and urban design. I am also a life-long volunteer, active in equity and anti-oppression work across Canada.



Krista-Lynn Joseph
DITIDAHT FIRST NATION
Vancouver Island University
Education - Educational Leadership

My name is Krista-Lynn Joseph, and I am a member of the Ditidaht First Nation. After completing a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, with a minor in First Nation studies, I am moving on to obtain a Master of Education in educational leadership. One of my main goals within this program will be to take on a leadership role in hopes that Indigenous perspectives are interwoven in program discussion and education planning initiatives. My long-term goal is to help create change within the Canadian education system, to ensure that it better supports Indigenous learners.



Shanny Kaiser
PROPHET RIVER FIRST NATION
Capella University
Science - Clinical Psychology

My name is Shanny Kaiser and I recently graduated from Simon Fraser University with a double major in criminology and psychology. I am now about to embark on my master's in clinical psychology. I have a strong passion for mental health and an intense drive to help those who may be dealing with mental health issues. Overall, my goal is to register and work as a clinical psychologist specializing in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of complex psychopathology. Furthermore, I hope to open a door for First Nation individuals to receive culturally appropriate mental health services.



Joel Morales
COWICHAN TRIBES
University of Ottawa
Common Law

I am entering my last year of law school and I am thankful to receive this scholarship from the New Relationship Trust. I am focused on criminal law and plan to work defending those facing criminal charges after I graduate. Indigenous people are overrepresented in the criminal justice system and I hope to help those who need legal help while navigating the complexities of criminal law.



Andrew Phillips
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND
University of Victoria
Arts - Indigenous Governance

I am from Musqueam, and I am in my second year of my master's at the University of Victoria. I completed my undergraduate degree at Trinity Western University, majoring in political studies and minoring in history. My interests include education, language revitalization and land-based learning and education. After completing my studies in Victoria I hope to move to Vancouver or the Lower Mainland to work for a year and then apply for law school or my PhD.



Laura Phypers
LOWER KOOTENAY BAND
University of Calgary
Law

My name is Laura Phypers and I come from Lower Kootenay Band. I am in my second year of law school at the University of Calgary. I am passionate about Aboriginal rights and issues. I come from a very large family and believe relations are above all else. I am forever grateful for the support of New Relationship Trust. They have helped me reach heights I never thought possible. I aim to inspire youth and create opportunity for Aboriginal communities. My career goal is to own my own Aboriginal centered law firm.



Sarah Robinson
FORT NELSON FIRST NATION
University of Victoria
Law - Juris Doctor

Tansi! My name is Sarah Robinson, and I'm a proud citizen of the Fort Nelson First Nation and the Saulteau First Nation in Treaty Eight territory. I live in the Toquaht Nation's small community of Macoah with my husband, Carlos, and am a proud stepmom and auntie. I'm honoured to have been a 2017 #WalrusTalks speaker and a 2014 Action Canada fellow. I'm also a member of the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women, a non-partisan table that advises government on improving Indigenous women's quality of life.



Crystal Smith
GITGA'AT NATION
University of British Columbia
Educational Administration and Leadership

Crystal Smith di waayu, Gitgat'at di wil'waatgu, Vancouver di wil dzogu Gisbutwada de pdeegu. My name is Crystal Smith and I am from Gitgat'at but I live now in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, colonially known as Vancouver. As a mother of two beautiful children, it is my goal that they see how far I've come, how my community supported me and how culture has allowed me to thrive. I am a teacher but I would like to have a greater impact on our community, and to do this I would love to teach teachers.



Robin Smoker-Peters
LYTTON FIRST NATION
University of Victoria
Arts - Indigenous Governance

I am a Nlaka'pamux citizen from the Smoker family, hailing from the village of Kumsheen, also known as Lytton in the Fraser Canyon of interior BC. As an Indigenous woman, I am passionate about exercising land-based resurgence by embracing the roles women exercise while being out on the land. In the future, I plan to pursue a PhD from the University of Victoria in Indigenous governance, focusing on women's roles in land-based learning and decolonization.



Annette Sorensen
KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL
Simon Fraser University
Business Administration

I am a Gitksan woman from Kispiox, BC. I graduated with my Business Administration diploma in 2009 and went on to do my undergraduate degree at the University of Athabasca. I then entered into a masters program and was still able to work. This is the only way to get this type of education for me so I jumped at the chance. I now teach at the college that I work in and I have not even graduated yet. This is my last year of schooling and I cannot wait to see what life has in store for me.



Jessie Stirling
WEI WAI KUM NATION
University of Toronto
Juris Doctor

My name is Jessie Stirling and I am a member of the Wei Wai Kum Nation in Campbell River. I graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in political science in May 2017, and this fall I began the Juris Doctor program at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law. At U of T, I intend to specialize in social justice and Aboriginal law – a decision that was affirmed by my work this summer as a research assistant at Pivot Legal Society in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.



Layla (chuutsqa) Rorick

HESQUIAHT FIRST NATION
Univeristy of Victoria
Education

I have dedicated the last seven years to creating and maintaining free, community-based initiatives. I completed a three-year Mentor-Apprentice language immersion program, co-authored free dictionaries with Lawrence Paul and Angela Galligos and went on to start a grassroots Language Nest immersion program with Elders Julia Lucas and Maggie Ignace.

Through these efforts, with the help of fluent speakers, I have progressed from being a non-speaker who grew up on Hesquiaht Indian Reserve, to being a high-intermediate speaker, teaching classes. My doctoral work aims to improve proficiency within my family/community by engaging fluent speakers in language immersion planning and implementation.

The loss of our language would mean the loss of an immense amount of ancient knowledge that we want in our lives as Nuu-chah-nulth people, and it is this thought that drives me. With your support through this program, I am able to continue volunteering to both facilitate free community language classes and do my doctoral language research with fluent elders. ʔuušćakšičiicuuš



Ryan Danroth
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND
University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

I grew up on the K'omoks Nation reserve on Vancouver Island with my father and brother. I dropped out of school in grade nine and have overcome many hurdles, such as returning to school as an adult. I have been helped by many people to be where I am today. Having seen multiple "rock bottoms", I am thankful each day that I am able to further my education and build towards my dream of being a doctor and serving my community. Thank you so much for the opportunity to follow my dreams and believing in me.



Spencer Greening
GITGA'AT NATION
Simon Fraser University | Archaeology

I am Tsimshian of the Gitga'at First Nation. My research interests are in Indigenous knowledge systems, language, identity and traditional Gitga'at Law and politics. For my doctoral research, I will be combining these interests with historical ecology and social archaeology. All of my research revolves around my deep connection to my home community, Elders and territories. The process of decolonization is at the forefront of my work. My personal connection to this work is very important; when I am not engaging with it professionally, I spends as much time as I can hunting, fishing and speaking my language with Elders.



Collette Jones
SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION
Univeristy of Victoria | Education

I was born in Seattle, Washington, and currently live in Nanaimo, BC. My mother is a Cowichan woman from the Koksilah (Xwulqw'selu) community with traditional lands and winter villages on Cowichan Bay and Cowichan River. My father is Snuneymuxw, whose lands are located by the Nanaimo harbour and Nanaimo River. I have worked as a K-12 teacher and also as an instructor at the post-secondary level. Currently, I am a PhD candidate at the University of Victoria. My work focuses on Indigenous women, leadership and higher education.



Lana Lowe
FORT NELSON FIRST NATION
Univeristy of Victoria | Law

I am Dene-Canadian and a member of the Fort Nelson First Nation. For many years I have worked with my community and other Indigenous communities and organizations to protect and reclaim our land. My work is largely community-based and focused on title and treaty rights in the context of natural resource extraction in BC. I have an academic background in geography and Indigenous governance with a focus on natural resource management and Indigenous resurgence. I am now working on a doctorate to re-establish an Indigenous land and water governance framework that is grounded in Dene laws and ways of knowing.



Shana Manson
SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION
Royal Roads University | Social Science

My name is Lahalawuts'aat, (Shana Manson). I am from the Coast Salish communities of Lyackson and Snuneymuxw. I have a bachelor's degree in political science (2001) and a master's degree in Indigenous governance (2008), both from the University of Victoria. I have dedicated my career to working with and on behalf of First Nations, particularly in BC. I am the mother of a twenty year-old daughter and twelve year-old son. We live in Snuneymuxw, Nanaimo, BC. I am looking forward to conducting research on reconciliation frameworks from an Indigenous perspective.



Rupert Richardson
QUATSINO FIRST NATION
University of British Columbia | Education

Gilakasla, It's an honour to receive this scholarship and I'm grateful to NRT for their support in helping me reach an educational goal. I'm also grateful to my ancestral Nations for their various supports; hands raised in appreciation to the Guskimukw, Nuxalk and Chippewa Nations. It is my hope that I will be able to use my education to give back to my Nations and help support our people to become healthy empowered Nations again. Also, I want to acknowledge and thank my family for their continued support on this life long learning endeavour!



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